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The Financial Situation.

The action of the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency in attaching a rider, at the instance of Senator Carter Glass, to the McFadden Branch Banking Bill, as it came from the House, with a view to providing perpetual charters for the Federal Reserve banks is unworthy of the name and fame of Mr. Glass. Mr. Glass played an important part in securing the enactment of the Federal Reserve Law and it is natural that he should take a deep interest in anything affecting the welfare and existence of these institutions. But the charters of the Federal Reserve banks still have 8½ years to run and there is no need of haste in extending their life far in advance of its expiration. Moreover, before steps are taken to grant charters in perpetuity, action should first be taken to deprive the Federal Reserve banks of their war-time powers, under the exercise of which in peace times grave abuses have grown up and the further continuance of which may mean serious menace to the country.

Because of the imperative necessity of abolishing these war-time powers, so as to restore the Federal Reserve banks to their original scope, any device or scheme intended to extend the charters in advance of the passage of these repeal provisions is to be deprecated and should be vigorously opposed. If the life of the banks has once been extended it may prove difficult, if not impossible, to get a repeal provision through the two Houses of Congress, since obstructive measures against legislation of any kind are always easy on the part of even a very small minority. Besides, the matter ought to be broadly and deliberately considered on its own merits and not disposed of by means of a rider to a bill of any

other kind. Some see a plot in the rider to defeat the McFadden Branch Banking Bill, which has many opponents in the Senate, but of course Mr. Glass is above anything of the kind. Yet everyone must regret that he should have allowed the use of his name and prestige in having this particular rider incorporated in the bill.

If the Federal Reserve banks existed to-day according to their original design we doubt that any serious opposition to the extension of their charters could be found. But through the war-time amendments their character and purposes have been entirely changed. It is incumbent, therefore, for the reason already stated, that repeal should first be carried out and then legislation enacted to give the banks perpetual life. The Federal Reserve banks should be restricted, as repeatedly pointed out by us, in their power to issue Reserve notes, the same as before the war, so that notes can be put out only against mercantile paper and not used in addition to corral all the gold in the country, thereby furnishing the basis for promoting speculation of every conceivable type. Then, also, the Reserve banks should not have the custody of the entire reserves of the member banks, but only a part thereof, and the member banks should be obliged to carry the remainder of such reserves in their own vaults in actual gold. Their open market operations should in like manner be restricted. Finally, the Reserve banks should be required to charge for their services instead of giving them gratuitously.

No such gigantic speculation in stocks as has been witnessed in this country during the last two years would have been possible except for the operation and existence of the Reserve banks with their unlimited powers in the acquisition of gold and the emission of Reserve notes. We like to credit men with good motives and we do not, of course, mean to assert that the managers of the Reserve banks have a purpose or design to promote speculation. But nevertheless, the free-handed way in which the unlimited powers at their command are used in itself tends to promote speculative frenzy with all the evils attaching to it.

The havoc caused by the rampant speculation to which we refer is now in evidence on every side, further sharp collapses in Stock Exchange values having occurred the present week. The magnitude of the loans to brokers and dealers on the Stock Exchange tell their own story of the extent to which credit has been extended in carrying on Stock Exchange speculation. It will be remembered that in its first statement the Federal Reserve Board reported that as of Feb. 3 the total of loans to brokers

and dealers (secured by stocks and bonds) made by 61 member banks stood at \$3,091,997,000; in addition it appeared there were \$999,634,000 of other loans secured by stocks and bonds, but not to be classed as brokers' loans, making altogether \$4,091,631,000 of loans secured by stock and bond collateral. Just think of a total exceeding four billion dollars! Of course, these are loans by the member banks and not by the Reserve banks, but they would not have been possible except for the use of the credit of the Reserve banks granted in such unstinted fashion.

Remember, too, that the figures given cover merely the reporting member banks in the New York Federal Reserve District. How much additional money has been employed elsewhere in aiding stock speculation in Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and the various other Stock Exchanges which have had a similar rampant speculation on their own Exchanges? Observe, also, that the reporting member banks in the New York District, while showing loans on stock and bond collateral running in excess of over \$4,000,000,000, showed only \$2,234,922,000 of "all other loans and discounts," or mercantile loans.

Since the collapse on the Stock Exchange the brokers' loans have been rapidly reduced, the decline in the statement the present week (for the week ending March 10) being no less than \$162,783,000. This followed a decline of \$60,939,000 the previous week and of \$29,393,000 the week before, making altogether no less than \$253,115,000 for the three weeks combined. The contraction will no doubt be referred to as an illustration of the beneficent way in which the Federal Reserve Banking System functions in providing both expansion and contraction. As a matter of fact, the liquidation now being enforced furnishes the strongest evidence going to show that the accommodation originally extended and now being withdrawn should never have been granted in the first instance. We therefore urge with great strenuousness that the charters of the Federal Reserve banks should not be extended until the law has first been changed so as to make it impossible in the future to use the credit of the Reserve banks in the way indicated.

There have been a number of developments during the week, in connection with the recently disapproved Nickel Plate unification, which render the situation considerably more definite than it has been, but which do not throw any light on the plans of the Van Sweringen interests in respect to going forward with or abandoning the merger plan. Early in 1925 the directors of the Chesapeake & Ohio and others made it clear that dividend rates on the proposed component roads would not be changed until the merger plan had been consummated or rejected, inasmuch as the change would disturb the situation on which the merger had been based and which had received the approval of directors and stockholders. In the words of these same Chesapeake & Ohio directors, the Inter-State Commerce Commission has now rejected "some financial features of the unification plan," and the deposit plan committee has agreed to return to holders certificates representing the deposited stock.

On these premises the Chesapeake & Ohio directors have raised the dividend rate to 8%, and declared an extra dividend of \$4, thus following the lead set a few days earlier by the directors of the

Pere Marquette Railway in increasing the rate to \$6 and declaring an extra of \$2. The directors of the Hocking Valley Railway have taken simultaneous action with that of the Chesapeake & Ohio, raising their dividend rate to \$8 and declaring an extra of \$4, and the directors of the New York Chicago & St. Louis have recognized in part the extra income to be derived on its holdings of Chesapeake & Ohio and Pere Marquette stocks by declaring an extra dividend of \$1.25 on its own stock, this representing a distribution of approximately \$380,000, whereas it will receive on the extra dividends of the Pere Marquette and the Chesapeake & Ohio approximately \$860,000. The directors of the Chesapeake & Ohio made the significant statement that the dividend changes were made in view of existing conditions and "pending any further proceedings under the plan." This would seem to be an intimation on the part of some, at least, of the parties concerned that consolidation plans will go forward, but on a new financial basis, as indicated by the release of stock under the present plan, and the public recognition of changed values as against those on which the plan was originally based.

It is widely understood that present Federal law calls for the merger of the railroads of the country into a few large systems, that the public, financial interests and the present administration at Washington are all favorably disposed to this end, and that there is now agitation in Congress to make the present railroad law more effective in this particular objective. There was, furthermore, very wide belief that the Nickel Plate merger would be approved. Rejection, therefore, by the Inter-State Commerce Commission came as a surprise and a great shock to the investment market structure. The recovery in the market price of the various stocks concerned of the losses incurred immediately after the announcement has been an evidence of wide appraisal of the real values concerned. The recent raising of the dividends is evidence of courage in the places of control and of a looking forward, if not to the consummation of this particular merger, at least to a continuation of sound conditions for the railroads. In themselves the raising of these dividends may not be a matter of very great moment in connection with the vast financial structure of this country, but in their significance they are of considerable importance.

During the week there has been no change in the trend toward easy conditions in money and liquid funds. Call money in New York remains around 4¼% and time money around 4¾%. The oversubscription to the \$500,000,000 3¾% bonds offered at 100½ was indication of a trend which has been further confirmed by a slow advance during the week of the average price of investment bonds. Commodity values give no indication of any increased call on liquid capital through advance in prices. On the other hand, whereas volume of business has eased off in some sections, the general average is still very high, as evidenced by freight loadings getting back to record-breaking figures.

During the week there has been considerable nervousness underlying the stock market, indicating the belief that there are still weakly margined accounts and that certain securities have not settled in price to actual values. Yesterday and the day before what appeared to be a concerted bear drive met with considerable success and many further new

low records for the year were established all through the list.

The course of the country's foreign trade, for the time being at least, has changed and for the second successive month the balance of trade is against the United States. This appears from the statistics for the month of February, made public the present week. Imports again exceed those of a year ago by a considerable amount, while exports, on the other hand, are again reduced as compared with February of last year, and also leave an excess on the side of the imports, as was the case in January. Furthermore, as in January, the increase in merchandise imports last month was quite largely due to a heavy increase in shipments of rubber to the United States, both as to quantity and value, the average import price in February, as in January of this year, being considerably higher than it was a year ago. The merchandise exports in turn were very much less this year because of reduced shipments of cotton, and the lower export price of that commodity prevailing in the markets the present year.

February imports of merchandise were valued at \$389,000,000, against \$416,767,000 in January and \$333,387,000 in February of last year, while merchandise exports last month were \$353,000,000, against \$397,196,000 in January and \$370,676,000 in February a year ago. If allowance be made for the difference in the number of days between February and January this year, the decline in imports between those two months, entirely disappears. In fact, the average daily amount of the imports in January was \$134,400,000, and in February \$139,000,000. Exports, on the other hand, averaged \$128,000,000 for each day in January and only \$126,000,000 for each day in February. The balance of trade for February on merchandise account is \$36,000,000 on the import side; for February of last year there was a balance of \$37,289,000 on the export side, as there has been, until the beginning of 1926, for many months prior thereto. As it happens, too, the revised figures for January of this year show an increase in imports and a decrease in exports as compared with the preliminary report for January printed a month ago, making the revised balance of trade on the import side for that month \$19,571,500. For the two months of 1926 to date the total balance of trade on the import side amounts to \$55,570,000; in the same two months of 1925, the balance was on the export side and aggregated \$137,566,864.

Imports of rubber both in quantity and value have added materially to the increase in total imports this year. Detailed reports for February are as yet unavailable, but it is stated that rubber imports last month were valued at \$58,000,000; in February 1925 rubber imports were valued at \$18,532,000, the quantity in that month last year being 55,329,000 pounds, and the average price per pound 33½ cents. February merchandise imports this year exceed those of February 1925 by \$55,600,000 and nearly \$40,000,000 of this gain was due to rubber imports alone. The detailed statement for January, which is now available, shows imports of rubber in that month of 94,985,456 pounds at an average import price of 76.4 cents per pound, against 73,692,000 pounds imported in January 1925, at an average import price of only 30 cents per pound. It is apparent from these figures where much of the increase

in January imports this year over a year ago was derived from.

Likewise as to exports. A decline in the single item of raw cotton for January and February of this year, has changed the total value of merchandise exports from a gain over the same months of the preceding year to a loss. For those two months this year, merchandise exports from the United States show a decline from a year ago of 8.2%; omitting cotton from the exports of both years, and the remaining amount for 1926 is 5.4% larger than it was in 1925. For the current crop year to date cotton exports are considerably less than they were a year ago, which is the more significant as the 1925 crop was an early one and in the earlier weeks of the current crop year cotton exports exceeded those of the corresponding weeks of the preceding crop year. The reverse, however, has been the case for the past two or three months and cotton exports have tended downward. The falling off in February was quite marked, exports of 556,185 bales contrasting with 811,838 bales in February 1925. The decline in cotton values for February this year was even greater than that as to quantity for the average export price of the staple last month was 21.2 cents per pound, as against 25 cents per pound for February 1925.

For eight months of the current fiscal year, total merchandise imports have been \$2,968,600,000, as against \$2,439,924,000 for the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year, an increase this year of \$528,675,600. The figures for each one of the eight months of the current fiscal year, exceed those for the earlier period. Merchandise exports, on the other hand, for the past eight months were \$3,296,723,000, in comparison with \$3,318,381,000 for the same eight months of the preceding fiscal year, a decrease of \$21,658,000, the first decrease that has appeared in a number of years. For this same period the decline in the value of cotton exports has been \$99,272,500. Five of the eight months of the current fiscal year show smaller merchandise exports than for the corresponding months in the preceding year. The excess of merchandise exports for these eight months this year is \$328,123,500; for the same period of the preceding fiscal year it was \$878,456,000, a difference against the present year in amount of considerably over half a billion dollars.

Gold imports show another small gain in February, the total for that month being \$25,415,655, against \$19,351,202 for January and \$3,602,527 for February 1925. Gold exports are still very much reduced, amounting last month to only \$3,850,350, against \$50,599,708 a year ago. For eight months of the current fiscal year gold imports have been \$132,373,525, in contrast with \$102,118,959 for the same period in the preceding year, while gold exports have been only \$78,640,551, against \$181,918,890. The excess of gold imports for the past eight months has been \$53,732,974, which contrasts with an excess of gold exports of \$79,799,931, for the same period of the preceding year. Silver imports in February were \$8,861,871, and exports \$7,747,324, the variation from month to month being unimportant.

The much-heralded special meeting of the Assembly of the League of Nations to admit Germany has adjourned until next September without accomplishing anything of real value, except possibly to

demonstrate still further its own lack of power to control or settle any important international question. Announcement was made, however, that "the League of Nations Council at a final meeting on March 18 decided to invite the United States to Geneva on Sept. 1 to discuss with representatives of all League members the American reservations to American participation in the Permanent Court of International Justice, and particularly Reservation 5, concerning advisory opinions of the Court affecting the United States. The Council also definitely fixed the date of the first meeting of the Preparatory Commission for the disarmament conference for May 17 and decided that it should be held in Geneva." Premier Briand has received a vote of confidence from the French Chamber of Deputies. What the fate of the German and British representatives at Geneva still remains to be seen at this writing. Mr. Chamberlain is expected to appear in the House of Commons next Tuesday.

The squabbling at Geneva as to what Powers should be admitted to the League of Nations Council at this time continued during the early part of the week. Not only was it indicated in the cable advices that this particular sitting of the Council might fail as to the specific purpose for which it was called, but also that the whole League of Nations might go by the board. Last Saturday the situation was said to have been particularly bad. Cabling at an early hour on that day, the New York "Times" correspondent said: "At 2 o'clock this morning, after a day and a night of attempts to reach a compromise on the crisis over the League of Nations Council seats, the situation is very near the breaking point." He added that "after the refusal of the Germans to accept the proposal made yesterday morning by which Poland would receive a non-permanent seat when Germany was admitted to the League Council, with Brazil's and Spain's claims adjourned, Britain and France proposed to Germany this morning that the new non-permanent seat be created and be left to the Assembly to fill. After short consideration the Germans rejected this suggestion, reverting to their position that they alone must enter the Council at this time." The "Times" representative further stated that "in a midnight conversation Sir Austen Chamberlain painted the situation in very dark colors. 'After hearing the reply of the Germans made to-night, and after a discussion of the situation with them, it appears to me quite useless to continue these conversations, and the matter must be referred to the Council. We have made every reasonable concession, and if the Locarno plan fails now the plain fault will be that of Germany.'" The New York "Herald Tribune" representative summarized the situation in part as follows: "Europe's future is trembling in the balance to-night. Another fruitless day of bickering brought Germany and her supporters on one side and France, Great Britain and Italy on the other side, face to face with the tragic probability that the Locarno agreements are in danger of meaning absolutely nothing. Briefly, the situation at a late hour was this: Great Britain and France, with the assent of Italy, made a desperate effort to draw from Germany a promise to permit Poland to enter the Council of the League of Nations, not as a permanent member, but in a temporary capacity. Chancellor Luther of Germany visited the Allied statesmen to-night and delivered

Germany's reply. It was 'Glattabgelehnt'—that is, a flat refusal."

Continuing, the "Herald Tribune" correspondent said: "The Allies as a result to-night are in a state of utter confusion. Premier Briand of France, haggard and worn, received the press to say: 'We proposed to the Germans to-day a transaction which was the extreme limit of all possible concessions. They refused. They will have the full responsibility for what will happen.' Yielding to a demand for a statement from the British correspondents, Sir Austen Chamberlain, the British Foreign Secretary, to-night gave them the impression that nothing could prevent a break in the negotiations. The Secretary laid full blame on the shoulders of Germany for the collapse of the Locarno spirit and said that even if this were not already dead it would take years to repair the damage. Sir Austen, in his concentration on the dramatic tragedy, at times seemed on the verge of tears. While none except Britons were permitted in the conference, those attending stated that they had never seen any Foreign Minister in such an emotional state, or heard such words from the lips of a similar official."

In a wireless message to his paper Saturday evening, March 13, the New York "Evening Post" correspondent said: "The whole atmosphere of Geneva is charged with the feeling of impending catastrophe as the result of the breakdown of negotiations over the expansion of the League of Nations Council. There is a feeling that not only the efforts for new and more friendly relations between nations are endangered, but that the peace of Europe is gravely menaced. As the situation stands, all the leading actors in the drama, after three days of doing their best, are only in a position to face their Parliaments with trouble and confusion as their earnings. The failure of Chancellor Luther threatens the future of his Government in Berlin. Premier Briand, after one speech by Raymond Poincare in the Senate, is doomed. Sir Austen Chamberlain, already tottering in London, appears to be faced with removal from office. The League, with Great Britain weakened, becomes a broken-down machine. At the Secretariat there is a gloomy prospect of the League future, even if some repairs are made in its rickety structure. What has been accomplished as things stand is that the labors of Briand and Chamberlain at Locarno, which were hailed all over the world as insuring the peace and happiness of Europe, have been nullified. 'We have stretched conciliation to the extreme limit and our proposals have been rejected.' Premier Briand of France, who had seemed young and fresh, appeared haggard and weak as he pronounced these words after the German delegates had rejected the allied compromise offer for Germany's entrance."

In a little less figurative, but no less emphatic, language the Geneva representative of "The Sun" cabled, also Saturday evening, March 13, in part as follows: "With the firm refusal of the Germans registered early to-day after a night of conference to budge from their original stand against enlargement of the League Council, the European honeymoon trip which started at Locarno is ending in disaster. All the Powers involved have settled down to apparently unshakable contentions that it may be anybody's fault but theirs. But a ray of hope remains in the fact that although both the Germans and the former Allies have firmly announced that

they have said their last say there has as yet been no exodus from Geneva. Chancellor Luther, when he turned down the Allies' compromise offer at 2 o'clock this morning, said that he was still willing to co-operate to find a solution. He said, however, that the compromise proposed did not accord with the principle of policy laid down by the Reich Cabinet—that Germany must be admitted to the Council without any enlargement of that body. Sir Austen Chamberlain and Premier Briand thereupon informed him that the Allies had said their last word in whittling down Poland's claim to a permanent seat on the Council to the creation of a non-permanent seat, the occupant of which would be elected by the General Assembly of the League. It was a suggestion, which greatly tickled the Assembly, which was becoming anxious at the encroachments on its power by the Locarnites. But the refusal of this suggestion is considered in Franco-British headquarters to involve the very existence of the Locarno treaties, the destruction of the Locarno spirit and a return to the old system of balancing national antagonisms—and this quite apart from the influence the collapse will have upon the political futures of Briand and Chamberlain themselves. The League has been dealt a shattering blow and already there is talk of resignations."

That national and even personal politics was taking precedence over the international good was stated emphatically by the New York "Times" representative the next day. In part he said: "The representatives of the fifty-five nations gathered at Geneva for the high purposes of promoting the peace of the world, and in particular to put into effect the treaties of Locarno promising tranquillity to Europe, continued to-day to play politics which would scarcely bear favorable resemblance to a session of a municipal council called for the purpose of awarding a new bridge contract to some one else than the lowest bidder. The most fanciful imagination could scarcely imagine a more burlesque situation. It is almost impossible to say what the quarrel is about. No logic and no reason are being used here. All that is clear is that the League leaders on the one hand and Germany on the other wish to have their way. Further than that, one risks becoming demented trying to understand what the racket is about. M. Briand and Dr. Stresemann both stated to-night that the problem was unsettled, and each asserted that it was the other's fault." Continuing his arraignment of the political leaders, the "Times" representative said: "For the first four days in this squabble over League Council seats Germany took the position that it was none of her business and that she was an innocent bystander. But that well-known diplomat, M. Briand, has turned things so that the Germans have had to shoulder the responsibility which rightly belongs to them, and this has aroused Dr. Stresemann and Dr. Luther to a point where to-night they called the correspondents together and devoted speeches lasting an hour to 'explanations.' Needless to say, they whitewashed themselves to the tint of angels' wings, while half an hour later a French spokesman dilated upon Germany's refusal of 'reasonable proposals.' What would be funny if it was not so serious is that most of the delegates quarreling here will lose their jobs if they go home without reaching an agreement. It is fair and just that the dispute has got down to

the plane of a contest between France and Germany, for that is where it belongs. Spain and Brazil have stepped aside, and when M. Vandervelde of Belgium, acting for M. Briand, got the Swedes to promise to back down if Germany did not mind the last prop was knocked from under the German position of disinterestedness. And so to-night the situation is that Germany will not enter the League unless she enters the Council alone and France, backed by England's delegates, will not let Germany in unless Poland gets a permanent or non-permanent seat. And it is justice to the other nations to say that the situation has so shaped up."

It was made known at that time that it had been decided to call a meeting of the League of Nations Assembly for last Tuesday, March 16.

Continuing his account the next day of the latest developments, up to that time, the "Times" correspondent in part said: "The Sabbath brought no peace in Geneva. With thirty-six hours remaining before the meeting of the League Assembly which is supposed to mark the success or failure of this conference, the French and Germans to-night remain firmly in their positions. The German position is that they must join the Council alone or they will not join the League, while the French position is that the Germans cannot join the Council unless the Poles get a seat at the same time. All the trimmings have been torn off the situation and it is plainly now a diplomatic fight for prestige between France, backed by England, on the hand and Germany on the other hand. Viscount Ishii undertook to-day to solve the situation and evolved a plan by which the Assembly would admit Germany to the League and at the same time create a new non-permanent Council seat to be filled next September. He called on Dr. Stresemann late this afternoon and put the scheme up to him. The German Foreign Minister asked the Japanese delegate to return to see him when he had M. Briand's answer to the proposal. Thereupon Viscount Ishii put the proposal up to M. Briand, who replied that he could not consent to any arrangement which did not admit Poland in the Council now. With this reply Viscount Ishii did not return to see the Germans, evidently taking it for granted that they would not agree. Therefore it appears that the Japanese effort leaves the problem just where it was."

The New York "Herald Tribune" representative brought out several additional features. In part he said, under date of Geneva, March 14: "Premier Briand of France and Foreign Minister Stresemann of Germany met for a long talk to-night in an effort to agree on some solution of the highly dangerous deadlock over the proposed enlargement of the Council of the League. They admitted that it was in the interest both of France and Germany that a settlement should be made quickly, but they were unable to reach the slightest accord as to how this might be accomplished. To-night's meeting came at the conclusion of several futile conversations among the numerous principals of the Geneva drama. The conclusion reached to-night was that the fight had now centred down to a Franco-German affair until the League itself is called on to take over matters on Tuesday. The British delegation is now concentrating on getting Germany into the League. This leaves Premier Briand in the ticklish position of having to save the Locarno agreements and himself,

but he has not yet given up hope of seating Poland in the Council. Thus it was believed that to-night's conference was the first step toward some compromise. This compromise is not yet in sight, but may be reached to-morrow, which is the last day remaining before the whole matter of Germany's entry comes up in public debate in the Assembly. The Council decided yesterday that on Tuesday the Assembly would be called upon to vote Germany into the League."

The following day, Monday, the situation was represented in Geneva dispatches as being more encouraging. The Associated Press representative said: "Prospects for settlement of the League of Nations crisis appeared brighter to-day, with the acceptance of a compromise by France and Germany, under which both Sweden and Czechoslovakia would refrain from seeking re-election to their non-permanent Council seats next September, paving the way for the election of Poland to one of the vacancies thus created. The Foreign Ministers of the two countries are awaiting ratification of their recommendations by their respective Governments, but this is considered a foregone conclusion."

Later cable advices Monday evening showed that the situation was practically hopeless again. The New York "Times" representative said: "After M. Briand had achieved the seemingly impossible in evolving a plan for the admission of Poland to the Council of the League in a manner acceptable to the Germans, the whole situation here has been thrown back into chaos by an official statement by the Brazilian delegation that on new instructions from Rio de Janeiro it must veto the admission of Germany to the Council unless Brazil gets a permanent seat instead of the non-permanent one she now holds and has held since the League was born. It seems absolutely out of the question to give Brazil her permanent seat at this meeting, since Sweden, on the Council, is bitterly opposed and Germany is dead against it. Heavy pressure has been brought on Mello Franco to get him to ask his Government to change its instructions. As a result of their talks yesterday and last night M. Briand and Dr. Stresemann explained to each other that neither could afford to have this meeting break up without the admission of Germany. Each understood the other's desire to obtain a diplomatic victory, as to go back without it would injure his standing. But they also agreed that to go back without success here would be even more serious for them."

It became known in Geneva during the day that Premier Briand had arranged to have the League of Nations Assembly postponed from Tuesday to Wednesday, in the hope that a settlement might be reached in the meantime. He even thought he had a plan that he could put through in spite of Brazil's opposition. It was understood to have provided that "Czechoslovakia and Sweden both to resign now, Poland to be elected to the Czech seat and a neutral, preferably Holland, to Sweden's seat."

The plan failed, and after squabbling for ten days it was decided to postpone the admission of Germany until September. This was made known here through an Associated Press dispatch from Geneva Tuesday evening, March 16. It was stated that "the leaders of the Council of the League of Nations

agreed to-day to postpone the election of Germany to the League until September. Faced by the difficulty of Brazil's continued demand for a permanent Council seat, the leaders agreed that Sir Austen Chamberlain, the British Foreign Secretary, should propose in to-morrow's session of the Assembly that the whole question of Germany's admission to the League and the enlargement of the Council should be put off until the September session." The correspondent added that "in order to show that the Locarno atmosphere of conciliation and accord remains unshaken, all the signatory Powers, including Germany, plan soon to publish a common declaration in which they will re-affirm their faith in the Locarno agreement. Before the leaders' decision became known, Premier Briand of France told French correspondents that Germany had agreed not to withdraw her application for election to the League and that this would be considered in September." It was even claimed that "Premier Briand made the categorical statement that Germany and the Allies now are absolutely united on all questions connected with the reorganization of the Council."

Commenting on the failure of the League undertaking, the Geneva correspondent of the New York "Times" said in a long dispatch March 16 that "the meeting of the League of Nations called to admit Germany and bring into effect the treaties of Locarno has failed. After ten days of the most deplorable exhibition of petty nationalism, an exhibition for which a number of nations must share responsibility, the statesmen here assembled have found themselves unable to agree on the issue of the Council sets and the whole matter has been postponed until September. The Germans, with a rather extraordinary show of conciliation, have agreed to leave their application for membership before the League. Asked to-night whether Germany would come to Geneva in September, Chancellor Luther replied with hard good sense: 'That depends on the German Government of next September.' To-morrow morning the League Assembly will meet to hear the Council's report and then will adjourn. The Germans and Allies and other League members will scatter to the four corners of the earth."

The whole affair ended the next day. The Associated Press correspondent at Geneva cabled (March 17) that "the League of Nations Assembly to-day voted to adjourn the question of Germany's election to the League until the September session. The Assembly then adjourned sine die at 1.15 p. m." Continuing he said: "The vote came after announcement by Alfranio Mello-Franco, Brazilian representative, that the decision of his country not to vote a permanent Council seat for Germany unless Brazil were given one at the same time was irrevocable. A brief session of the Council had been held during the forenoon, and rumors were flying regarding the chances for a last-minute settlement when President Da Costa called the momentous meeting of the Assembly to order at 10.32 a. m. Extraordinary excitement prevailed in the Hall of Reformation as the delegates assembled and the galleries were jammed. Sir Austen Chamberlain, the British Foreign Secretary, took the rostrum and said the announcement which he was about to make depended upon a statement made to him by the representative of Brazil, Senhor Mello Franco thereupon went to the tribune

and explained his country's attitude. Brazil was convinced, he said, the reconstruction of the Council interested all States, and that all viewpoints should be made known. Brazil was deeply interested in the work for peace accomplished at Locarno because she was one of the pioneers in arbitration and conciliation, but she thought the admirable work of Locarno should find its place in the fabric of the League and not that the League should be made to exist as part of the political machinery of Locarno. 'We regret sincerely the great German nation is unable immediately to enter the League, because she would contribute great things to the League,' the Brazilian spokesman said. Then, referring to Brazil's projected veto of Germany for a permanent Council seat, he made the pronouncement: 'The instructions of my Government are irrevocable and final.' Sir Austen Chamberlain, in proposing postponement of Germany's election until September, described Germany's demand for assurance of a permanent Council seat at the present session as just and reasonable, but, he added: 'The statement by the representative of Brazil shows the members of the Council are not in a position to give that assurance.'

The Geneva representative of "The Sun" described the situation dramatically in part as follows: "The curtain has dropped upon the closing act of the great Mello-Franco drama, wherein the Brazilian delegate, the villain of the peace, is triumphant over virtue as represented by Briand and Chamberlain, while the heavy Fathers Luther and Stresemann make grief-stricken exits. The futility and insincerity of mystery hung heavy upon the Assembly's whole proceedings. None of the chief speakers made any attempt to explain to the wondering world the forces which have been fighting against realization of Locarno or to unmask the interests which, as each successive difficulty was overcome and each fresh country's demands met, immediately mobilized another obstacle to peace. Every country mentioned as having caused difficulties is busy protesting to the world's newspaper men the innocence and high-minded nature of their actions, and the real culprit, if culprit there be, remains concealed. No one finds it possible to believe that Brazil on her own would have dared or been able to defy a great European Power. The hero was Unden of Sweden, who dramatically rose from a sick bed to explain the high principles behind the determination of Sweden to give Germany fair play, and who, unable to speak, had to sit on the platform while an interpreter read his speech. It was a veritable 'Hamlet' without the 'Prince,' for the only Germans present were a few minor officials in the lobbies. It is generally felt that the chances of Germany, who maintains her application for League membership, returning to Geneva in September are of the slightest, and that political upheavals are bound to result not only in Germany, but also in France and Britain, which will retard for a long time, if not completely destroy, the prospect of her admission."

Naturally, there was keen interest in all the leading European capitals in the outcome of the Geneva gathering. The London representative of "The Sun" cabled Wednesday evening (March 17) that "in the worlds of politics and finance alike the postponement of Germany's admission to the League of Nations has caused the deepest depression to-day and

has aroused the keenest anxieties. Although the Locarno treaty signatories have tried to gild the pill of failure in a joint statement in which they declare that the spirit of Locarno has not been diluted by the conflict at Geneva during the last eight days, fears are admitted in many influential quarters that the next six months instead of making Germany's entry in September any more certain may make it more difficult, for intrigue is in the air, and already Mussolini's pet project of forming a central European bloc to thwart any union of Germany and Austria has taken very definite shape and has even obtained the blessings of Briand himself. What effect this Geneva imbroglio will have on the personal political fortunes of Sir Austen Chamberlain is a matter of widest discussion to-day. There is a strong element in the Labor Party that is anxious to bring in a vote of censure on the Foreign Secretary."

According to a special Paris cablegram to "The Sun" the same evening, "the French capital is in a state of exasperated disappointment at the news of the League meeting's probable indecisive end. The press of all shades of political belief concurs in the general feeling by calling the Geneva Assembly a 'lost illusion,' a depressing spectacle, 'a disquieting affair' and 'a drama of jealousy.' Unless an eleventh hour miracle changes the aspect of affairs, M. Briand will have the stormiest entry to Parliament tomorrow of his career. An accumulation of questions regarding the financial situation will be kept back as reserve ammunition."

As to Germany's attitude, the Berlin representative of the same paper cabled that "Chancellor Luther and Foreign Minister Stresemann will be asked to resign following dissolution of the Geneva conference, it is confidently stated by Government leaders here this morning, but, they add that the demand, which will come from the Radical bloc, will fail. Highly placed persons in closest touch with Herren Luther and Stresemann throughout the conference told the correspondent of 'The Sun' to-day that apart from the carping of the critics of the Right, there is general satisfaction with the proceedings and that the outcome is little short of a brilliant victory instead of being an ignominious defeat." He added that "another brilliant result seen here is that from all the turmoil of the League meeting that Locarno agreements have been saved intact and that there will be no change in carrying them out. These principles are regarded as having far greater importance than actual entry into the League, although this, if it had been accomplished peacefully, would have been another tremendous stride in the direction of stabilizing world relations."

In a later dispatch, the Geneva representative of the New York "Times" commented, on March 17, in part as follows on the failure of the League gathering, and also brought out several new features: "Sir Austen Chamberlain, the British Foreign Secretary, termed it a tragedy when the Assembly of the League of Nations, called in special session to admit Germany, recorded to-day its failure to do so because the members of the Council could not agree on the issue of the Council seats. With the Germans allowing their application to remain on file the League officially adjourned the whole matter until the regular Assembly session in September, after deciding to name a commission to study reconstitution of the Council. Meanwhile, the diplomats will work to re-

move the difficulties which wrecked this gathering and thus permit the Locarno treaties to come into effect. Formally, blame for the fiasco goes to Brazil, which before fifty-five nations composing the Assembly accepted responsibility for her 'final and irrevocable' stand that Brazil must have a permanent seat on the Council when any changes are made in its composition, including the entry of Germany. Unquestionably there are other factors in the failure, including the real position of Italy and Spain, but one bright circumstance stands out, namely, that France and Germany are in agreement and the delegates of all the nations which signed the Locarno treaties have here signed an undertaking to work sincerely to bring them into effect."

As might have been expected, both Aristide Briand, French Premier and Foreign Minister, and Austen Chamberlain, British Foreign Minister, were called upon to face determined opposition in their respective Parliaments, following their return from the unsuccessful meeting of the Council of the League of Nations at Geneva. The Associated Press representative in Paris cabled on the afternoon of March 18 that "Premier Briand, speaking in the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon on the League of Nations sessions at Geneva, declared that no discord whatever existed between France, Germany and the other signatories of the Locarno pact, but added, 'in returning to Paris this morning I found an atmosphere that was not quite the same.' 'There appears to be in this Chamber,' the Premier continued, 'the elements of a majority opposed to the Government. This majority may not be organized, but it exists in a latent state. If it is the intention of this majority to overthrow me it would be better that this be done immediately. I can wait, but the country cannot. We cannot lose more time,' M. Briand went on. 'In any case I hope that if you throw me down you will not wait until dawn to accomplish it.' "

The dispatch further stated that "the Ministerial declaration of the reorganized Briand Government, read this afternoon in the Chamber of Deputies of failure to bring about a solution of the country's financial problems by the date expected calls upon Parliament to 'observe exceptional discipline' so as to vote the necessary measure before the Easter recess. 'It is this Government's urgent duty to insure sincere and complete balancing of the budget,' the declaration says. 'If we can count upon the active and whole-hearted collaboration of both assemblies the country may look forward without fear to prompt financial restoration of the Treasury, which is the aim of all of our efforts. Right now we ask you to observe exceptional discipline of work in order to permit the voting before the parliamentary recess of measures without which it will become impossible to achieve a return to a normal regime and budgetary regularity.' Referring to foreign policy, the declaration continues: 'The policy of international agreements to which, by a large majority the Chamber and Finance Committee of the Senate have given approbation, will continue to be the policy of this Government.' "

According to a later dispatch to the New York "Times" the same evening, Premier Briand received support in the Chamber of Deputies for his policies in an unexpected way. It was stated that "a bitter

attack upon the inclusion of Jean Louis Malvy in the Cabinet, which evoked a dramatic defense by the Premier and culminated in the temporary suspension of a tumultuous session when the Minister of the Interior fell in a dead faint and had to be carried out, solidified the Socialists and the Radicals against the Right in the Chamber of Deputies to-night and gave to the new Government of Aristide Briand an expression of confidence by a vote of 341 to 165." The New York "Herald Tribune" correspondent added that "the international tragedy at Geneva and France's financial crisis were forgotten in the debate, which was centred entirely on the presence in the new Government of a man exiled from France during the war for endangering an Allied victory."

Opposition in Berlin to Chancellor Luther and Foreign Minister Stresemann was no less pronounced than it was in Paris and London to the French and British representatives at Geneva, according to cable advices from the German capital. The Berlin representative of "The Sun" cabled on the evening of March 18 that "Chancellor Luther and Foreign Minister Stresemann arrived back in Berlin from Geneva late this afternoon. The forces that are attempting to compel their resignations were already at work last night. While they failed to interrupt the Reichstag proceedings with denunciatory speeches, party leaders were busily at work on wording resolutions of no confidence, and these are now practically prepared, to be hurled almost before the Geneva delegates have pronounced the last words of their reports. From the hour of the arrival of the delegates here this evening action will be fast and furious, culminating in a vote early next week on whether or no the foreign policy established by Luther and Stresemann is to be abandoned, and thus another crisis will be brought on which will tie up legislation and economic reforms for half the summer." He also stated that "the German delegates realized that the deadlock was complete at Geneva from the very beginning, it was authoritatively stated to the correspondent of 'The Sun' here to-day. It was added, however, that the delegates did not dare to risk a hasty return for fear of seeming to knuckle down to the Government's opponents, and that M. Briand and Sir Austen Chamberlain were in the same position. This statement bears out the information given to 'The Sun' yesterday to the effect that the formation of struggling groups was hastily accomplished when the Brazilian bombshell was hurled—apparently by Signor Mussolini—into what would otherwise have been a peacefully cut and dried session."

As for the British sentiment, it was asserted in a special London cable dispatch to the New York "Times" on Thursday evening that "a hornet's nest will be a mild term for describing the sort of England Sir Austen Chamberlain will find on his homecoming to-morrow night from Geneva, unless all present signs fail. His Government colleagues and many of his friends outside the Government are loyally rallying to his defense, but they are badly outnumbered by those growling and cursing at what happened at Geneva. These malcontents are only too prone to attribute the major part of the blame to Sir Austen. Even among those inclined to poo-poo the idea that the Geneva conference was a

'catastrophe,' as is commonly assumed here, it is admitted that what happened there was a serious defeat for Britain."

The leading European Powers are still planning to hold a preliminary session to consider a general disarmament conference. This was made known in an Associated Press dispatch from Geneva on March 18. It stated that "the League of Nations Council to-day set May 17, at Geneva, for the first meeting of the Preparatory Commission of the Disarmament Conference. It decided to add delegates from the United States, Germany, Japan and Russia to the joint committee of experts which will advise the Commission. It also decided to submit all military questions to a special sub-commission including representatives of all States which participate in the Preparatory Commission." According to another Associated Press dispatch from Geneva the same day, "the League of Nations Council to-day adopted a resolution offered by Austen Chamberlain, British Foreign Secretary, to convoke a conference of delegates of States signatory to the protocol of the Court of International Justice at Geneva on Sept. 1." It was added that "this meeting will attempt to reach a common accord concerning the attitude to be taken toward the United States Senate's reservations to American adherence to the Court." The Geneva representative of the New York "Herald Tribune" asserted that "the Council of the League of Nations to-day administered a rebuke to Secretary of State Kellogg of the United States when it rejected his idea that the Governments who have already ratified the protocol of the Permanent Court of International Justice should signify in writing to the Washington Government their acceptance of the Senate reservations accompanying the adherence of the United States to the protocol of the Court." Announcement likewise was made that "the March session of the Council adjourned late this afternoon" (March 18).

Notwithstanding this action at Geneva, Washington appears to doubt that a disarmament conference actually will be held. Alanson B. Houghton, Ambassador to Great Britain, and Hugh S. Gibson, Minister to Switzerland, according to Washington dispatches, brought a discouraging report to President Coolidge and Secretary of State Kellogg relative to conditions in Europe. It was claimed in a special Washington dispatch to the New York "Times" on March 17 that, "although Secretary Kellogg, Ambassador Houghton and Minister Gibson declined to make any statement with regard to the character and scope of their conversations, it was apparent that the visit of Mr. Houghton and Mr. Gibson had assumed a greater importance than was attributed to it. No doubt seems to remain that the chief officers of the Administration view the current happenings at Geneva with concern, with apprehension engendered that not merely the fate of the disarmament conference, in which President Coolidge has shown a deep sympathetic interest, but that the success of the League of Nations, certainly so far as American public opinion is likely to appraise it, hangs in the balance."

The Washington representative of the New York "Evening Post" went much further in a dispatch the next day. He said in part: "The United States

once more is swinging toward an isolationist point of view with regard to Europe. The hopes raised in Washington by the signing of the Locarno treaty have been dissipated by the quarrels which broke out among the Powers over the admission of Germany to the Council of the League of Nations, by the failure to admit Germany and by the doubt whether an agreement to include Germany can be reached even at next September's meeting of the League. This revelation that Europe still is full of the hostilities which brought on the great war, together with the postponement of the disarmament conference and the profound disbelief that disarmament can come from the international conference the League has initiated, has induced great pessimism about the political outlook in Europe. At the end of the course Europe is pursuing, the Administration learns from its European advisers, nothing can be forecast but war. Europe is moved by the same motives and is setting up the same kind of balances of power which brought on the war. The same causes produce the same results, bearing in mind, of course, the possibility that Europe will so exhaust itself economically, it will, in a decade or so, be compelled to disarm and really organize for peace. This picture of European conditions has been allowed to come out in a semi-official way here, following the report Ambassador Houghton and Minister Gibson brought to President Coolidge on the prospects of disarmament. The frankness with which the press was informed was unprecedented in international relations and may be taken as indicating the profound disappointment the Administration feels over the failure of Europe to proceed in the spirit of the Locarno treaty. The Europe with which this country has to deal in seeking disarmament, according to the information before the President, is not governed by statesmen who have learned the lesson of the great war and are moved by a determination to prevent another one. The sooner we abandon the illusion the better. The peoples of Europe may desire disarmament, but their Governments are thinking of national prestige and imperialist ambitions and of setting up combinations and alliances which will be able to face any other combination or alliance which an opposing group of nations may present. They called a disarmament conference through the League of Nations, not because they felt about disarmament as the American people feel about disarmament, but because, under the Treaty of Versailles, having compelled the disarmament of Germany, they were obligated to attempt their own disarmament. Having called this conference merely to fulfill their treaty obligations, they drew up an agenda for it under which, in the opinion of the President's advisers, any agreement on disarmament was impossible."

In a special Washington dispatch to the New York "Times" yesterday morning it was stated that, "while word from Geneva that the Council of the League of Nations to-day had set May 17 for the first meeting of the Preparatory Commission on the proposed European disarmament conference was gratifying to Administration officials, they were taken by surprise by the decision of the Council to convoke a conference at the Swiss capital on Sept. 1 in an effort to reach an accord on the American reservations governing adherence to the World Court." It was added that, "in the absence of definite infor-

mation officials withheld comment, but it became evident to-night that they were at a loss to understand the meaning of the move. That quick advantage will be taken of it by the irreconcilables, who aim to effect the withdrawal of the United States from entry into the Court, was demonstrated when Senator Reed of Missouri in the Senate to-day assailed both the League and the Court."

Official bank rates at leading European centres continue to be quoted at 8% in Berlin; 7½% in Belgium; 7% in Italy; 6% in Paris and Norway; 5½% in Denmark; 5% in London and Madrid; 4½% in Sweden and 3½% in Holland and Switzerland. In London open market discount rates were firmer and finished at 4⅝@4¾% for short bills, as against 47-16@4½% last week, and 4¼% for three months' bills, against 4⅜@47-16% a week ago. Money on call at the British centre was likewise firm early in the week, touching 4⅝%, but declined and closed at 4⅜%, in comparison with 4¼% last week. In Paris and Switzerland the open market discounts have not been changed from 4¼% and 2%, respectively.

The Bank of England lost gold this week to the amount of £30,862, the first decline in several weeks. Note circulation, however, continues to decline as a result of a decrease of £40,000, the reserve in gold and notes in the banking department increased £9,000. A slight lowering in the proportion of reserve to liabilities was reported, viz., 20.08%, as against 20.20% a week ago. In the corresponding week of 1925 the ratio stood at 19⅞% and a year earlier at 17⅝%. Public deposits were again materially expanded, increasing £3,057,000, while "other" deposits fell £2,321,000. The Bank's temporary loans to the Government diminished £1,275,000. Loans on other securities, however, expanded £1,994,000. Gold stocks aggregate £145,561,670, which compares with £128,618,554 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 £128,105,046 in 1924. Reserve totals £24,105,000, against £24,294,619 in 1925 and £22,949,676 a year earlier. Loans stand at £76,176,000, as compared with £76,349,489 and £76,748,003 one and two years ago, respectively, while note circulation is £141,206,000, in comparison with £124,073,935 last year and £124,905,370 the year immediately preceding. Clearings through the London banks for the week totaled £726,849,000, which compares with £777,879,000 last week and £741,008,000 a year ago. No change has been made in the Bank's minimum discount from 5%, the rate prevailing for some time. We append herewith comparisons of the different items of the Bank of England return for a series of years:

BANK OF ENGLAND'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	1926. March 17.	1925. March 18.	1924. March 19.	1923. March 21.	1922. March 22.
	£	£	£	£	£
Circulation.....	141,203,000	124,073,935	124,905,370	123,198,570	121,704,000
Public deposits....	19,813,000	13,752,406	23,997,491	24,128,920	21,859,788
Other deposits.....	100,202,000	108,508,333	105,795,098	102,643,570	120,330,265
Govt't securities..	38,019,000	39,891,830	48,357,455	48,529,200	48,465,365
Other securities....	76,176,000	76,349,489	76,748,003	72,435,936	85,396,923
Reserve notes & coin	24,105,000	24,294,619	22,949,676	24,062,950	25,525,318
Coin and bullion...	145,561,670	128,618,554	128,105,046	127,511,520	128,779,763
Proportion of reserve to liabilities.....	20.08%	19⅞%	17⅝%	19%	17.95%
Bank rate.....	5%	5%	4%	3%	4½%

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

According to the weekly return of the Bank of France, note circulation declined 252,562,000 francs, reducing the total outstanding to 51,798,935,485 francs. Last year notes in circulation stood at 40,880,024,375 francs and the year before at 39,905,980,835 francs. The gold item shows a further small gain, namely, 4,950 francs. The Bank's gold holdings, therefore, now aggregate 5,548,291,875 francs as compared with 5,545,904,836 francs for the corresponding date last year and 5,541,640,171 francs for the year previous. Of these amounts 1,864,320,907 francs were held abroad in each of the years 1926, 1925 and 1924. The French Government repaid 200,000,000 francs of its borrowings to the Bank, reducing the total of advances to the State to 35,250,000,000 francs. During the week silver holdings increased 869,000 francs, bills discounted gained 171,086,000 francs, and treasury deposits rose 11,595,000 francs. On the other hand, trade advances decreased 36,891,000 francs and general deposits fell 150,957,000 francs. Comparison of the different items in this week's return with the figures of last week and the corresponding dates in both 1925 and 1924 is as follows:

BANK OF FRANCE'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	Changes for Week.	Mar. 17 1926.	Status as of Mar. 18 1925.	Mar. 19 1924.
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
In France.....	Inc. 4,950	3,683,970,968	3,681,583,928	3,677,319,263
Abroad.....	Unchanged	1,864,320,907	1,864,320,907	1,864,320,907
Total.....	Inc. 4,950	5,548,291,875	5,545,904,836	5,541,640,171
Silver.....	Inc. 869,000	329,700,000	307,470,325	297,821,975
Bills discounted....	Inc. 171,086,000	3,236,909,196	5,756,010,134	5,071,167,526
Trade advances....	Dec. 36,891,000	2,487,381,779	3,053,305,745	2,474,833,607
Note circulation....	Dec. 252,562,000	51,798,935,485	40,880,024,375	39,905,980,835
Treasury deposits... Inc.	11,595,000	48,660,899	13,136,553	56,957,200
General deposits... Dec	150,957,000	2,673,310,823	2,040,737,096	2,896,493,502
Advances to State... Dec	200,000,000	35,250,000,000	21,800,000,000	22,900,000,000

The Imperial Bank of Germany in its statement, issued as of March 15, reported a decline in note circulation of 125,201,000 marks, but at the same time an expansion in other maturing obligations of 159,817,000 marks. Other liabilities increased 24,357,000 marks. On the assets side, there was an increase in holdings of bills of exchange and checks of 7,679,000 marks, and in advances of 3,868,000 marks. Deposits held abroad increased 12,748,000 marks, reserve in foreign currencies 7,679,000 marks and silver and other coins, 4,867,000 marks. Increases were also shown of 8,793,000 marks in notes on other banks, 485,000 marks in investments and 2,569,000 marks in other assets. Gold and bullion holdings showed a gain of 23,034,000 marks, which brought the Bank's gold reserve up to 1,427,936,000 marks. Note circulation aggregates 2,604,506,000 marks.

The Federal Reserve Banks' weekly statements, issued on Thursday, revealed continued shrinkage in rediscounting, as well as open market operations, and for the banks as a group, another gain in gold of approximately \$12,000,000. The report of the System further shows that rediscounts of all classes of paper were reduced \$21,800,000, thus bringing total bills discounted for the week down to \$480,615,000, as compared with \$502,425,000 last week. Holdings of bills purchased in the open market declined \$27,300,000. Total bills and securities (earning assets) decreased roughly \$57,000,000, while deposits fell off \$16,600,000. There was a contraction of \$12,500,000 in the amount of Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation, but member bank reserve accounts increased \$20,600,000. The New York bank lost gold, albeit a small amount, namely \$997,000. Here, also, however, a heavy falling off

was shown in rediscounting of both Government secured and "other" paper; \$38,700,000 and \$13,100,000, respectively, with a decrease in total bills discounted of \$51,800,000. Bill buying in the open market was reduced \$11,700,000. On the other hand, total bills and securities increased \$8,900,000 (as the result of the issuance to the Bank by the United States Treasury of a temporary Certificate of Indebtedness for \$99,000,000 pending the collection of the quarterly income taxes), and deposits \$15,100,000. Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation by the New York Reserve Bank remained almost stationary—increasing \$463,000. Member bank reserve accounts recorded an expansion of \$15,200,000. As a result of the addition to gold reserves and smaller deposits, the reserve ratio of the System advanced 1.0%, to 75.6%. At New York there was a shrinkage of a like amount—1.0%, to 77.8%.

Last Saturday's statement of the New York Clearing House banks and trust companies was featured by another addition to surplus reserve of more than \$12,000,000. Loans expanded \$2,576,000. Net demand deposits were reduced \$25,374,000, while time deposits increased \$13,278,000, to \$573,717,000. The total of demand deposits is \$4,383,441,000, exclusive of \$44,537,000 in Government deposits. Cash in own vaults of members of the Federal Reserve Bank fell off \$547,000, to \$48,341,000. This, however, does not count as reserve. Reserves of State banks and trust companies in own vaults declined \$62,000 and reserves of these institutions kept in other depositaries fell \$313,000. Member banks added to their reserves in the Federal institution \$9,762,000; a factor that was responsible for the increase in surplus reserve of \$12,220,840, bringing excess reserves up to \$27,095,680, as compared with \$14,874,840 last week. The calculation is on the basis of 13% legal reserve requirements against demand deposits for member banks of the Federal Reserve System, but does not include \$48,341,000 cash in own vault held by these member banks on Saturday last.

The local money market has experienced a natural reaction following the large interest and dividend disbursements on March 15 and the further heavy liquidation in stocks; and the heavy income tax payments to the Government have been without effect. Call money ruled at 4 1/4%, while time loans dropped yesterday to 4 1/2% for 60 days to 6 months. Even at the lower level, the time money market was quiet. The slackening in some lines of general business that is reported probably contributed its share to the generally easy monetary conditions. The extent to which loans have been affected by the liquidation in securities was shown by the Federal Reserve figures yesterday. They disclosed a decrease of nearly \$163,000,000 for the week on the part of the New York banks reporting. With the unsatisfactory stock market, from the point of view of those working for higher prices, the offerings of new securities fell off somewhat. Still, the aggregate was by no means small, and embraced a wide variety of issues. Conflicting reports are coming to hand relative to actual conditions in several important industries, and also as to the nearby outlook. At best, there are indications that trade is becoming somewhat "spotty." Car loadings on the railroads keep up well. Further liberal dividend increases, both by railroad and industrial corporations, have been

reported, reflecting larger earnings for last year and confidence over prospects for this year. Mergers continue to come forward in various lines, with the exception of the railroads. They are still affected by the adverse Nickel Plate decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Dealing with specific rates for money, the call loan market has been motionless throughout, with all loans placed at 4 1/4%, which compares with a range of 4@4 1/2% last week. In other words, from Monday to Friday the only rate named has been 4 1/4%, this having been the high, low and renewal basis during the entire period. Call funds were in ample supply and in the outside market loans were negotiated at 4%. For fixed date maturities there was very little demand and trading was dull and featureless. Toward the close there was a general easing up as a result of unusually free offerings and quotations declined to 4 1/4@4 1/2% for sixty days and 4 1/2% for all maturities from ninety days to six months, as compared with a range of 4 3/4@5% for short and long periods last week.

Commercial paper was inactive, although a good demand was reported and high grade names were readily absorbed. The supply of offerings, however, was extremely limited. Both local and out-of-town banks were among the buyers. Quotations have not been changed from 4 1/4% for four to six months' names of choice character, with names not so well known still requiring 4 1/2%. New England mill paper and the shorter choice names continue to pass at 4 1/4%.

Banks' and bankers' acceptances were in fair demand, although trading was restricted by lack of offerings. Most of the business passing was for account of country banks. The tone of the market was easier, but actual rates remained unchanged. For call loans against bankers' acceptances the posted rate of the American Acceptance Council continues at 3 3/4%. The Acceptance Council makes the discount rate on prime bankers' acceptances eligible for purchase by the Federal Reserve banks 3 5/8% bid and 3 1/2% asked for bills running 30 days, 3 3/4% bid and 3 5/8% asked for 60 and 90 days, 3 7/8% bid and 3 3/4% asked for 120 days, 4 1/8% bid and 4% asked for 150 days and 180 days. Open market quotations are as follows:

	SPOT DELIVERY.		
	90 Days.	60 Days.	30 Days.
Prime eligible bills.....	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4	3 3/4 @ 3 3/4
	FOR DELIVERY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS.		
Eligible member banks.....	3 3/4 bid		
Eligible non-member banks.....	3 3/4 bid		

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

DISCOUNT RATES OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS IN EFFECT MARCH 19 1926.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK.	Paper Maturing—					
	Within 90 Days.				After 90 Days, but Within 6 Months.	After 6 Months.
	Com'rcial Agric'l & 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.....	4	4	4	4	4	4
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.

Sterling exchange was neglected and the small up-and-down movements that characterized the week's dealings attracted very little attention. The whole market was dull and featureless with traders almost wholly absorbed in the wild changes that have been taking place in values of Belgian francs. Nevertheless, sterling price levels were well maintained and demand rates ruled throughout between 4 85 11-16 and 4 85 27-32. Offerings of commercial bills were light and buying usually adequate. The unexpected debacle in Belgian francs, coming at a time when it was believed that Belgium had turned the corner and was on the high road to financial recovery, was a keen disappointment to local bankers and financiers, and the resultant effect for a time was to depress the tone of sterling, although, as already indicated, actual price changes were small. Later on, when the first shock of surprise had subsided, a better feeling began to prevail, and it was felt that the break had been considerably overdone, especially as Belgium's economic and financial position is considered pre-eminently sound.

So far as sterling itself is concerned, despite the very apparent lack of interest shown, there is a very well defined feeling that price levels will be well maintained if they do not actually move higher. Thus far the dreaded Indian demand for gold has failed to assume the large proportions feared some weeks back, while labor conditions, though still unsettled, give better promise of satisfactory readjustment in the not distant future. It is noted that whereas before the war sterling rates were weakest from the latter part of December until well into May, firmness in these later years is apt to set in around the end of February.

Referring to quotations in greater detail, sterling exchange on Saturday last was a shade easier and demand sold at 4 85 $\frac{3}{4}$ (one rate), cable transfers at 4 86 $\frac{1}{8}$ and sixty days at 4 82 $\frac{1}{2}$; trading was inactive. On Monday there was a further fractional decline to 4 85 11-16 for demand, partly in sympathy with the slump in Belgian francs; the high was 4 85 $\frac{3}{4}$, while cable transfers ranged between 4 86 1-16 and 4 86 $\frac{1}{8}$ and sixty days at 4 82 7-16@4 82 $\frac{1}{2}$; the volume of business transacted was small. Moderate improvement set in on Tuesday, so that demand covered a range of 4 85 11-16@4 85 25-32, cable transfers 4 86 1-16@4 86 5-16 and sixty days 4 82 7-16@4 82 17-32; the market, however, continued inactive. Wednesday the undertone was firm and rates moved up on quiet trading to 4 85 $\frac{3}{4}$ @4 85 27-32 for demand, 4 86 $\frac{1}{8}$ @4 86 7-32 for cable transfers and 4 82 $\frac{1}{2}$ @4 82 19-32 for sixty days. Sterling was dull, but steady on Thursday and demand sold at 4 85 $\frac{3}{4}$ @4 85 13-16, cable transfers at 4 86 $\frac{1}{8}$ @4 86 3-16 and sixty days at 4 82 $\frac{1}{2}$ @4 82 9-16. Friday's market was inactive and unchanged, with quoted rates still at 4 85 $\frac{3}{4}$ @4 85 13-16 for demand, 4 86 $\frac{1}{8}$ @4 86 3-16 for cable transfers and 4 82 $\frac{1}{2}$ @4 82 9-16 for sixty days. Closing quotations were 4 82 9-16 for sixty days, 4 85 13-16 for demand and 4 86 3-16 for cable transfers. Commercial sight bills finished at 4 85 11-16, sixty days at 4 82 1-16, ninety days at 4 81 5-16, documents for payment (sixty days) at 4 82 5-16 and seven-day grain bills at 4 84 9-16. Cotton and grain for payment closed at 4 85 11-16.

No gold engagements were noted during the week either for export or import. The Bank of England reported sales of gold bars to the amount of £120,000.

In the Continental exchanges the event of the week was the unlooked for crash in the value of Antwerp francs, which, after nearly six months of practical stability, slumped about 50 points from the previous level of 4 53 $\frac{3}{4}$. The break occurred on Monday with almost startling suddenness and immediately following cable advices to the effect that serious difficulties had arisen over Belgium's budget between the Belgian Government and the bankers engaged in arranging details for the proposed Belgian loan. Coupled with this was the circulation of rumors that the stabilization credits granted the Belgian Government some time ago had been completely exhausted; and this in conjunction with the strain of the Geneva situation and the sharp recessions in French francs, all served to undermine confidence, and precipitated a sort of semi-panic. Violent fluctuations ensued that carried Belgian franc quotations down from 4 52 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 4 03; back to 4 24, only to drop again to 4 13; then crash through the 4.00 mark to 3.96, or the lowest point touched since the collapse in the spring of 1924, with the close about 4.01. Quotations moved up and down with great rapidity as a result of frenzied attempts to sell, interspersed by spurts of short covering and occasional buying by interests who regarded the decline as unwarranted. It should be noted, however, that most of the excitement and the bulk of the trading took place in London, which appeared to be the seat of the disturbance. Certainly London dealers were responsible for a large proportion of the demoralizing selling. Local operators took only a minor part in the proceedings and price changes here simply reflected developments abroad. Those familiar with inside affairs in Europe claim that the advance in the discount of the National Bank of Belgium last week to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ % ought to have been interpreted as a danger signal, and no doubt was so regarded in some quarters since the advance was followed by the putting out of large quantities of Belgian franc futures, which naturally reduced the rate to well below the spot figure and thus led to the liquidation of heavy holdings of Belgian exchange. The incident revived statements put forth months ago as to the doubtful wisdom of stabilizing francs at so high a level. Later in the week, when part of the hysteria had died down, it began to be rumored that Antwerp currency would likely be stabilized at around 4 04, as Belgium's position is economically sound. Much will depend upon the success attained in floating new loans to replace the exhausted stabilization credits, also, to a lesser extent, rehabilitation of French financial affairs.

The feverish unsettlement displayed by Belgian francs affected adversely the remainder of the European list and French francs, as well as Italian lire, were under considerable selling pressure, although price changes were relatively small. Very little progress has been made this week in straightening out France's tangled finances, and publication of unfavorable February foreign trade figures helped increase the depression and led to a drop of about 10 points to 3.52, although later part of the loss was recovered. Trading was sporadic and the market is still in a waiting attitude. Practically no hope is entertained of securing a vote on the budget or even of passing special tax legislation before Easter, while labor unions in France are said to be asking for wage increases. Considerable official support was neces-

sitated to prevent depreciation. The same is true of lire, which were held at around 4.00³/₄ to 4.01, on quiet trading. German and Austrian currencies remained motionless. Greek currency opened and ruled for a time at 1.40, but later declined to 1.35¹/₂. The minor Central European exchanges were dull and about steady; except Polish zloties, which dropped back 50 points to 12.50, then closed at 12.75.

The London check rate on Paris finished at 1 36.63, against 1 33.28 last week. In New York sight bills on the French centre closed at 3.52¹/₂, against 3.63¹/₄; cable transfers at 3.53¹/₂, against 3.64¹/₂; commercial sight bills at 3.51¹/₂, against 3.64¹/₄, and commercial sixty days at 3.47, against 3.57³/₄ a week ago. Closing rates on Antwerp francs were 4.00¹/₂ for checks and 4.01¹/₂ for cable transfers. This compares with 4.52⁷/₈ and 4.53⁷/₈ a week earlier. Reichsmarks continue to be quoted at 23.81 (one rate) for both checks and cable transfers. Austrian exchange is now quoted in shillings, the par being 14.07 per shilling and the trading rate 14¹/₈. Lire closed at 4.01 for bankers' sight bills and at 4.02 for cable transfers. Last week the close was 4.00³/₄ and 4.01³/₄. Exchange on Czechoslovakia finished at 2.96¹/₄, against 2.96³/₈; on Bucharest at 0.42¹/₂, against 0.42¹/₄, and on Finland at 2.52, against 2.52¹/₄. Polish zloties closed at 12.75, against 12.70 last week. Greek exchange finished at 1.35¹/₂ for checks and at 1.36 for cable transfers, as contrasted with 1.39¹/₄ and 1.39³/₄ the preceding week.

Movements in the neutral exchanges, formerly so-called, were not particularly significant. The undertone of the market was depressed by the drop in Belgian francs and declines were registered in a number of currencies, notably Norway, which broke no less than 58 points, to 21.12, chiefly on active selling in London, with few takers. Danish and Swedish exchanges were steady at close to the levels of the previous week. Guilders remain dull at within a point or two of 40.05. Swiss francs ruled at 19.24¹/₄ then closed higher at 19.25¹/₂. Pesetas were quiet and still quoted around 14.08; all on a narrow volume of featureless trading.

Bankers' sight on Amsterdam finished at 40.05³/₄, against 40.05³/₄; cable transfers at 40.07³/₄, against 40.07³/₄; commercial sight bills at 39.97³/₄, against 39.97³/₄, and commercial sixty days at 39.61³/₄, against 39.61³/₄ last week. Final quotations on Swiss francs were 19.25¹/₂ for bankers' sight bills and 19.26¹/₂ for cable transfers, which compares with 19.24¹/₂ and 19.25¹/₂ a week ago. Copenhagen checks finished at 26.19 and cable transfers at 26.23, against 26.26 and 26.30. Checks on Sweden closed at 26.77 and cable transfers at 26.81, against 26.78 and 26.82, while checks on Norway finished at 21.41 and cable transfers at 21.45, against 21.86¹/₂ and 21.90¹/₂. Spanish pesetas closed at 14.08¹/₈ for checks and at 14.10¹/₂ for cable transfers, as contrasted with 14.08 and 14.10 the previous week.

With regard to South American exchange, renewed weakness made itself felt in Argentine pesos, which broke to 39.07 for checks and to 39.11 for cable transfers, then rallied and closed at 39.50 and 39.55, as compared with 39.75 and 39.80 a week ago. Much of the weakness is ascribed to speculative maneuvering. It is claimed that this currency had been built up too high in the expectation of crops for export. The reaction of this week is, therefore, due to the general belief that currencies

have been moved up too far. The same is true of Brazil exchange, although to a lesser extent. Brazilian milreis closed at 14.31 for checks and 14.36 for cable transfers, against 14.43 and 14.48. Chilean exchange was steady and closed at 12.05, as against 12.01 last week. Peru was easier, finishing at 3.85, against 3.90 last week.

Far Eastern exchange was dull, at close to the levels prevailing a week earlier. Hong Kong finished at 56³/₈@56³/₄, against 56¹/₄@56⁵/₈; Shanghai, 73¹/₄@73¹/₂, the same as a week ago; Yokohama, 45¹/₂@45³/₄, against 45³/₈@45¹/₂; Manila, 49⁵/₈@49⁷/₈, against 49³/₄@49 15-16; Singapore, 57@57¹/₄, against 56³/₄@57; Bombay, 36³/₄@37, against 37@37¹/₄, and Calcutta, 36³/₄@36⁷/₈, against 36⁷/₈@37.

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

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES CERTIFIED BY FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS TO TREASURY UNDER TARIFF ACT OF 1922, MARCH 13 1926 TO MARCH 19 1926, INCLUSIVE.

Country and Monetary Unit.	Noon Buying Rate for Cable Transfers in New York. Value in United States Money.					
	Mar. 13.	Mar. 15.	Mar. 16.	Mar. 17.	Mar. 18.	Mar. 19.
EUROPE—	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Austria, schilling*	1.14057	1.14069	1.14051	1.14058	1.14058	1.14072
Belgium, franc	.0454	.0417	.0417	.0402	.0403	.0402
Bulgaria, lev	.007188	.007246	.007214	.007214	.007221	.007194
Czechoslovakia, krone	.029618	.029618	.029617	.029619	.029617	.029618
Denmark, krone	.2626	.2623	.2618	.2618	.2617	.2623
England, pound sterling	4.8610	4.8605	4.8604	4.8615	4.8614	4.8611
Finland, markka	.025214	.025223	.025220	.025217	.025220	.025218
France, franc	.0363	.0360	.0361	.0357	.0358	.0355
Germany, reichsmark	.2380	.2380	.2380	.2380	.2380	.2381
Greece, drachma	.014066	.013985	.013975	.013844	.013704	.013628
Holland, guilder	.4006	.4005	.4005	.4005	.4007	.4008
Hungary, pengo	.1754	.1754	.1758	.1755	.1755	.1758
Italy, lira	.0402	.0400	.0401	.0401	.0402	.0402
Norway, krone	.2183	.2169	.2159	.2148	.2131	.2151
Poland, zloty	.1259	.1278	.1286	.1268	.1241	.1249
Portugal, escudo	.0513	.0513	.0513	.0513	.0514	.0514
Rumania, leu	.004237	.004230	.004228	.004227	.004214	.004218
Spain, peseta	.1409	.1409	.1408	.1408	.1410	.1410
Sweden, krona	.2681	.2681	.2680	.2680	.2680	.2680
Switzerland, franc	.1925	.1925	.1925	.1925	.1925	.1925
Yugoslavia, dinar	.017611	.017628	.017613	.017613	.017617	.017606
ASIA—						
China—						
Chefoo, tael	.7583	.7554	.7567	.7590	.7588	.7563
Hankow, tael	.7513	.7509	.7508	.7519	.7517	.7503
Shanghai, tael	.7279	.7276	.7273	.7282	.7280	.7273
Tientsin, tael	.7688	.7654	.7654	.7669	.7667	.7654
Hong Kong, dollar	.5604	.5573	.5581	.5615	.5625	.5609
Mexican dollar	.5294	.5270	.5280	.5283	.5244	.5246
Tientsin or Pelyang, dollar	.5350	.5308	.5325	.5329	.5338	.5
Yuan, dollar	.5479	.5438	.5454	.5458	.5433	.5458
India, rupee	.3671	.3668	.3662	.3659	.3644	.3643
Japan, yen	.4537	.4540	.4530	.4514	.4528	.4524
Singapore (S.S.), dollar	.5663	.5663	.5658	.5663	.5658	.5663
NORTH AMER.—						
Canada, dollar	.996514	.996419	.996154	.996286	.996038	.996205
Cuba, peso	.999531	.999156	.999469	.999469	.999469	.999406
Mexico, peso	.485000	.485167	.485000	.485333	.485500	.485667
Newfoundland, dollar	.993938	.993828	.993938	.994125	.993750	.993750
SOUTH AMER.—						
Argentina, peso (gold)	.9018	.8985	.8807	.8911	.8980	.8962
Brazil, milreis	.1457	.1455	.1432	.1445	.1437	.1442
Chile, peso (paper)	.1203	.1204	.1206	.1205	.1208	.1210
Uruguay, peso	1.0235	1.0211	1.0172	1.0155	1.0174	1.0220

* One schilling is equivalent to 10,000 paper crowns.

The New York Clearing House banks, in their operations with interior banking institutions, have gained \$3,887,144 net in cash as a result of the currency movements for the week ended March 19. Their receipts from the interior have aggregated \$4,879,644, while the shipments have reached \$992,500, as per the following table:

CURRENCY RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS BY NEW YORK BANKING INSTITUTIONS.

Week Ended March 19.	Into Banks.	Out of Banks.	Gain or Loss to Banks.
Banks' interior movement	\$4,879,644	\$992,500	Gain \$3,887,144

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, Mar. 13.	Monday, Mar. 15.	Tuesday, Mar. 16.	Wednesday, Mar. 17.	Thursday, Mar. 18.	Friday, Mar. 19.	Aggregate for Week.
\$ 89,000,000	\$ 102,000,000	\$ 125,000,000	\$ 114,000,000	\$ 125,000,000	\$ 101,000,000	\$ 653,000,000

Note.—The foregoing heavy credits reflect the huge mass of checks which come to the New York Reserve Bank from all parts of the country in the operation of the Federal Reserve System's pay 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 bul-
lion in the principal European banks:

Banks of	March 18 1926.			March 19 1925.		
	Gold.	Silver.	Total.	Gold.	Silver.	Total.
England	£ 145,561,670	£	£ 145,561,670	£ 128,618,554	£	£ 128,618,554
France a	147,358,839	13,160,000	160,518,839	147,263,357	12,280,000	159,543,357
Germany c	55,211,750	4994,600	56,206,350	35,568,500	994,600	36,563,100
Aus.-Hun.	b2,000,000	b	b2,000,000	b2,000,000	b	b2,000,000
Spain	26,451,000	127,926,000	101,440,000	26,133,000	127,573,000	101,440,000
Italy	101,475,000	3,410,000	39,097,000	35,585,000	3,362,000	38,947,000
Netherl'ds	35,870,000	2,122,000	37,992,000	42,040,000	1,700,000	43,740,000
Nat. Belg.	10,954,000	3,658,000	14,612,000	10,891,000	3,002,000	13,893,000
Switzerl'd.	16,685,000	3,709,000	20,394,000	19,189,000	3,599,000	22,788,000
Sweden	12,763,000		12,763,000	13,000,000		13,000,000
Denmark	11,623,000	842,000	12,465,000	11,637,000	919,000	12,556,000
Norway	8,180,000		8,180,000	8,180,000		8,180,000
Total week	583,369,256	54,346,600	337,715,859	555,412,411	51,989,600	307,402,011
Prev. week	583,162,973	54,514,600	337,677,573	555,669,684	52,183,600	307,853,284

a Gold holdings of the Bank of France this year are exclusive of £74,572,836 held abroad. b No recent figures. c Gold holdings of the Bank of Germany this year are exclusive of £15,033,350 held abroad. d As of Oct. 7 1924.

**The Breakdown at Geneva and Its
Consequences.**

The extraordinary session of the Assembly of the League of Nations which was called for the express purpose of admitting Germany to the League of Nations, in accordance with the assurances given to Germany at Locarno, adjourned on Wednesday with Germany still out of the League. After ten days of wrangling, the Council found itself unable to settle the controversy which had developed over the proposed enlargement of the Council of the League and the distribution of permanent seats therein, and until the Council had acted the Assembly could not proceed. Accordingly, the matter has been postponed until September, the question of enlarging the Council being in the meantime relegated to the consideration of a commission. The German delegates, whose conduct apparently has been free from criticism, have gone home empty-handed, save for some fine phrases doubtless intended to console them in their disappointment and rebuff. Whatever the reception accorded to them by the Reichstag or the people of Germany, they at least will have nothing save a straight story to tell and an honorable attitude to defend. The representatives of the other Powers who mixed in the controversy will be kept busy for a time in explaining why and how it all happened, with the possibility that their reports may precipitate more than one change of Government before the Assembly reconvenes in September.

No one who has followed with an open mind the proceedings at Geneva, as they have been reported from day to day (and no meeting of the League has been more fully reported in the American press), should find any difficulty in making a just appraisal of the merits of the dispute, or in putting the blame for the catastrophe exactly where it belongs. Technically and formally, the offending State is Brazil, which stubbornly refused to abate its demand for a permanent seat in the Council as its price for approving the entry of Germany into the League with a permanent place in the Council. Precisely what motives determined the action of Brazil is not clear, nor do we yet know, as we doubtless

shall some time know, whether it acted for itself or as the catspaw of some other Power or some group of Powers. Whatever the motive, its course lays it fairly open to condemnation, and the repercussions of its conduct at Geneva will be felt throughout South America and in the future relations between the South American States and the League. The report that Spain, which did not withdraw its candidacy, apparently stood ready to do what Brazil did, does not exculpate Brazil, and on the surface Brazil is the scapegoat and will be made to bear as much of the burden of odium as the other Powers shall succeed in heaping upon it.

This is only the surface, however. The real responsibility is elsewhere. However overweening the ambition of Brazil may have been to play a greater part than formerly in the affairs of the League, there is small reason to suppose that it would have insisted so stubbornly upon its claims if other Powers of far greater consequence had not set the fatal example. What that example was, the record of events clearly shows. The responsibility for the Geneva catastrophe rests primarily with France, which, by championing the claims of its ally, Poland, to a permanent seat in the Council, made itself the dominating factor in a political move whose main object was to reconstruct the membership of the Council to Germany's disadvantage, and to seize the occasion of Germany's application for admission as the opportune moment for putting through the scheme. Had not France, with M. Briand as its spokesman and leader, thrown its whole weight on the Polish side, the demand of Poland, and the demands of Brazil and Spain as well, would unquestionably have been withdrawn under pressure from the Powers. To the policy of France, admittedly in contravention of the assurances given to Germany at Locarno, the British Government, in the person of Sir Austen Chamberlain, became virtually committed, while to that which France coveted and Great Britain was willing to aid, Mussolini hastened to give his support. These are the essentials of the Geneva story. Germany is to-day outside the League because the three Powers which have dominated the League from the beginning, and whose wishes should naturally, under ordinary circumstances, entitle them to superior weight, have given their active support to a movement to impose new and extraneous conditions to the admission of Germany to membership in the League Council. The efforts to place the chief responsibility elsewhere, or to make it appear that this or that large question of general League policy was involved, are only clumsy attempts to conceal from the world the game of nationalistic politics that was being played, to the discredit of the players and the debasement of the League.

What lay back of the extraordinary course which the three Powers pursued was the thing against which President Wilson repeatedly protested, and the achievement of which he did his best to circumvent. The struggle at Geneva, as the whole world now perceives, was a struggle for the restoration of the old idea of balance of power. Never has the League appeared less a genuine association of nations, never have its supposed authority and resourcefulness appeared more impotent, than when it was faced with schemes for the re-establishment of a political system which President Wilson rightly branded as discredited, and which he declared ought under no circumstances to be allowed to return.

With the Locarno treaties only a few months old, and with the memory of M. Briand's cordial expression regarding Germany and the "new spirit" fresh in mind, the League of Nations was confronted with a scheme to maintain the peace of Europe by grouping Germany's former enemies in allied camps, and balancing one group against another. Such a policy is the natural consequence of the Little Entente among the Balkan Powers and Mussolini's recent appeal for a Latin union against Germany, and it is the only policy, apparently, upon which the Powers feel disposed to rely, but it is the negation of the League idea and the certain enemy of international peace. The "new world order" which the war was supposed to have ushered in turns out to be only the old order revamped, and the "Locarno spirit" appears as little better than a form of words. For all practical purposes, Europe is back where it was before the war, with nationalistic enmities and rivalries, and political suspicions and ambitions, unfurling their standards in the capital of international peace.

The immediate consequences of the calamitous break-down at Geneva will show themselves widely. The prestige of the League has received a severe blow, and the statesman will indeed be hardy who shall undertake now to defend it as a peace agency. The Locarno agreements are under a cloud, and the sincerity of the statesmen who signed them, apart from Germany, has been impugned. If there still exists in the United States a respectable body of opinion that desires to see the United States a member of the League, its spirit may well have been broken by the spectacle of a nationalistic squabble which well-informed American correspondents, to a man, have not hesitated to describe in unbridled terms. American adhesion to the World Court, if so be it that the reservations imposed by the Senate resolution are swallowed by the Council, will become henceforth a matter of misgiving, for the Court is a creation of the League, and the League is in contempt. The gloomy accounts which Mr. Houghton and Mr. Gibson are reported to have given to President Coolidge regarding the actual political situation in Europe, while on the surface containing nothing that was not already known or widely suspected, are such as to justify the firm continuance of a policy of complete independence in European relations.

It would be gratifying to be able to hope that, in the six months which must elapse before the League is again convened, the Powers which are responsible for the Geneva fiasco may come to their senses and exert themselves to undo the mischief that has been done. Unfortunately, there is little in the situation at the moment to sustain the hope. The Mussolini Government is still in the saddle, and to build an Italian empire or a Latin union on the ruins of a merely formal European peace would not, apparently, be out of harmony with the Mussolini policy. Sir Austen Chamberlain may have the fight of his political life in defending himself before the House of Commons, but it is not yet certain that Premier Baldwin will repudiate him or that the Conservative majority in the Commons will withhold its support. M. Briand, upon whose shoulders the heaviest burden rests, has actually obtained a breathing space sufficient to enable him to win approval of his new Ministry, so that, for the moment at least, he would seem to be in a position further to advance his views regarding

the League Council and to continue his efforts to maintain the balance of power. All this, however, is of the future. The immediate lesson, writ large on the face of the record made at Geneva, is the complete futility of the League as a device for insuring international peace and cultivating the spirit of international good-will, and the deliberate return to the balance of power as the means of regulating the relations between States. The former may perhaps be dismissed as no more than a grievous disappointment of high and generous hopes, but the latter is a world calamity.

"Out Where the West Begins"—Helping the Farmer.

In the springtime the sower goes forth to scatter the seed in good ground. The black loam, turned and leveled; the sturdy figure, striding forward with rhythmic swinging arm; the benignant sky overhead and the trustworthy earth beneath; these constitute a picture and a type that will endure through the ages. It matters not that the good grain is now drilled in by machinery, the modern farmer is essentially the husbandman of old, and the elements that he combines in primal production are unchanged and unchangeable. Man's law and his government can never alter the ancient equation. The man needs the soil and the soil needs the man. They are brothers working in and by and under the natural law. And it follows that in the exchange and commerce that ensue, the governing power, to at least a guiding extent, lies in this solitary union of man and nature. No man, no law, no Government, can grow figs from thistles. The seed that falls in stony places will not thrive. And if, "out where the West begins," there is corn and wheat and grass lands, man alters them at his peril. Therefore, as an individual tied to the soil, he cannot follow the acreage limitations set for him by the combinations of theorists who would, from their remote heights, fit production to consumption in order to fix price. He cannot impose his will upon the will of the soil. By a small margin he can resist the quality of the soil he tills, but if he defies it utterly by growing wheat on land best adapted to corn he defeats his own best prospects and in the end shatters the dream of price by attempting to fit production to an estimated consumption. The talent that is given him lies in the quality of the soil over which ownership gives him personal power.

It happens that at this sowing time of the year, when in the vast stretches of the Middle West thousands of farmers are in the fields, there exists at Washington in the halls of legislation a deep yearning for this solitary figure who trusts in God and keeps his plowshares bright. It is a curious anomaly that this seasonal worker who goes forth in the morning with confident heart that he who sows shall reap accordingly should listen to the theories of those who, like the lilies, do not sow, neither do they reap. So anomalous is it that it may be doubted that he listens as carefully as he does to the murmurings of the quickening earth, the melodies of the winds, and the plangent music of the falling rains. If he works not in the springtime, if he waits for the fixing of prices by his legislative friends and by his political benefactors, no one knows better than he that he will wait in vain. Whatever he may hope for from Congress, he puts his first trust in God and

his own right hand. He sows *that* he may reap. He is alertly aware that as far as his own personal interest is concerned it is better to have two bushels of good grain at the *market* price than one bushel at a *fixed* price that *may* materialize and may not. He knows that his own farm is the only one over which he has personal control. He knows that while he may associate with his neighbor to produce a given amount of grain he must thereby give up some of his independence and sacrifice some of the power that lies in his own soil. And he knows that these far-off estimates of total consumption are so distant from his own acres that he is trusting his own fortunes, his own possibilities, to a supposition that is a mere mass of figures. And so he works on, in much the same old way, and does what *he* can to produce a good crop, knowing the uncertainties of his calling, yet never doubting the returns of the soil beneath and the sky overhead.

It also happens that the time the Capitol at Washington is dripping grief there comes a smash in stocks in "Wall Street." Now the gentle, unsuspecting farmer "out where the West begins" has been taught in divers and sundry political campaigns that this region in the City of Greater New York has many of the characteristics Dante found in his explorations and Dore subsequently pictured, but he does not altogether believe it, for he sometimes takes a "flyer" in stocks himself, though this is the exception, not the rule. And so, in keeping with the idea that the best of us secretly and subconsciously "rejoice a little over the misfortunes of our friends," he smiles when the speculative house of cards comes tumbling down on the heads of those who built it. In a small way he, too, has "lost his stake"; but he knows that this is foreign to his sowing and reaping, save that it induces him to work the harder. It may and does affect the price of grain, though he has little usually to sell in the spring of the year. What troubles him most is the periodical "boom" in land values he cannot prevent and to which he, being human, too often succumbs. When the land boomers are shouting at every crossroads, he catches the speculation fever unbeknown to himself; and too often for his own good sells at high price and then, sick at health, buys at a still higher, and so comes to grief when the mortgage falls due. He knows, as he meditates in the long furrows, that all these booms are apart from the ancient and honored vocation of producing food for the human race. He knows, in the midst of the percentages of returns which his friends figure out, even what the National Industrial Conference does not seem to appreciate, that he is sure of his own living—though all the booms burst and cloture be never invoked against those in legislative halls who would, by law, line his meagre purse with abundant gold. He feels that he is not perforce a wage-earner, compelled to advance the price of his toil by strikes and picketing. This, he senses, belongs to the East, an environ of "Wall Street"; where population congests; where rents are high and skyscrapers abound; and where the "protective tariff" flourishes as a green bay tree, about the only tree that will grow in the exhausted soil. Thus, when the bluebird sings, albeit the March winds twist and turn like Satan, he fastens his thought on good seed and gathers a spirit of independence from the sunshine and the soil. While Congress talks *he* works. Anomalous, but quite true.

He hears what Congress so generously and sympathetically says about the creation of "co-operative marketing associations" to take care of the "farm surplus," but he tries to make sure that his own farm produces a surplus. He is not averse to associations that will aid him in selling, but he is shy when he is asked to take stock in a corporation organized to take over a string of elevators at a fancy figure. He is not averse to high prices, but when he has to pay for them himself through a revolving fund drawn from his sales tickets at the market-place to enable the Government or some legalized Commission to peg the price or to take over the "surplus" he does not unanimously follow his self-constituted leaders who are in charge of the farmers' organizations. He has heard of the plan of an erstwhile Secretary of Agriculture friend to fix the minimum price (to be maintained by an excise tax of one-half of one per cent, on the "value of the annual marketable crop" as computed by the Commission) for wool at 40 cents, for butter at 40 cents, for cotton at 25 cents, for wheat at \$1.25 and for corn at 65 cents." And he wonders, in his hard-headed simplicity, what effect such a "standardization" of price will have on the local prices for domestic consumption. And he feels, in his contemplative moments, that some time or other he may yet be forced to pray for relief from his friends. He has his mental reservations, has this farmer of many friends. He does not enter Leagues, by any new name, without them. And despite his waning propensity to join in politically-bred associations, he does not surrender his individual independence and his free thought and action thereby. The National Industrial Conference has lately found that this farmer, nurtured in the concentrative silences of nature, is more "radical" than the city dweller, nourished on the confusing noises of roaring industries where the bright lights twinkle in the sign-boards and the "million lilies" Milky Way of the night-sky is obscured by the electric glare of the earthly Great White Way, but he cannot prevent it. He knows he is something of a myth to his friends the investigators. He has, if it must be told, a profound sense of his own reality. And no real thing is ever much disturbed by the fables of the statisticians. Modest as he is, often unused to the ways of the log-roller reformers who sound the loud tocsin of Middle West revolt, he deems himself a useful citizen of the Republic, entitled for what he is and what he does to the respect of all good men and true. And he is not quite carried away by what others think of him and proclaim what they would do for him.

So, in the springtime, the sower goes forth to scatter the gain in good ground! Leagues of Nations may fail and Locarno treaties fall into premature desuetude, but they raise no crops on the American prairies. As was asked once of the nervous but puissant State of Kansas, one hundred and ten millions of his countrymen may always ask in the smiling springtime: What's the matter with the Western farmer? When the cobwebs are all blown away there is nothing much the matter with him save that he works and never strikes. Downtrodden and oppressed and poor, as the myth-makers see him, he is nevertheless the ground-sill of all prosperity, the food-maker of the nation, the tireless toiler of the finest valley of earth, with courage in his heart and God for his friend. And he will always "get along," despite the theorists, reformers, lawmakers and organizers. If, perchance, in the legislative

mania for the Governmental lifting of all men by their boot-straps, he complains of certain injustices, such as the "protective tariff," he is not really pleading that this false favoritism be bestowed upon himself. Having good, common sense he sometimes wonders at the sudden zeal for railroad "consolidations" while the magnificent system of natural waterways goes unimproved. He uses, to a not alarming extent, Land banks and Intermediate Credit banks provided for him in a burst of political generosity. But of the thirty thousand local banks, a large proportion in his own territory, which he helped to create and now uses with satisfaction, he may now seem indifferently concerned. If, however, by any Congressional fumbling "branch banking" should be saddled on him with a prospective financial domination, he will some day turn and rend the system responsible for it and scatter it to the four winds.

What this real farmer of the West resents, albeit unconsciously, is this effusive political friendship which would set him apart as a class to be coddled and patronized by laws and bureaus. He is somewhat suspicious of patent nostrums. He works in all kinds of weather, fights weeds, insects and rust that destroy, and he asks only justice, not condescension in the guise of helpfulness. If he were a believer in the efficiency of Governmental intervention he would soon become a slack worker and some day "lay down on his job." Does he? If these moving figures in the fields in spring could be visualized on a small canvas what fine duty and conscientious toil and untiring endeavor would the panorama disclose! Not a class to be mourned over by politicians, but a body of citizens to be respected and consulted on all occasions of State affairs. Hungry unions clamoring for increases in already inordinate pay, long lines of jeering "picketing" iconoclasts, stuffed prophets of reform in stifling halls, and eloquent sophists in legislatures, these are not native to the West—where the bannered armies of the Corn march in solid ranks to the Rockies and the billowy seas of Wheat wash waves of gold over all the valleys. With such strength and mind, such opportunity and environment, such potential power and decisive determination, taught in the school of nature and learned in the lore of fields, woods and streams, this *real farmer* asks no pitying favors from any class, section, organization or self-constituted political or legislative friend. Is it any wonder that he wonders why favors are showered on others?

Some poet has said that generations rise and fall like billows on the ocean. And it is true that races migrate, continents are peopled, and Governments appear and disappear. But within the few centuries coming, upon which we may now speculate, what of this vast valley of the Mississippi that forms the heart of our nation? Surely as the decades hurry by, the residue of its rich production will fall down upon the new generations that till the soil in this inexhaustible reservoir of wealth. Already it is a growing market-place for the bonds that feed the factories of the East. And as credit and consumption link these two areas in profit and amity, sectionalism and class will disappear in an indissoluble union of strength and independence. It is sometimes seemingly apparent that the Western farmer better appreciates this than does his Eastern brother. But if this be not so, it cannot but be true that setting him apart as a class, when at last financial dominance does come to him and his fellow-workers, will

not make the way easier or the result more abiding. He is a farmer-citizen not a farmer-crank; a worker, not a beggar for the crumbs of the overburdened legislative table; and a voter, who, if he brushes aside the details of economic speculation, can the more surely come to the core of the truth of economic conditions. And so, self-reliant and sincere, the Sower goes forth in the springtime!

The Making of Political Issues.

Announcement in the Washington dispatches that after the disposal of the tax bill the Democrats in Congress contemplated unified action to the end of creating political issues for the fall elections was doubtless a discerning and true statement. But the best laid plans "gang aft awry." And as the election approaches the people may well consider the origin of the political issues they will be called upon to endorse or reject. This origin is not easy to define.

Currently, in a democratic form of government, and in a two-party system, it would appear that the rank and file on the respective sides make the issues. Going deeper than this it would appear that the people experience some overshadowing need that can only be brought about by government; or that the Government has proved faulty or inefficient and must be amended or reconstructed; or that a party in power, responsible for the conduct of the Government, is recreant, morally or financially, to its trust. But none of these "issues" ever are clearly defined, free from temporary alignments and qualifying details. As so often said it is largely true that great principles of statesmanship are no more.

We cannot argue from this that experience has perfected our *form* of government, or that we are no longer in need as a people of vital and revivifying principles. Rather the reverse. Few can doubt that we need some powerful issues that will rescue us from the mass of details and temporary expedients in which we are enmeshed. We stand at the dividing of the ways. Behind us lie the simplicity and comprehensiveness of a theory of Government as servant, not master, as agency and not principal, and as limited and not autocratic. In front of us lie the complexities of a growth and development that *seems* to call for definite action by Government in the interest of the people lest they be undone by their own energies and destroyed by their own untrammelled progress. To a small extent this condition appears in and influences the two parties of to-day. But there is so much of sectionalism and class interest in evidence that the natural distinction is not sharp. Both the parties have swung from their historic moorings. And it may be said also that each is swerved by the calls of partisan success. Furthermore, it is questioned whether there are great leaders, as of old, to formulate paramount issues, that should emerge from present conditions and imperative needs. These principles and these leaders may exemplify themselves either in the executive or legislative division of the Government. But the important question is can they do so unless the people themselves, in contemplative mood, can see the Government whole and rise above party interest?

Moves upon the Senate chessboard for position in which to meet an election cannot develop great principles of government in the very nature of things.

As to this, the Senate itself is becoming an issue as yet only hinted at and not paramount in politics. No one will deny that the overwhelming questions, the comprehensive issues, rarely take predominance in party platforms. For instance, in view of prohibition, one party *might* be dry and the other wet. But such a contention would not more than touch the surface of an abiding and tremendous question: "Are we going to end in summary manner the creeping and continual creation of Boards and Commissions that steal away the personal guaranteed rights of the people in and under a limited form of Government?" We would get some of the argument in campaign discussions, but the imperative gravity of an explicit declaration we would be likely to escape. A short time has elapsed when, due to some over-vigorous Chief Executives, it was said that the President was more powerful than any ruler in the world and was overshadowing Congress if not in fact controlling it. Now, it is beginning to dawn on the people that Congress, and especially the Senate, is the overruling and arrogant power, vesting through Boards and Commissions new duties upon a technically, already, Autocrat. But how get this into a platform, how get it specifically before the electorate?

Again, owing to the clamorous appeal of Western farmers (millions are quietly sowing and reaping) and in their behalf of Northwestern Senators and Representatives, there is believed to be a paramount question of "farmer relief." Dire political revolution is predicted unless "something is done." Peril, heaving up like a tornado-cloud on the prairies, is said to threaten the "Administration." And probably, no matter what instant laws are enacted, there will be a stirring plank in this behalf. But does this touch the growing power of sectionalism, which, if not some time, and perhaps soon, abandoned, will disrupt the Government in reality as a unified power and purpose if not physically and geographically. In face of this fact, will either of these two great parties embody a plank in its coming platform that will declare anew the principle of unionism? Will there be a statement anywhere that to legislate for a class or a section is rank favoritism and not in keeping with an indissoluble union of indestructible States? In the light of these conditions petty, indeed, must be the efforts of any party to manufacture ammunition for a campaign through *legislation* in any form. And puerile must be the loud-sounding "Investigations" intended to show that "big business" is defiant of law and Courts and that by a policy of party encouragement "monopolies" are throttling the free life of the people.

While the people are not too easily fooled as to the worth of big business and consolidated corporations, as witness the last election, they may be drawn temporarily from the main issue, in a single campaign, by the loud shouting over a minor matter. Reaction was heralded as a prospective issue. But since we have no other foundation than the past those who would have us turn utterly to the future do not make any very triumphant headway. The past *is* past—and we must go forward; but to throw away experience and deny truth merely to embrace an uncharted course in an unexplored country in the magic name of Progress is not likely ever to capture the sober thought of the people. It rather failed in the last contest. Reaction as a political thought does not mean that the past is either sacred or impeccable.

New times make new demands. But as a people we cannot blindly run any course that the winds of chance compel and preserve the fundamental principles embodied in the present form of government. Is this a Government by and for free electors possessed of personal rights guaranteed by the *limitations* put upon Government in the original conception as expressed in a written and therefore inescapable Constitution? Or is it a thing of shreds and patches, a conglomeration of Boards and Commissions, a law-made tyrant, holding in its clutches the social conduct of citizens, and their daily business procedure?

We attained a small degree of this consideration in the last election, and whether the voters realized the full import, it is recorded that they voted overwhelmingly for limitations in Government. And this is a far more comprehensive issue than the old States rights question, though that is in part embodied therein. And strange as it may seem, the party that the most nearly met the issue was not the former State's rights party. What we are endeavoring to suggest is that just as in law-making a multiplicity of detail obscures principle so manufactured, issues framed by investigations, partisan uproar, and the expediency of party charge and counter-charge, obscure the great issues that affect all the people. And the people may be depended upon to discern "whither" the Government is tending, and to sweep aside the fog of partisan campaign-making, for they are yet loyal to its principles and purpose. *They* make and meet the issue—whatever the parties may do. It is said of Mr. Coolidge that he is an "enigma." But the important thing is to ask: Does he cling to the great underlying principles or is he tossed about on the waves of party expediency? Congress may submit a Constitutional Amendment as to the date of succession, but is that comparable to an amendment that overrules the States in the administration of property, in the control and supervision of education, and in the assertion of the rights and duties of parents touching child labor?

Nothing is more essential to the full and free life of the people than banking, credit and currency. None of these is a function of Government. Yet the dead past is strewn with the wrecks of party attempts to fasten them in and upon Government. Each of these looms in the present. And owing to complications that are the outcome of growth and development, each is involved in what, owing to legislative effort, may be made a party issue. But shall not the people stand upon the base rock that banking, credit and currency are prerogatives of the people in their free commerce and finance and not functions of a servant-Government? Obscure this as may be by partisan expedients, tactics, laws, if you will, still the people will not surrender these rights without a tremendous struggle.

And so we may conclude, as we do of laws, that unless party issues grow out of actual, tangible wants and needs of the people in their natural life-functioning, individually and collectively, they will serve no good purpose to any political organization. If they are in conformity to natural law their success is a mere accord with the wishes and wants of the citizenry, if they are not they fail, and though through the fortunes of politics they for a time prevail they ultimately overthrow the party that sponsors them. And lastly, we may say that unless principles shall be clearly enunciated and sustained the futile ef-

forts of party leaders to coin issues out of partisan tactics will fail. We have a surfeit of law-making. We have a plethora of "investigations." We have an insidious encroachment of Socialism and autocracy in our affairs. The party that will stand fast—that will turn away from favoritism to class and section—that will hold to a past that has functioned well, that will confront a future bravely and yet cautiously, *that* party will have vital issues that will win.

Some Advanced Thought of To-Day.

We reviewed in our issue of Oct. 3 1925 the problems of the New Philosophy in its bearing upon life. As they are receiving wide attention, we return to the subject to cover late material.

This is found in a successful series of books, small enough to be read by the busiest men and in a form to challenge attention, published by E. P. Dutton & Co. They deal with the questions of the hour that are of permanent interest and present the thought of men most worthy to be heard upon underlying principles and scientific facts as now known.

We select three of the attractive books which may be set together as bearing upon the great business of life, and give a brief outline of them as suggestive of the series.

The first is "*Hephaestus*," or "The Soul of the Machine," by Dr. Fournier d'Albe, an English scientist. He takes for his book the name of the "God of Fire," later known as Vulcan, who eventually dominated Olympus and established awe-inspiring volcanos like Etna and Stromboli, and kept them at full blast until Paul of Tarsus came with his claim to have found "the unknown God," who was to establish a new Roman dominion to take the place of the Empire of the Caesars. Vulcan's fires are still dominant in the great forces which drive the machinery of modern life and substantiate the materialistic aspect of all existence. Thus stating his case, our author proceeds to deal with it. The great question is: Will man survive? In the midst of these vast forces of the material universe is there to be seen any loss of man's power of resistance or in the trustworthiness of his impulses, or any deterioration in his ability to survive in full possession of himself?

If man, as we all believe, is to be recognized as an individual and the ultimate agency in whatever the race is to accomplish, and, beyond that, as himself the finest product, the highest attainment of the system, we must be slow to accept the conception that he is only a part of the machine, and that even when he makes use of fire, which has fusing and transforming power in the world about him, he is only resorting to what is the same element, or its counterpart within himself. If this is true, it is difficult to prove that in the multiplication of machinery and the organization of power, of which so much is made to-day, there is to be found a corresponding progress in Man, in happiness or in what must be regarded as the realm of the spirit, and his attainment of that existence to which he looks forward as the home of the soul. It is difficult to see how upon his conception of an "organized and unified earth," the protoplasm of the race will build a "supernatural edifice which in its full beauty and perfection will be nothing less than divine."

The difficulties in the way are set forth in "*Tantalus*," or the "Future of Man," by Dr. F. C. S. Schiller of Oxford. He finds his theme in the story

of the poor man who had offended Zeus and was condemned to the pit where drink and food should continually appear but never come within his reach. He sees the man of to-day, even the successful rich man, as the modern Tantalus. The tree that bears the fruit he desires is the Tree of Knowledge; the water at his feet trampled into mud is the "Elixir of Life"; the barrier that confines him is built of the debris of his animal life, and Forgetfulness envelops him. Then our author proceeds to discuss the life of to-day.

Man, he says, has pushed on his knowledge, his culture, his power over nature, because he has devised institutions which have created a continuous social memory that defies death. The wise and the best must perish; in civilization the baby is relieved from his hereditary ignorance by the apparatus which has come down to him, and is potentially the heir of such wisdom as man has accumulated. Language extends the possibility of united action, and writing permits a record of what is worth remembering. Upon these two inventions are built all the intricate structures, social, religious, political, which knit together human society and permit an accumulated knowledge. Consequently, knowledge and education of a sort have become world-wide. But these can readily be rendered useless by the perversity of human nature. Many may defeat all.

He proceeds to show how men are doing this. There is a common tendency. Human institutions incline to get clogged with their own waste products. Churches may be seen by formalism and the elaborateness of their worship becoming deadeners of religion. Civil government, which is essential to human society, becomes the entrenched fortress of corruption and graft. The school blunts the desire for knowledge, and educational systems may be seen to be the chief enemies of education. Culture is often embalmed by its reserve and held as a paddock for the chosen few. As a matter of fact, faith cannot be pinned to the actual working of existing educational institutions nor business integrity to the perfection of industrial or commercial establishments. The more expert a man is, the more authoritative; the more of a specialist, the narrower and the more enwrapped in the mysteries of technical jargon. Religion perishes in ritual and dogma; Science is degraded into assumption; Logic becomes formal nonsense; and Experts in affairs take to mathematical formulae and are content when they have constructed "graphs" and curves. Human institutions are social mechanism, and, unless intelligently supervised, tend to become repressive and destructive.

Consequently, our author concludes, modern man is not intrinsically better than his fathers; it is probable that as a race we are slightly inferior to our ancestors, and markedly so to the great races of antiquity at their best, *e. g.* the Greeks; our civilization carries within it the seeds of its own decay and destruction.

He sees, however, that we may not despair, possibility of redemption in a revival of Christian ethics, which will be difficult, and, therefore, in what is safer though slower, a eugenic reform and reconstruction of our social organization. Eugenics may lead to a smaller proportion of undesirables; and the social temper, it is to be hoped, will become more intelligent and reasonable than it has been. Psychology, the science of human mentality, now deploably backward, may become more competent

and join to help "poor Tantalus to muddle along for a good while yet."

Before we close our learned books and "take to the woods," we turn to "*Quo Vadimus?*" "Some Glimpses of the Future," or, as we may put it, "What are we up against?" by our first author, Dr. Fournier d'Albe. He looks up and not down, and is therefore disposed to be more cheerful. He turns his eyes to the heavens and notes that the age of the stellar universe is put by science at "seven million million years." Over against this the age of the human race is thought to be some 500,000 years. There is evidently a good deal of patience to be recognized in the existing movement. A counterpart of this is found in an insatiable interest in the minds of men concerning what lies beyond. Furthermore, in certain countries, *e. g.* England, great advance has been made by men, advance toward perfection, toward happiness, a fuller and more enduring life. He quotes Professor Haldane, the biologist, for the statement that physiology will eventually invade and destroy mathematical physics, and that the speeding up of the whole nervous system and the brightening of the intelligence of all but an insignificant fraction of the population has produced a more agile generation. If the profound difference can be made in 20 years, as it has been, what will be the effect of even 200 years of continually accelerated progress!

Unless the "Russian blight" extends over Europe and America (we may add that it seems to be changing for the better in Russia), we may look forward, our author believes, to a long era of steadily accelerated progress. The form of that progress is varied. The greatest material change is in transportation, as increasing intercourse and enlarging the sphere both of man's effective operation and of personal influ-

ence. It stimulates enterprise and adds value to every form of productive industry. It multiplies experience and raises the temperature of national life. The amenities of private life in housing, clothing, light and heat, and personal privacy, are marked. The care and education of children are receiving constant attention; their conduct and progress will be more assured. Co-operation and improved machinery are working highly important and what will be surely recognized as beneficial changes in the conditions and character of Labor. A new spirit is already powerfully felt in all its relations with Capital as place is made for its individual advance and co-operating activity.

Civil government cannot fail to be helped by the general advance. Almost every discovery of science and invention makes the maintenance of public order and security easier, however disturbing its introduction in any given community may be.

In all this, historical guidance fails us, for progress is in many directions both revolutionary and rapid; witness for a single instance, the amazing widening of the power of hearing, of sight, and of speech. Who can fix a limit? War may not soon cease to be possible, but it will cease when it is seen to mean loss to every belligerent and to the whole world. The unification of the earth which is being accomplished puts its energies more and more under the direction of man for his service. It is not necessary to assume, as our author does, that the earth will have become a "sentient being," with man as the "gray matter of its brain."

Fortunately for our peace of mind, we do not have to visualize in what, and when, progress in material things will result. We know that man is not of the earth, earthy; that "God is in His heaven and it is right with the world"; and "Love never fails."

Indications of Business Activity

THE STATE OF TRADE—COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

Friday Night, Mar. 19 1926.

It is still plain enough that the recent abnormally cold weather, together with the bad conditions of many of the roads at the West and South, has had a more or less injurious effect on trade. It is significant that retail business makes the poorest showing in the interior. It is admitted, too, that wholesale trade which at one time made a better exhibit than at the same time last year, is no better now than it was then. The low temperatures all over the country have been the subject of general remark and undoubtedly have tended to cut down transactions both at wholesale and retail, apart from the storms which have intensified the effect of such conditions. And there is no doubt that the decline in the stock market, which has latterly been resumed, has had a certain moral effect on the country not at all to the advantage of general trade. The situation in Europe is in some respects deplorable. Besides the break of late in Belgian francs, French francs to-day dropped to a new low level, not only in Paris, but in New York. Premier Briand won a vote of confidence in the French Parliament the other day, but it is admitted that the question of French finances will be the crucial one in the immediate future of French affairs. An even graver question is that of the League of Nations, in which there has been an amount of quarreling that tends to make the citizens of this country more pleased than ever that the United States Senate blocked the plan some years ago to have this country enter the League. It now seems to have degenerated into something very much like a European council and it is none too clear that the lessons of the war have been taken thoroughly to heart, as they should have been. And now a date in September has been fixed for the meeting of the League of Nations Preparatory Commission on Disarma-

ment, with a suggestion that the United States explain to the League Council its reservations to the League Court protocol. This action was apparently not expected by the United States Government at this time. The whole thing, together with the recent bickering in Geneva, tends to make the average American citizen recall George Washington's advice to his countrymen: "Friendly relations with all, entangling alliances with none." It will need a firm hand and plain speech at Washington to make it clear to Europe that this country is not going to enter into any dubious agreements with foreign nations, or for that matter into any new relations at all, unless and until there is a disposition in foreign countries to get together, drop squabbling and take sincere, honest and decisive steps looking to disarmament and peace with the ultimate goal of abolishing war as civilization advances. It is the cloud in Europe which has been reflected more or less in all the markets at home and abroad, directly or indirectly. It is true that London to-day was in a more cheerful mood because there is to be no engineering strike, but curiously enough, is surprised at the American dissatisfaction with the outlook in Europe.

The grain markets were rather chaotic to-day, with a break of 5 to 7 cents in wheat and a sharp decline also in other grain. The drop in wheat was due to declining foreign markets and a sudden falling off in the export demand after foreign buying on Wednesday estimated at as high as 4,000,000 bushels. One reason for the decline, too, was the generally favorable weather of late in the winter wheat belt. It is on some accounts regrettable that prices of corn have fallen during the week some 4 to 5 cents. Corn planting is making rapid progress in the Southwest, and there is no great demand for this grain at the present time. There was also a sharp decline in rye and other

grain, for which there is little or no export demand. Cotton has declined somewhat during the week, but on the whole has shown a steadiness that has mystified a good many in the trade. They stress the dulness of raw and manufactured cotton at home and abroad, the big stocks, and the indications that the next acreage will again be large. It would seem that for the time being, at any rate, all the conditions making for lower prices have been at least to a considerable extent discounted, with prices 6 to 12 cents lower than in recent years and the new crop months selling at considerable discounts under the old. Coffee has dropped sharply, as Brazil has shown an anxiety to sell and Brazilian markets have fallen. Supplies are plentiful and dealers in this country evidently prefer the hand-to-mouth policy of buying. Raw sugar has been active at about steady prices for prompt delivery, though futures have declined under what looked like heavy liquidation, in the presence of large supplies. Refiners have had a larger trade at 5 cents for prompt delivery. Rubber has been firm here and in London, even though trading has not been on a large scale. There is certainly no burdensome supply, and it will take the American consumer some time to arrange for new sources of production. Steel plants are said to be working at 95% of capacity, with the structural and tin plate mills the most active. But it seems clear enough that prices are no more than steady if even that much can be said of the quotations in all departments of the business. For pig iron there is talk of a larger inquiry here, but here, again, prices seem inclined to weaken as trade in the main halts. The production of hard coal is increasing, even if that of soft coal has fallen off. It would seem that the tendency of coal prices is on the whole downward. There is a larger trade in hardware, and the same is true of fertilizers and farm implements. The business in staple cottons is rather small. Raw wool has been declining and there is no pronounced improvement in woolen goods. The situation in this line, in fact, still leaves very much to be desired. At automobile centres operations are on a big scale. There is considerable building being done where the weather permits, but bad conditions have recently curtailed this work.

The buying of lumber, however, is on a larger scale than a year ago. The car loadings thus far this year slightly exceed those up to the same time last year. After all, the aggregate trade of the country is large. For the second month this year, however, the foreign trade in February showed an excess of imports over exports, this time of \$36,000,000, making an excess for two months of about \$55,000,000. Money has been lower, but with the rate steady enough to-day at 4%. Not only stocks, but bonds, declined to-day. As heretofore, however, the solid securities of the list give no bad account of themselves. Fundamentally, the business situation in this country is sound, regardless of the drastic and, it must be added, corrective liquidation in some branches of the stock market.

London cabled that lockout notices which would have thrown 1,000,000 men in engineering trades out of work and created havoc in Great Britain, will be withdrawn by employers. The withdrawal is a victory for the employers, for the announcement was accompanied by a statement that 900 striking employees of the Hoe Printing Press Co. would return to work.

Fall River wired that operations have been resumed in the No. 2 Stafford mill. New Bedford, Mass., estimated that artificial silk is taking the place of at least 75,000 bales of cotton annually in the mills of that section. New Hampshire cotton mills are running at 80% against 40% a year ago. The Amoskeag Co. sounded a note of optimism at a meeting of the workers' congress in Manchester, N. H., when it told delegates that prospects are good for worsted lines and that the corporation's rayon cloth product is on a par with any on the market. The Amoskeag cotton mill workers have decided by vote to continue until October 1 the present wage agreement which expires April 1. This means that the 10% reduction in wages which went into effect Oct. 1 will be retained by the thousands of Amoskeag operatives. To-day the Amoskeag mills, it is stated, will put in operation 1,500 additional looms on gingham. The tendency is towards better trade. It is not pronounced, but that is the trend. The Amoskeag has about 10,000 operatives at work. The Devonshire mills at Goff Falls, N. H., are now producing only about 10% of their normal output. In Vermont textile part time operations continue. In Maine part time operations are in effect. Working quotas were slightly

increased. In New York City unemployment was heavy in women's wear industry during February, while men's clothing industries resumed normal operations. There was a slight improvement in other manufacturing activities.

Charlotte, N. C., wired that "despite curtailment talk carded yarn production is not being reduced much. The combed yarn mills in Gaston County began a curtailment on Monday, over 1,000,000 spindles being affected, curtailing one day a week." Other Charlotte advices said that no other short-time operations have taken place there beyond those in the combed yarn mills, and that the full-time operations since the first of the year have not yet created heavy yarn stocks. Greenville, N. C., wired that while no mills there have as yet curtailed their output, there is evidence that such a program is to be carried out. The cloth market is bad. Textile mill employment in general showed a slight improvement during February as compared with January, with the exception of the New Jersey district, according to a survey just made public by the Department of Labor.

Passaic, N. J., wired March 15 that 800 strikers, after a meeting in Garfield, marched to East Paterson to picket the mills of the National Silk Dyeing Co., but were stopped by the Sheriff and a posse. A delegation of strikers went to see President Coolidge, but the President did not receive them. Burlap prices declined again and are 30% below the high of two months ago.

It has been cold here during the week, with snow flurries on the 16th inst. The temperatures continued to be far below the normal. On the 17th inst. they were 21 to 38 degrees, or an average of 30, or 12 degrees below the average on the same date last year and 18 degrees below the average on the same date for 40 years past. At Chicago it was 22 to 44, at Cleveland, 18 to 36; at Indianapolis, 26 to 48; at Kansas City, 34 to 74; at Milwaukee, 16 to 44; at Philadelphia, 24 to 42; at St. Paul, 24 to 50. Some think the winter has seen its worst. The last three or four snowfalls have been light. It was milder here on the 18th inst., reaching 49 degrees at 2.40 p. m., with the lowest 31 degrees. To-day was clear and rather springlike. It was warmer in the cotton States and mild in the grain belt, with 40 in Chicago, 66 in Cincinnati, 46 at Minneapolis, also 74 at Abilene and Miami. Here, to-day, at 4 p. m. it was 40; at 3 p. m. 42. The forecast is cloudy and warmer.

Domestic Business Conditions According to the Government.

Further figures on February business conditions show increases over a year ago in the consumption of cotton by textile mills, in the production of Douglas fir lumber and newsprint paper, in car loadings of merchandise, and in the value and square footage of new building contracts awarded. Newspaper advertising also showed an increase over February 1925, while declines from a year ago were noted in the output of copper, in the production of California redwood lumber, North Carolina pine and maple flooring, cement production and in the sales of mechanical stokers, says the statement of the Department released for publication to-day (March 20).

As compared with the preceding month, increases were noted in February in the sales of mechanical stokers and in the production of Douglas fir and North Carolina pine, while declines occurred in car loadings, consumption of cotton, production of copper, the output of maple flooring, and cement, newspaper advertising and in the production of newsprint paper, most of the declines from the previous month being very largely due to seasonal considerations as well as the shorter month.

Slight Decline in Wholesale Prices in February.

A slight decline in the general level of wholesale prices from January to February is shown by information gathered in leading markets by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. The Bureau's weighted index number, which includes 404 commodities or price series, registered 155 for February, compared with 156 for the preceding month. Compared with February 1925, with an index number of 160.6, there was a decrease of 3½%. In stating this on March 18, the Department adds:

Farm products and foods declined appreciably below the level of January. Slightly lower prices were reported also for clothing materials, metals, building materials, chemicals and drugs, and housefurnishing goods. In the group of miscellaneous commodities, due to reduced prices of cattle

adverse trend in this group affected the lime and cement plants, which reduced the size of their forces by 2.7%.

The seasonal contraction of employment which has been affecting the wood products group came to an end in February. In all but one of the four industries in this group employment conditions were improved. The furniture manufacturing industry by taking on 1.6% more workers almost recovered the ground lost in January, when 1.7% of the workers were laid off. Makers of pianos and other musical instruments reported an employment trend contrary to that for the wood products group as a whole; the reduction in employment amounted to 3.9%. This decrease was seasonal and followed upon a reduction of 4.3% in June.

The fur and leather group was one of the few which did not participate in the general February advance. The employment decline for this group, which amounted to 1.5%, was largely brought about by the leather manufacturers reducing their operations by 7.6%. Reports from boot and shoe firms, which employ more than two-thirds of the workers in this group, indicate an improvement over January amounting to 1-10 of 1%.

Chemicals and oils was another group in which employment declined in February—the reduction in this case amounting to only ½ of 1%. The change was accounted for by the fact that oil refineries reduced their operations slightly and that firms producing miscellaneous chemicals got along with 2.8% fewer employees. On the other hand, plants manufacturing drugs added to their working forces by 2.6%.

Although three of the five industries which comprise the printing and paper group reported an adverse employment trend, compensating gains on the part of the other two were sufficient to bring about a gain in employment of 1.1% for the group as a whole. The favorable gains applied to the paper box and the newspaper and periodical industries. Newspapers and periodical firms, which added 29% to the number of their employees in January, took on an additional 1.8% in February. Firms making paper boxes and bags employed 4.8% more workers; this was almost entirely confined to re-employing those laid off during January. Job printing, the most important industry in the group, had a loss of 1-10 of 1% in the number employed.

Industries in the textile group expanded all along the line, the improvement for the group as a whole amounting to 2.5%. The clothing group showed an increase of 4% in the number of wage earners. But the expansion which began in men's clothing in January came practically to a standstill in February, when only 1-10 of 1% more employees were hired. The February expansion in 1925 amounted to 2.8%. The trend was more favorable in the women's clothing industry—12.6% more persons were hired in contrast to an expansion of 5.6% in February last year.

Industries in the food, beverages and tobacco group reported a mixed trend—seven showed increases in employment while four showed decreases. The aggregate result was a decline of 2-10 of 1% for the group as a whole. Chiefly contributory to this outcome was the decrease in the meat packing industry. The reporting packers who employ more than half of the workers in this group reduced their forces 1.5%. The flour and feed, canning, beverage and tobacco industries all had substantial increases in employment.

The customary large January decline in employment in the department stores and mail order houses continued into February, but in the latter month amounted for each industry to only between 1 and 2%. In February a year ago mail order houses added 5.2% to the number of their employees. During the year there was a decline of 20% in the number employed. In fact, this is, no doubt, to be ascribed to the somewhat reduced purchasing power of many agricultural communities in which the mail order houses sell goods in large volume.

There was a pick-up in building activity, as indicated by an increase of 4.9% in the number of workers. This shows a recovery of some of the ground which was lost during January, when contractors let go nearly 15% of their employees.

Another year of intense building activity is forecast by the large volume of new projects authorized during February. In 25 reporting cities there were 1,963 permits issued for buildings estimated to cost \$30,419,235. In January the comparable figures were 1,276 and \$21,483,141. The totals were larger in February 1925, but the differences were not extreme: 309 more permits were issued and the total cost was \$1,668,000 greater.

Despite the general improvement in the manufacturing industries, there is considerable unemployment, and numbers of those without work were unprepared to meet the rigors of a severe winter. Reports from several of the down-State cities have continued to come in of record-breaking appeals for charity. The revival of the outdoor trades with the budding of spring will relieve the situation materially. During February the State free employment office superintendents, generally, reported the receipt of inquiries from farmers as to the agricultural labor situation, but the actual hirings were small. Where single men were being sought, one superintendent reported the same rates were being offered as last year; that is \$40 to \$45 per month on grain farms, and \$50 to \$60 per month on grain and dairy farms.

The free employment offices of Illinois placed 8,960 job seekers in February. This was 607 more than a year ago, but 1,165 less than the number placed in January. The employment ratio for the whole State showed improvement over January: there were 170 registrations for each 100 jobs available in comparison with 190 in January. The ratio for February of this year showed a slight improvement in the situation in comparison with February 1925, when there were 174 applicants for every 100 jobs.

The coal mining industry has passed the peak of its seasonal operations, and recessions are in progress in the amount of working time. The closing of several more mines during February was reported to the Department of Labor.

The following analysis of the industrial situation in Illinois by cities, during February, is furnished by Mr. Cahn under date of March 13:

Aurora.—February showed further gains in the number of employees in manufacturing establishments in this city. The increase of 3.5% was the fifth one to be reported, the cumulative growth in the factories amounting to 10% since September. The February increase was well distributed among the different industries represented. Employment in railroad shops continued to improve, but they were still operating on a schedule substantially below that of February a year ago. With persistently cold weather slowing down the building trades, the number of unemployed is quite large. There were 175 applicants for each 100 jobs available last month, this ratio comparing with 165 in January and 174 in February a year ago. The superintendent of the free employment office reports that dairy farmers have not been active in hiring help since the tuberculosis tests have been instituted. Building plans were being drawn in increasing numbers in February, there being 62 permits authorized for buildings estimated to cost \$25,347; this compares with 28 permits valued at \$63,800 in January and amounts to a gain of about \$77,000 over February of 1925.

Bloomington.—There was an employment gain in February of 9.2% for 12 representative manufacturing firms in Bloomington. The increase ran through practically all of the city's plants with confectionery factories

taking the lead. It is reported that manufacturing in Bloomington is to undergo further expansion in the near future through the location there of an important automobile accessory plant. Superintendent Jones of the free employment office reported that the railroad shops were on a full time schedule. The ratio of registrations to job opportunities at the free employment office reflected a relatively good condition for this time of the year. There were 118 applicants for each 100 jobs available. The ratio for February 1925 was 122 and for 1924 136. The present situation is promised further improvement because of increased demand for help on the part of farmers who were beginning to hire as the month closed. Although building permits were larger in number than in the previous month, their value, which amounted to \$51,000, was \$35,500 less than the figure for January and \$17,000 less than for February 1925. With better weather conditions, however, enlarged building authorizations are to be expected.

Chicago.—In February, the manufacturing industries of Chicago continued the expansion which stopped temporarily in December and was resumed in January. The increase in employment in February amounted to 2.4% for the 591 firms which report to the Illinois Department of Labor. As in January, the machinery and metals group of industries were most responsible for the increase, but other groups, especially the clothing group, contributed their quota. Placements by the Chicago offices of the free employment service numbered 4,182; there were 4,683 placements in January and 5,152 in December. During February 1925 the Chicago offices placed 375 fewer workers than in the same month this year. The ratio of registrations to jobs open receded from that of January. In that month there were 197 registrations for every 100 jobs, while in February the figure was 167. The February ratio for the four preceding years has been: 1925, 176; 1924, 151; 1923, 95; 1922, 239. Building permits increased both in number and value during February. There were 1,002 permits for buildings estimated to cost \$24,924,000. This was \$6,421,000 more than the estimated cost of the 717 permits in January, but \$2,297,000 behind February of last year.

Cicero.—In line with other Illinois cities, there was an expansion of employment in Cicero during February. The gain over January amounted to 3.9% as indicated by the reports from a representative group of manufacturing plants in that city. This gain follows one of about the same proportions during the previous month. The largest plant in the community continued its policy of moderate expansion. Superintendent Hlavin of the free employment office states that two additional firms are to locate shortly in Cicero. The employment ratio also showed that betterment is taking place; there were 165 registrations for each 100 jobs available, compared with 175 in January. The improvement from February 1925 was marked: in that month there were 246 registrations for each 100 jobs available. The most recent ratio indicates the best February since 1923, when the ratio was 139. Building authorization increased both in number and in value over the previous month. The figure for February was \$236,595—an increase of about \$40,000 over January. However, there was a decrease of \$31,000 from the total for February 1925.

Danville.—Reports from 18 manufacturing plants of Danville indicate a jump of 8.2% for February in the number of employees on the payrolls of identical firms. However, the improvement in the aggregate figure was mainly due to a large brick manufacturing plant nearly trebling its forces; about half of the firms reported slight decreases during February. A further indication that employment conditions are not ideal in Danville is shown by the fact that the free employment office reports an increase in the employment ratio for the month of February. There were 199 registrations for each 100 jobs open—or about two job-seekers for every job opportunity. The situation was a little better in January, when the ratio was 187. But there was a great improvement over a year ago when, largely due to slack employment in the coal mines, the free employment office record showed seven job-seekers to each job open. Building authorizations during February were only five in number and were estimated to cost \$20,800. This was a decided drop from January, the figure for which was \$227,000.

Decatur.—There was a favorable change in manufacturing employment in this city during February. Twenty-two manufacturing plants reported an increase of 5.6% in the number of their employees. This contrasts with a decline during January of nearly 1%. The betterment was most marked in the meat packing and women's clothing industries. The machinery manufacturing industry also showed a substantial increase. Plants representing other industries for the most part were satisfied to keep their forces about the same. It is reported that a new wall paper plant is to be put into operation on or about April 1; the plant is expected to give employment to 100 men. The free employment office ratio declined from the previous month, but the report indicates that there is still much room for improvement: there were 237 registrations for each 100 jobs open, in contrast with 247 in January and 195 in December 1925. This index of the employment situation shows that February last year was somewhat better with a ratio of 178. The ratio in February 1924 was 288 and in 1923 it was 111. Building operations were active during February. The number of permits, 97, was more than double the January figure. New authorizations were estimated to cost \$239,000, an increase of \$55,000 over January, but somewhat less than half of the total for February 1925, when authorizations were valued at \$535,000.

East St. Louis.—A further expansion took place in the volume of manufacturing employment in East St. Louis during February. The gain amounted to 3.1% and followed one of 2.5% for the previous month. The iron and steel and machinery plants were responsible for most of the increase. Some firms, it is true, showed losses, but with two exceptions these were small in amount. The ratio of registrations to job opportunities continued to show an adverse trend. In February there were 251 persons registered for each 100 jobs. This was a marked increase from the January ratio, which was 211. February was the fourth successive month during which the ratio has increased. There was a decided pick-up in building operations, authorizations being valued at \$227,000, compared with \$87,330 in January. Construction was at about the same level as in February of last year, when permits were issued for buildings valued at \$234,000.

Joliet.—There was a substantial increase during February in the aggregate number of workers on the payrolls of Joliet manufacturing establishments. The increase, 6.1%, did not extend to all types of firms, for in more than half of the 28 which reported there were slight decreases. But the expansion in the other firms, particularly in those making metal products, more than offset the decreases which took place. At the free employment office the number of applicants, 215 for each 100 jobs, was still high. But the tendency was toward improvement, for the February ratio was five less than that for January. There was little demand for farm help during February, but Superintendent Rogers of the free employment office reported that many inquiries were coming in concerning the prospects for farm help the middle of March or the 1st of April. The February ratios for the four years previous were: 1925, 171; 1924, 146; 1923, 115; 1922, 202. Building operations are reported to be active and both skilled and unskilled workers in the building trades have been kept busy all winter on inside work.

Lumber Production and Shipments During Month of January.

The "National Lumber Bulletin," published monthly by the National Lumber Manufacturers Association of Washington, D. C., and Chicago, Ill., on March 7 1926 issued the following table of the production and shipments of lumber during the month of January:

LUMBER PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS AS REPORTED MONTHLY BY MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS TO NATIONAL LUMBER MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION FOR JANUARY 1926 AND JANUARY 1925.

Table with columns for Association, Mills, Production (Hardw's., Softwoods), and Shipments (Hardw's., Softwoods) for January 1926 and January 1925.

Total production Jan. 1926, 1,059,919,000 ft.. Total production Jan. 1925, 1,224,502,000 ft. Total shipments Jan. 1926, 1,171,025,000 ft. Total shipments Jan. 1925, 1,287,394,000 ft.

LUMBER PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS AS REPORTED BY STATES BY MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS.

Table showing Lumber Production and Shipments by States for January 1926, listing Mills, Production, and Shipments.

* Includes mostly individual reports, not distributed.

Lumber Industry Shows Continued Activity.

The National Lumber Manufacturers' Association received telegraphic reports of the status of the lumber industry, for the week ended March 13, from 391 of the larger softwood, and 136 of the chief hardwood, mills of the country. The 378 comparably reporting softwood mills showed small increases in production and new business, and a negligible decrease in shipments when compared with reports from 375 mills the previous week.

The unfilled orders of 232 Southern Pine and West Coast mills at the end of last week amounted to 763,624,965 feet, as against 700,783,187 feet for 226 mills the previous week. The 124 identical Southern Pine mills in the group showed unfilled orders of 300,274,944 feet last week, as against 293,787,264 feet for the week before.

Altogether the 378 comparably reporting mills had shipments 104% and orders 109% of actual production. For the Southern Pine mills these percentages were, respectively, 95 and 105; and for the West Coast mills 107 and 120.

Of the reporting mills, the 334 with an established normal production for the week of 216,138,682 feet, gave actual production 104%, shipments 106% and orders 114% thereof.

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

Table comparing national softwood lumber movement (Production, Shipments, Orders) for Past Week, Corresponding Week 1925, and Preceding Week 1926.

The following revised figures compare the softwood lumber movement of the same eight regional associations for the first ten weeks of 1926 with the same period of 1925:

Table comparing softwood lumber movement (Production, Shipments, Orders) for 1926 and 1925 for the first ten weeks.

The Southern Cypress Manufacturers' Association of New Orleans (omitted from above tables because only recently reporting) for the week ended March 10, reported from 13 mills a production of 4,523,694 feet, shipments 5,600,000 and orders 5,940,000. In comparison with reports for the previous week, when two more mills reported, this association showed a slight decrease in production, considerable decrease in shipments, while new business was somewhat above that reported for the previous week.

Estimated Production of Bituminous Coal by States During January.

The table below presents for the first time estimates of bituminous coal production by States during the month of January. There are also given similar figures for November and December for comparison, as prepared and issued by the U. S. Department of Mines.

Total output during January, including lignite and coal coked at the mines, amounted to 53,662,000 net tons, the highest January production recorded in recent years. The average daily rate of output, although greater than that in December, was less by about 21,000 tons, or 1%, than that for November.

The detailed figures in the table indicate that in January practically all States produced at a higher daily rate than in December. The few exceptions to the rule were west of the Mississippi. In the Appalachian field as a whole the increase in rate was about 5%, and in the Eastern Interior, consisting of Illinois, Indiana and Western Kentucky, about 4%.

ESTIMATED MONTHLY PRODUCTION OF SOFT COAL BY STATES. (Net Tons.)

Table showing Estimated Monthly Production of Soft Coal by States for November 1925, December 1925, and January 1926, with columns for Production and Daily Average.

a Revised. b Includes Georgia, California, Oregon and South Dakota.

New Automobile Models and Price Changes.

Under date of March 17 the Pierce Arrow dealers of New York, Philadelphia and northern New Jersey advertised the new line of custom-built coaches, Standard Series 80 Chassis, as follows: five-passenger, two-door coach \$3,150; five-passenger, four-door coach \$3,250; seven-passenger, four-door coach \$3,350; seven-passenger four-door limousine coach \$3,450. For the custom-built De Luxe models prices ran as follows: four-passenger coupe, \$3,695; five-passenger sedan \$3,895; seven-passenger sedan \$3,995; seven-passenger enclosed drive limousine \$4,045; runabout \$2,895; four-

passenger touring \$3,095; seven-passenger touring \$2,895. All prices are f. o. b. Buffalo, New York, tax extra, 2% rebate in tax effective immediately.

The Moon Motor Car Co. is reported to have increased prices from \$100 to \$200 on the Diana straight eight models, effective April 1 and is expected to advance the prices of Moon models on the same date, though the amount of the increase is not reported. The new Diana prices are: roadster \$1,795, against \$1,695; cabriolet \$2,095, against \$1,995; Brougham \$1,995, against \$1,795; four-door de luxe sedan \$2,195, against \$1,995; 7-passenger sedan \$2,695; berline sedan \$2,895. Respecting the rumors of the new type of car to be added to Moon-Diana line, Stewart MacDonald, President of the Moon Motor Car Co., says:

In the first place the car will not be brought out until early in the summer instead of early spring as was first reported. In the second place it will be an entirely different type of car than the present Moon Six, Series A. The new Six will be a lighter car of shorter wheel-base and will be considerably lower in price, built to meet competition in the \$1,000 class. It will not be known by the name Moon and will have an entirely new radiator of different lines and contour and will bear an entirely different name just as Diana, the light eight type manufactured by the Moon Motor Car Co., has no connection either in physical appearance or mechanical construction with the present Moon Six.

Crude Oil and Gasoline Prices Remain Practically Unchanged.

The markets for both crude oil and gasoline remained quiet as regards fluctuations in prices during the present week. The most noteworthy change in the crude oil trade was the announcement that the Gulf Pipe Line Co. had advanced its price for Gulf Coast Grade B oil from 15 to 30 cents per barrel, following the advance announced by the Humble Oil & Refining Co. last week (see our issue of March 13, page 1386). Reports state that the Texas Co. will probably adjust its prices in accordance with the advance in that sector. Press dispatches from Chicago on March 18 said that fuel oil of the 24-26 grade had been advanced in price 5 cents to \$1.30-\$1.35 a barrel.

Gasoline quotations in Denver, Colo., were moved up March 16 by the Continental Oil Co., which established the prices of 26 cents a gallon tank wagon and 28 cents a gallon service station. The company also made an advance per gallon of 1½ cents in Salt Lake City, Utah, making the price 25 cents a gallon tank wagon and 27 cents a gallon service station. Wholesale gasoline fell ½ cent per gallon to 9¼@9⅞ cents, U. S. motor grade, according to Chicago dispatches on March 17.

Slight Increase Recorded in Crude Oil Output.

With an increase of about 14,900 barrels per day, as estimated by the American Petroleum Institute, the daily average gross crude oil production in the United States rose from 1,920,300 barrels to 1,935,200 barrels during the week ended March 13. The daily average production east of California was 1,327,700 barrels, as compared with 1,321,300 barrels, an increase of 6,400 barrels. The following are estimates of daily average gross production by districts for the weeks ended as indicated:

(In Barrels)	Mar. 13 '26	Mar. 6 '26	Feb. 27 '26	Mar. 14 '25
Oklahoma	452,700	453,150	455,400	458,400
Kansas	103,350	103,950	103,250	84,550
North Texas	83,450	81,150	79,700	88,700
East Central Texas	59,200	60,850	60,150	163,500
West Central Texas	80,250	77,700	73,050	54,000
Southwest Texas	39,650	38,400	38,900	50,100
North Louisiana	48,650	49,450	48,150	50,550
Arkansas	164,200	163,900	167,000	111,000
Gulf Coast	95,000	90,850	93,600	95,450
Eastern	97,500	98,000	98,500	99,000
Wyoming	74,250	75,050	77,000	79,550
Montana	18,400	18,050	18,250	7,800
Colorado	7,200	6,950	7,000	2,450
New Mexico	3,900	3,850	4,100	500
California	607,500	599,000	603,000	603,000
Total	1,935,200	1,920,300	1,927,050	1,949,200

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 March 13 was 1,031,450 barrels, as compared with 1,028,550 barrels for the preceding week, an increase of 2,900 barrels. The Mid-Continent production, excluding Smackover, Arkansas, heavy oil, was 898,150 barrels, as compared with 895,250 barrels, an increase of 2,900 barrels.

In Oklahoma production of South Braman is reported at 10,800 barrels against 9,050 barrels; Thomas, 7,350 barrels against 7,450 barrels; Tonkawa, 43,150 barrels against 44,400 barrels; Garber, 23,050 barrels against 25,100 barrels; Burbank, 44,700 barrels against 44,300 barrels; Davenport, 22,450 barrels against 21,050 barrels; Bristow-Slick, 31,500

barrels against 31,700 barrels; Cromwell, 19,200 barrels against 19,300 barrels, and Papoose, 13,300 barrels against 13,800 barrels.

The Mexia pool, East Central Texas, is reported at 13,150 barrels against 13,450 barrels; Corsicana-Powell, 31,900 barrels against 32,800 barrels; Wortham, 10,800 barrels against 11,200 barrels; Reagan County, West Central Texas, 32,200 barrels against 31,600 barrels; Haynesville, North Louisiana, 10,400 barrels against 10,350 barrels; Cotton Valley, 8,450 barrels against 8,400 barrels; Urania, 5,850 barrels against 6,600 barrels, and Smackover, Arkansas, light, 18,250 barrels, against 18,700 barrels; heavy, 133,300 barrels, no change. In the Gulf Coast field Hull is reported at 17,150 barrels against 15,300 barrels; West Columbia, 9,400 barrels, no change; Orange County, 16,650 barrels against 11,500 barrels; South Liberty, 7,350 barrels against 7,800 barrels; Boling, 3,250 barrels against 6,550 barrels, and in the Southwest Texas field Luling is reported at 22,650 barrels against 21,800 barrels; Lytton Springs, 7,650 barrels against 7,400 barrels; Piedras Pintas, 200 barrels against 450 barrels.

In Wyoming Salt Creek is reported at 53,500 barrels against 55,050 barrels.

In California Santa Fe Springs is reported at 50,000 barrels against 48,000 barrels; Long Beach, 110,500 barrels, no change; Huntington Beach, 45,000 barrels, no change; Torrance, 28,000 barrels, no change; Dominguez, 21,500 barrels, no change; Rosecrans, 21,500 barrels, no change; Inglewood, 51,500 barrels, against 52,500 barrels, and Midway-Sunset, 92,000 barrels, no change.

Estimated World Production of Petroleum During 1925.

The world's output of petroleum during the calendar year of 1925, as estimated by the American Petroleum Institute from official sources wherever possible, reached a total of 1,066,220,000 barrels, comparing with an estimated 1,012,927,000 barrels during the preceding year of 1924, as recorded by the United States Geological Survey, an increase of 53,293,000 barrels, or 5.2%.

The United States produced 764,000,000 barrels in 1925, or 71.6% of the total world production. In 1924 the United States produced 713,940,000 barrels, or 70.5% of the world production in that year. The United States production in 1925 increased 50,060,000 barrels, or 7%.

Mexico produced 115,000,000 barrels in 1925, or 10.8% of the world production. In 1924 Mexico produced 139,497,000 barrels, or 13.8% of the total production that year. The decrease in Mexico in 1925 amounted to 24,497,000 barrels, or 17.6%.

In 1925 the United States and Mexico combined produced 82.4% of the world production, and in 1924, 84.3%.

Wherever possible 1925 production figures are official estimates. In converting the figures of certain countries from tons to barrels, equivalents are stated in United States barrels of 42 gallons, based upon the average specific gravity of the oil of each country. All the figures shown for 1924 are those reported by the United States Geological Survey.

ESTIMATED WORLD PETROLEUM PRODUCTION.

	1925		1924	
	Barrels.	% of Total.	Barrels.	% of Total.
United States	764,000,000	71.6	713,940,000	70.5
Mexico	115,000,000	10.8	139,497,000	13.8
Russia	52,000,000	4.9	45,312,000	4.5
Persia	34,665,000	3.3	32,373,000	3.2
Dutch East Indies	21,500,000	2.0	20,473,000	2.0
Venezuela	20,200,000	1.9	8,754,000	0.9
Rumania	16,625,000	1.6	13,303,000	1.3
Peru	9,164,000	.9	7,812,000	.8
India	7,500,000	.7	8,150,000	.8
Poland (Galicia)	5,770,000	.5	5,657,000	.5
Argentina	5,422,000	.5	4,163,000	.4
Sarawak (British Borneo)	4,500,000	.4	4,669,000	.4
Trinidad	4,417,000	.4	4,057,000	.4
Japan	2,000,000	.2	1,959,000	.2
Egypt	1,220,000		1,122,000	
Colombia	1,000,000		445,000	
France	445,000		426,000	
Germany	410,000		406,000	
Canada	160,000		164,000	
Czechoslovakia	50,000	.3	75,000	.3
Italy	45,000		45,000	
Algeria	12,000		12,000	
Barbados	9,000		10,000	
Cuba	4,000		4,000	
England	2,000		2,000	
Others	100,000		97,000	
Total	1,066,220,000	100.0	1,012,927,000	100.0

Women's Wear Prices Fall 5 to 18%—American Woollen Co. Opens New Line.

Regarding the opening on March 16 of the fall line of women's suitings and coatings, the New York "Journal of Commerce," says:

still somewhat less than mill shipments, declares the "Age," giving further details of interest from which we quote:

Mills rolling rails and track accessories have shipped since the first of the year considerably more steel than in the same period last year, rail buying last fall being unusual. On most of the other forms of steel the close connection consumers are making with the mills and the small stocks buyers now have point to a continuance of such business on the present scale well into the second quarter. Yet contracts covering the full second quarter are few.

Sales of the leading finished products for delivery beyond April 1 indicate the carrying over of first quarter prices. The plate market, which for so long has been the weakest spot, is a shade firmer. Steel scrap, after a show of strength in the Pittsburgh district for two weeks, is tending lower.

The Steel Corporation's rate of operations has been above 95% the past week and that of Bethlehem between 85 and 90%. The Pittsburgh district as a whole has been not far from 85%. Steel company production of pig iron is running higher than in February.

In the steadily increasing stream of steel imports to the Atlantic seaboard the order for 15,000 tons of 100-lb. and 85-lb. rails just placed by the Boston & Maine RR. with the Krupp mill at Rheinhausen, Germany, is conspicuous. The contract includes 5,000 tons of tie plates.

It is found that 26,500 railroad cars were ordered between Jan. 1 and March 15, or 10,000 more than in the same period last year. A large part of the 270,000 tons of steel required, besides axles, will come from Chicago mills.

The Central RR. of New Jersey has inquired for 1,000 box cars and 100 gondolas. The Pennsylvania RR. may authorize the building of 300 locomotives, of which 100 will come from its own shops. The Wabash is inquiring for 30.

Structural steel mills are operating at an extraordinary rate, but after several remarkable weeks fabricating contracts are light. An office building in New York, up for bids, will take 12,000 tons of structural steel, and a warehouse in Brooklyn calls for 1,800 tons of concrete bars.

Motor car builders, after speeding up purchases for a time, as of sheets, have fallen back to nearby requirement buying.

Spring needs have brought pipe-making operations to a 75% basis, a gain of about 50% from the low point five or six months ago.

Shipments of wire and wire products are now on the upgrade, and not, as they were a year ago, dwindling because the first two months of the year then had completely filled distributors' stocks.

Tonnage wage rates of sheet and tin mill workers in mid-Western mills have been advanced 3% for March and April under the sliding scale agreement, which showed that shipments of black sheets averaged 3.20c. in January and February against 3.10c. in the preceding 60 days.

Connellsville coke production has not yet been cut down to the point of bringing supply and demand in balance, spot furnace coke being available at \$3 at oven. Pig iron producers are holding off on second quarter contracts, looking for a price nearer to \$3 than to the \$3 50 which coke companies ask.

Competition in ferromanganese among domestic producers brought another drop of \$5 in the past week, and in buying at \$95 consumers are getting a guaranty against further decline. English makers have dropped out of the contest, their last quotation being \$110 at seaboard.

In tin the movement above 60c. seems no more difficult than the advance through the fifties. Sales have been made this week at 66c., the highest price since 1920.

Both of the "Iron Age" composite prices are unchanged. That for pig iron is at \$21 38 for a second week—the low figure of the year. The finished steel price is 2.431c. per lb. for the third week, as shown in the following composite price tables:

Finished Steel—March 16 1926—2.431c. Per Pound.

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.	One week ago	2.431c.
	One month ago	2.424c.
	One year ago	2.531c.
	10-year pre-war average	1.689c.

Pig Iron—March 16 1926—\$21.38 Per Gross Ton.

Based on average of basic and foundry irons, the basic being Valley quotation, the foundry an average of Chicago, Philadelphia and Birmingham.	One week ago	\$21 38
	One month ago	21 54
	One year ago	22 13
	10-year pre-war average	15 72

Finished Steel		Pig Iron	
High.	Low.	High.	Low.
1926...2.453c.	Jan. 5 2.424c.	Feb. 9 \$21.54	Jan. 5 \$21.38
1925...2.560c.	Jan. 6 2.396c.	Aug. 18 22.50	Jan. 13 18.96
1924...2.789c.	Jan. 15 2.460c.	Oct. 14 22.88	Feb. 26 19.21
1923...2.824c.	Apr. 24 2.446c.	Jan. 2 30.86	Mar. 20 20.77

A further speeding up of steel production, already on an unusually high plane, points to the presence of another cycle of expansion of consumption, declares the "Iron Trade Review" this week. This increase is peculiarly gauged under the prevailing conditions where buyers are drawing upon producers only as they actually need the material and are not discounting future probabilities. From the way new capacity is being called into service, there is every indication that March will set a new high mark for the monthly steel output for all time. The first two weeks of March find the Gary works well on the way toward breaking the world's record. To date, output is ahead of March 1925, when the previous record was established. Leading companies in the Chicago district have their mills scheduled on heaviest scale of any March in history, continues the "Review's" summary of market events issued March 18, and from which we add the following:

The Steel Corp. this week is running around the highest point in its history, with operations at 97%. A year ago it was approximately 95% active. The Bethlehem Steel Co. is blowing in three more blast furnaces this week. More furnaces have gone in this week in the Pittsburgh and Youngstown area, with others in line to resume soon.

The automobile industry is making good progress, with some larger builders scheduled at the greatest March rate ever known. For this season, farming implement manufacturers are at the highest point in five years.

Volume of prospective structural steel work makes a very impressive showing, since it embraces a number of large projects. Probably 200,000 tons are in some definite stage of planning. New York reports a total of 65,000 tons in sight. In addition preliminary plans are being prepared for two bridges over the Kill Van Kull, greater New York, which will involve 35,000 tons.

Miscellaneous car orders footing up about 2,000 are reported this week. The cast iron pipe market shows widespread buying among municipalities

for spring use; lettings of the week total 16,000 tons with over 50,000 tons pending. Pittsburgh mills will furnish 45,000 to 50,000 tons of 22-inch line pipe, recently placed by the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey.

Pig iron buyers are making more persistent efforts to get lower prices for second quarter and are feeling their way. Another American railroad, the Boston & Maine, has placed a rail tonnage with foreign mills. This road purchased at least part of its inquiry for 16,000 tons, with German makers.

Further close competition in ferromanganese has resulted in another cut of \$5 a ton by American and Norwegian producers.

The "Iron Trade Review's" composite price of 14 leading iron and steel products this week is \$38 89. This compares with \$38 90 for the past two weeks.

The Market Report of Rogers Brown & Crocker Bros., Inc. has the following to say concerning the pig iron market under date of March 18:

The Pig Iron buying movement in the Eastern district is broadening and there is considerable more inquiry in the market. It is significant that large inquiries for second quarter specify deliveries must commence at once. Some of the actual orders placed are from those who are always regarded as most shrewd in their judgment of the time to buy. Prices have held firm in spite of buyers' best efforts to force concessions by talking low prices on imported iron.

In the Central West there is slightly more inquiry, but the market there may still be termed quiet.

Volume of sales is about the same as the previous week. Shipments continue heavy.

Low prices on ferromanganese so far have resulted in the placing of a fair tonnage. The buying is still under way.

Coke market is quiet. There is little change in price.

Cement Production Smaller—Shipments Also Smaller and Stocks Increasing.

The production of Portland cement in February the present year was 7,731,000 bbls. and in January 7,887,000 bbls., as against 8,255,000 bbls. in February last year and 8,856,000 bbls. in January last year. Shipments are also on a declining scale, having been 5,820,000 bbls. in Feb. this year and 5,672,000 bbls. in Jan., against 6,015,000 bbls. and 5,162,000 bbls., respectively, in 1925. Stocks have been steadily rising since last September, and Feb. 28 were 22,493,000 bbls., against 19,689,000 bbls. at the same date last year. The following are the figures as furnished by the Bureau of Mines of the Department of Commerce:

PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS AND STOCKS OF FINISHED PORTLAND CEMENT, BY MONTHS, IN 1925 AND 1926 (IN BARRELS).

Month.	Production.		Shipments.		Stocks at End of Month.	
	1925.	1926.	1925.	1926.	1925.	1926.
January	8,856,000	a7,887,000	5,162,000	a5,672,000	17,656,000	a20,582,000
February	8,255,000	7,731,000	6,015,000	5,820,000	19,689,000	22,493,000
March	11,034,000	-----	10,279,000	-----	20,469,000	-----
1st quar.	28,145,000	-----	21,456,000	-----	-----	-----
April	13,807,000	-----	14,394,000	-----	19,877,000	-----
May	15,503,000	-----	16,735,000	-----	18,440,000	-----
June	15,387,000	-----	17,501,000	-----	16,409,000	-----
2d quar.	44,697,000	-----	48,630,000	-----	-----	-----
July	15,641,000	-----	18,131,000	-----	13,896,000	-----
August	16,419,000	-----	18,383,000	-----	11,952,000	-----
September	15,939,000	-----	17,711,000	-----	10,247,000	-----
3d quar.	47,999,000	-----	54,225,000	-----	-----	-----
October	15,992,000	-----	15,309,000	-----	10,979,000	-----
November	13,656,000	-----	10,187,000	-----	14,534,000	-----
December	a10,713,000	-----	a6,917,000	-----	a18,365,000	-----
4th quar.	40,361,000	-----	32,413,000	-----	-----	-----
	161,202,000	-----	156,724,000	-----	-----	-----

a Revised.

Bituminous Coal Prices Drop—Anthracite Trade Steady as Demand Keeps Up.

A marked drop in prices asked for spot bituminous mine-run at tidewater all along the coast occurred last week, reports the "Coal Trade Journal" in its usual weekly review of market conditions, issued March 17. Domestic sizes of prepared in most localities along the coast were in very poor demand, as was prepared coke. On account of the great curtailment in preparation, slack occupied a strong position and quotations on most of the fine coals advanced, declared the "Journal," adding further comment, which we repeat herewith:

Production at the anthracite mines showed steady improvement and domestic sized were universally in good demand. Steam sizes, however, lagged in some localities. Sales of company coal were good as were those for the independent coal commanding only small premiums.

The feature of the Boston bituminous market last week was the break in tidewater prices, particularly for orders involving large tonnages. This reduction in price was for the purpose of arousing customers to action, who had been holding out for lower prices and the drop at the southern piers aided materially. The reduction, however, did not bring out as many customers as was expected. The Providence market was a little lower, but nowhere near as low as that of Boston. The market for prepared bituminous was at a standstill. Retail demands for anthracite fell off considerably. Company tonnage was coming through well. New England coke was moving well, but Pennsylvania and foreign coals were difficult to move.

The New York bituminous market was very dull over the past week and sales were rumored at very little over freight charges. Domestic anthracite from company mines are independents, where the premium was small, were in good demand. Steam sizes lagged locally, however, as many industrial consumers were fairly well stocked with soft coal and were unwilling to

enter the market until these stocks were used up. There was practically no demand for coke and some offers were reported below the \$3 mark.

Cancellations and rejections of shipments of bituminous coal and coke are frequent in the Philadelphia market, and this situation was hammering down the regular market, resulting in the holding up of considerable contracting. There was a general slump in prices of all pool coal, slack being the only soft coal item that had stiffened at all since the strike. Soft coal men are hoping that the opening of the Lake season will help to counteract this condition. Retailers are getting a very fair allotment of anthracite, but were still working hard to dispose of their stock of substitutes. It is thought by the trade that independent prices will be reduced during the next few weeks, when the first rush is over. Buckwheat was in the best demand of the steam sizes and rice and barley were in good call.

The brightest spot in the Baltimore coal trade was the seeming revival of their export business. Outside of that the bituminous market was without interest and prices were off. A few contracts were placed, but the big majority of industrial consumers stuck to the holding-off policy and bought small spot lots. Anthracite was coming in better and was being delivered in small lots.

Production and demand in the central Pennsylvania bituminous fields was approaching a basis prevailing prior to the anthracite strike, and prices were considerably lower than those earlier in the year. Loadings dropped about 20% under those of the first week in February. There were quite a few "no bills" on the tracks and this depressed the market.

Consumers in the Pittsburgh market were buying in small lots only. Domestic coal was in smaller demand. Industrial demand had been improving slowly and considerable contracting negotiations were under way. The slack market was somewhat steadier, due to the lesser screened coal production. The Connellsville coke fields recovered somewhat from the depression of the previous week, and while furnace prices were still low, there was a distinct advance from the extreme depression. Production was under that of the previous week.

The spot coal prices continued to slide a little last week in northern West Virginia, there being a great deal of "no bill" lump, mine-run and slack on the tracks. Prospects of a pick-up in demand before April 1 were not encouraging. Mines supplying contract coal, and these were in the majority, continued to work at nearly normal strength, although production fell off last week.

Lower production in the higher and lower volatile fields of southern West Virginia last week stiffened the prices of certain kinds of coal, especially some of the domestic grades. This was aided by the cooler weather. There was an appreciable decrease in the smokeless production, which should prevent further price recession. Smokeless slack was in a stronger position with prices higher. Tidewater prices, however, were rather low. The demand for certain of the high volatile prepared sizes was better and mine-run was somewhat stiffer in price. There was a large amount of high volatile slack moving at fair prices.

Production in the upper Potomac and western Maryland fields was more than sufficient to take care of demands, resulting in the prices remaining firm. Spot buying was small and contracting light. There was very little actual change in prices.

Although production in the Virginia fields was still large, the output last week was under that of the preceding week, and the principal movement was in mine-run. Production of coke in this territory was curtailed and prices were lower.

The liquidation in bituminous coal production and prices made necessary by the settlement of the anthracite strike is nearing completion, observes the "Coal Age" in its March 18th summary of conditions in the fuel markets. Notwithstanding the large number of individual price declines reported from various distributing centres last week, the technical position of the market has improved. For one thing, there is less distress tonnage to create fictitious price bases. For another, there is less coal at the mines and en route, continues the "Age," from which we quote additional facts as follows:

The "Coal Age" index of spot bituminous prices for March 15 was 168 and the corresponding price was \$2.03. This was an increase of one point and 1c. over the figures for the preceding week. This increase was made possible by a stronger tone to screenings in nearly all producing fields and in all-rail central Pennsylvania coals in New England. Pool prices at New York and Baltimore were weaker.

With few exceptions, the prices on prepared coals were shaded in all markets. Naturally, seaboard quotations were the worst sufferers. Inland prices on Eastern and Southern high-volatiles, however, did not escape. Quotations in the Southwest and the Far West also sagged. The most conspicuous exception to the general trend was in southern Illinois, where the efforts to stabilize prices were abetted by the weather.

To the weather, too, must be given credit for pushing up anthracite output to 1,787,000 net tons the first week in March, as compared with 1,655,000 tons a year ago. The bulk of the buying, of course, is for current consumption. The average householder in the anthracite consuming territory bought sparingly of other fuels during the suspension, so that his immediate requirements are not inconsiderable in the aggregate.

In so far as there are pronounced indications of choice in the present buying, chestnut has the call over the lordly stove. The lowly pea size also is experiencing a period of public favor not ordinarily its lot. Demand, however, is not such that independent shippers have been able to move tonnage at the peak prices obtainable the first week production was resumed.

Spot movement of the steam sizes is back to pre-strike levels. That means that producers have little difficulty in selling rice and barley and that No. 1 buckwheat is more or less of a drug on the market. The chief interest in the situation is in contracts for the coming year.

Spot prices on metallurgical coke in the Connellsville region are close to the levels of a year ago. Furnace coke is possibly 25c. weaker and foundry 25c. stronger. Production, however, has not yet been brought within the limits of estimated demand. Output for the first week in March was only 51,290 tons under the record production four weeks earlier.

There still is yard-crushed coke waiting in vain for buyers. Ovens are laboring to make adjustments with their late Eastern retail customers and to move rejected tonnage. The Alabama market, too, is easier, but no excess production is reported.

Output of Bituminous Coal and Coke Continues to Decline—Anthracite Production Increases.

Continuing the decline in production which has been evident during the last few weeks, the output of bituminous coal fell off by about 390,000 tons during the week ended

March 6, while that of coke decreased by about 55,000 tons during the same period, when compared with the production records of the preceding week in each case. Anthracite production, on the other hand, reached a total of 1,787,000 net tons or 11% over the revised figure for the preceding week, according to statistics issued by the U. S. Bureau of Mines on March 13, from which we quote a portion herewith:

Production of bituminous coal during the week ended March 6, including lignite and coal coked at the mines, is estimated at 10,500,000 net tons. This shows a decrease, compared with that in the preceding week, of 390,000 tons, or 3.6%, but is greater by 12% than output in the corresponding week in 1925.

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

	1925-26		1924-25	
	Week.	Coal Year to Date.	Week.	Coal Year to Date.
Feb. 20	11,509,000	483,702,000	9,464,000	424,651,000
Daily average	1,918,000	1,763,000	1,577,000	1,522,000
Feb. 27	10,890,000	494,592,000	8,855,000	433,506,000
Daily average	1,846,000	1,765,000	1,501,000	1,550,000
March 6	10,500,000	505,092,000	9,384,000	442,890,000
Daily average	1,750,000	1,764,000	1,564,000	1,551,000

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

Production of soft coal during the present coal year to March 6 (approximately 286 days) is now 505,092,000 tons. Production for similar periods in other recent years is given below:

1918-19	528,894,000 net tons	1921-22	407,941,000 net tons
1919-20	456,446,000 net tons	1923-24	527,726,000 net tons
1920-21	510,450,000 net tons	1924-25	442,890,000 net tons

ANTHRACITE.

Production of anthracite during the week ended March 6 is estimated at 1,787,000 net tons, an increase of 178,000 net tons, or 11% over the revised figure for the preceding week. This is practically the same output recorded for the last week in June, and is but 2% less than the average for the 22 weeks in the present coal year preceding the suspension. Compared with production during the corresponding week in 1925, the gain is 132,000 tons, or about 8%.

Estimated United States Production of Anthracite (Net Tons).

	1925-26		1924-25	
	Week Ended—	Coal Year to Date.	Week.	Coal Year to Date.
Feb. 20	408,000	41,121,000	1,838,000	77,558,000
Feb. 27	1,609,000	42,733,000	1,605,000	79,163,000
March 6	1,787,000	44,520,000	1,655,000	80,818,000

a Minus one day's production in April to equalize the number of days in the two years. b Revised. c Subject to revision.

BEEHIVE COKE.

Continuing the decline which began early in February, and gained momentum with the resumption of anthracite mining, production of beehive coke during the week ended March 6 amounted to 265,000 net tons. Compared with output during the preceding week, this shows a loss of 55,000 tons, or about 17%, practically all of which was within the State of Pennsylvania.

Total production of beehive coke during the year 1926 to March 6 is now 3,046,000 tons. Compared with output during the corresponding period in 1925, the present year shows a gain of 621,000 tons, or about 26%.

Estimated Production of Beehive Coke (Net Tons).

	Week Ended—			1926	1925
	Mar. 6	Feb. 27	Mar. 7	to Date.	to Date.
Pennsylvania & Ohio	210,000	262,000	188,000	2,506,000	1,910,000
West Virginia	17,000	18,000	14,000	158,000	125,000
Ala., Ky., Tenn. & Ga.	19,000	19,000	23,000	195,000	216,000
Virginia	10,000	12,000	10,000	100,000	93,000
Colorado & New Mexico	5,000	5,000	4,000	50,000	39,000
Washington & Utah	4,000	4,000	42,000	37,000	42,000

United States total.....265,000 320,000 281,000 3,046,000 2,425,000

Daily average.....44,000 53,000 47,000 54,000 43,000

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

Reversal of Country's Foreign Trade Position—Balance Now on the Side of the Imports.

The Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce at Washington on March 13 issued a statement of the foreign trade of the United States for February and the 8 months ending with February. The value of merchandise exported in February 1926 was \$353,000,000, as compared with \$370,676,434 in February 1925. The imports of merchandise are provisionally computed at \$389,000,000 in February 1926, as against \$333,387,369 in February the previous year, leaving an unfavorable trade balance against the United States on the merchandise movement for the month of February 1926 of \$36,000,000. Last year in February there was a favorable trade balance on the merchandise movement of \$37,289,065. Imports for the 8 months of 1925-26 have been \$2,968,599,915, as against \$2,439,924,346 for the corresponding 8 months of 1924-25. The merchandise exports for the 8 months of 1925-26 have been \$3,296,723,427, against \$3,318,380,769, giving a favorable trade balance of \$25,415,655 in 1925-26, against \$878,456,423 in 1924-25. Gold imports totaled \$25,415,655 in February 1926, against \$3,602,527 in the corresponding month the previous year, and for the 8 months they were \$132,373,525, as against \$102,118,959. Gold exports in February 1926 were \$3,850,350, against \$50,599,708 in February 1925. For the 8 months of 1925-26 the exports of the metal foot up \$78,640,551, against \$181,918,890 in the 8 months of 1924-25. Silver imports for the 8 months of 1925-26 have been \$47,038,232, as against \$51,693,560 in

1924-25, and silver exports \$66,122,844, as against \$76,531,139. Some comments on the figures will be found in an earlier part of our paper in our article on "The Financial Situation." Following is the complete official report:

TOTAL VALUES OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF THE UNITED STATES. (Preliminary figures for 1926, corrected to March 12 1926.)

	February.		8 Months Ending February.		Increase (+) Decrease (-)
	1926.	1925.	1926.	1925.	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Exports	353,000,000	370,676,434	3,296,723,427	3,318,380,769	-1,657,342
Imports	389,000,000	333,387,369	2,968,599,915	2,439,924,346	+525,675,569
Excess of expts		37,289,065	328,123,512	878,456,423	
Excess of impts	36,000,000				

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE, BY MONTHS.

	1925-26.		1924-25.		1923-24.		1922-23.		1921-22.	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Exports	339,660,368	276,649,055	302,186,027	301,157,335	325,181,138	301,157,335	325,181,138	301,157,335	325,181,138	301,157,335
Imports	379,822,746	330,659,566	310,965,891	301,774,517	366,887,538	301,774,517	366,887,538	301,774,517	366,887,538	301,774,517
8 mos. end. February	3,296,723,427	3,318,380,769	2,982,887,852	2,653,548,111	2,480,021,516	2,982,887,852	2,653,548,111	2,480,021,516	2,982,887,852	2,653,548,111
12 mos. end. June	4,864,581,164	4,311,656,491	3,956,733,373	3,771,156,489		4,864,581,164	4,311,656,491	3,956,733,373	3,771,156,489	

GOLD AND SILVER.

	February.		8 Mos. Ending February.		Increase (+) Decrease (-)
	1926.	1925.	1926.	1925.	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Exports	3,850,350	50,599,708	78,640,551	181,918,990	-103,278,339
Imports	25,415,655	3,602,527	132,373,525	102,118,859	+30,254,566
Excess of exports		46,997,181		79,799,931	
Excess of impts.	21,565,305		53,732,974		

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF GOLD AND SILVER, BY MONTHS.

	Gold.			Silver.		
	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1923-24.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Exports	4,416,452	327,178	522,826	8,349,304	9,190,362	6,233,163
Imports	2,135,690	2,397,457	2,200,961	8,284,991	8,632,067	7,032,221
8 months end. Feb	78,640,551	181,918,990	7,137,725	66,122,844	76,531,139	64,293,603
12 mos. end. June	248,729,698	10,206,941		108,828,727	98,785,586	

Total Value of Imports and Exports of Merchandise by Grand Divisions and Principal Countries.

The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the Department of Commerce at Washington has issued its report showing the merchandise imports and exports by grand divisions and principal countries for the month of

January and the 7 months ending with January for the years 1925 and 1926. The following is the table complete:

TOTAL VALUES OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE BY GRAND DIVISIONS AND PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

Grand Divisions—	—Month of January—		—7 Months End. January—	
	1925.	1926.	1925.	1926.
Europe	269,401,035	199,794,209	1,657,503,627	1,531,933,139
North America	77,830,775	84,779,597	671,573,065	674,401,316
South America	31,745,094	37,774,678	198,622,335	246,847,915
Asia	46,224,878	50,236,723	285,710,773	318,597,516
Oceania	14,659,012	16,308,210	92,638,174	116,772,296
Africa	6,582,294	8,302,416	41,658,361	55,168,373
Total	446,443,088	397,195,833	2,947,704,335	2,943,720,555

Principal Countries—	—Month of January—		—7 Months End. January—	
	1925.	1926.	1925.	1926.
Belgium	10,207,656	8,583,584	76,315,747	68,788,290
Denmark	4,772,857	5,364,712	26,399,860	33,884,336
France	29,209,762	29,731,416	182,544,042	174,736,541
Germany	49,598,693	25,537,436	284,734,085	267,027,564
Greece	2,694,692	743,259	14,816,109	7,505,404
Italy	22,669,082	14,382,297	125,457,183	102,692,628
Netherlands	14,725,287	10,586,072	106,781,853	77,577,481
Norway	3,156,584	2,221,070	17,123,978	14,389,447
Soviet Russia, Europe	2,506,473	6,162,337	22,224,483	37,032,053
Spain	7,656,284	6,754,660	45,745,764	48,483,165
Sweden	3,430,787	2,848,590	24,735,903	24,870,328
Switzerland	590,096	729,649	4,625,811	5,543,989
United Kingdom	113,136,945	82,158,884	700,141,658	638,246,935
Canada	38,931,454	47,437,155	381,306,392	393,146,175
Central America	6,026,261	6,364,154	40,941,527	43,650,050
Mexico	11,915,403	11,076,475	83,907,234	80,914,110
Cuba	16,411,871	14,660,702	122,662,010	112,904,904
Dominican Republic	1,599,534	1,308,183	10,207,299	11,001,430
Argentina	12,892,875	14,938,461	77,273,367	93,213,523
Brazil	6,799,835	6,204,966	41,198,519	47,474,642
Chile	2,924,054	3,793,225	19,647,858	25,006,540
Colombia	2,548,930	4,303,984	18,038,425	27,354,065
Ecuador	360,919	325,705	2,991,773	4,054,515
Peru	1,772,473	2,188,436	13,990,870	14,138,237
Uruguay	1,828,425	1,884,939	10,888,569	12,618,176
Venezuela	1,825,872	3,145,536	10,768,020	17,259,159
British India	2,829,259	3,714,658	19,799,594	25,110,068
British Malaya	6,626,261	1,101,997	4,650,399	4,650,399
China	6,291,834	10,157,396	49,446,647	58,637,767
Hongkong	1,105,051	1,817,943	8,421,472	7,971,504
Dutch East Indies	1,329,084	2,468,256	8,700,859	13,629,927
Japan, including Chosen	28,093,517	23,424,771	150,275,126	156,645,185
Philippine Islands	4,611,603	6,561,375	35,565,370	37,188,008
Australia	11,897,596	12,856,447	73,895,689	91,453,535
New Zealand	2,462,982	3,362,688	17,402,683	23,909,746
British South Africa	3,210,293	3,901,503	21,153,906	27,781,834
Egypt	622,547	823,392	3,363,148	4,756,666

Grand Divisions—	—Month of January—		—7 Months End. January—	
	1925.	1926.	1925.	1926.
Europe	102,808,855	111,210,059	678,377,838	753,740,801
North America	77,531,029	73,559,135	517,837,577	534,358,602
South America	42,254,476	53,517,512	276,833,977	311,317,701
Asia	100,965,251	154,045,627	565,233,595	890,014,832
Oceania	11,954,917	8,037,231	68,355,798	96,808,783
Africa	10,650,761	16,396,849	39,601,272	53,048,514
Total	346,165,289	416,766,413	2,106,536,977	2,580,289,233

United States Senate Confirms Nomination of Charles W. Hunt as Member of Federal Trade Commission.

In an executive session on March 10, the U. S. Senate confirmed, by a vote of 48 to 20, the nomination of Charles W. Hunt as a member of the Federal Trade Commission. Mr. Hunt had been named last September to succeed himself, having originally been appointed in 1924. Regarding opposition to his continuance on the commission, the New York "Journal of Commerce" in Washington advices March 10 stated:

Opposition to the retention of Commissioner Hunt in his present position developed some time ago among the Progressives and certain of the Democrats because of his alignment with Commissioners Humphrey and Van Fleet in their campaign for the institution of rules of reason governing the activities of the commission in line with the proposals that are contained in the Wadsworth-Williams bills. Lined up against this group are Commissioners Huston Thompson and George Nugent, who have protested against the settlement with publicity of all cases where such action can be taken, as alleged by the other commissioners to be in the best interests both of the public and the business world.

These various matters came up for consideration during the executive debate on Mr. Hunt. He was criticised as being reactionary, but the opposition probably was more against the system of the commission than against Mr. Hunt personally.

It had generally been accepted that Mr. Hunt would be kept in office and the fact that there were more than twice as many favorable as unfavorable votes was not a surprise.

Current Events and Discussions

The Week with the Federal Reserve Banks.

The consolidated statement of condition of the Federal Reserve banks on March 17, made public by the Federal Reserve Board and which deals with the results for the twelve Federal Reserve banks combined, shows a decline of \$21,800,000 in holdings of discounted bills, of \$27,400,000 in acceptances purchased in open market, and of \$7,100,000 in Government securities. Total bills and securities went down \$56,900,000 and Federal Reserve note circulation \$12,500,000, while cash reserves increased \$13,800,000.

Largely as a result of the Treasury's financial operations on March 15, which included the redemption of securities maturing on that date, member banks in the New York district reduced their borrowings from the Federal Reserve bank by \$51,800,000. Discount holdings of the Chicago bank declined \$9,500,000, while those of Atlanta increased \$13,000,000, San Francisco \$12,300,000, Philadelphia \$5,500,000, and St. Louis \$5,400,000. All of the Federal Reserve banks show smaller holdings of acceptances purchased in open market, the principal decreases being: New York \$11,700,000, Atlanta \$3,600,000, the Philadelphia \$3,300,000. After noting these facts, the Federal Reserve Board proceeds as follows:

Holdings of Treasury certificates of indebtedness increased \$101,400,000, of which \$99,000,000 represents a temporary certificate issued by the Treasury to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York pending the collection of the quarterly installment of taxes. Holdings of Treasury notes declined \$111,900,000, while holdings of U. S. bonds increased \$3,400,000.

The Federal Reserve Banks of Cleveland and San Francisco report declines of \$5,100,000 and \$2,500,000, respectively, in Federal Reserve note circulation, while the remaining banks show relatively small changes in this item.

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 1578 and 1579. A summary of changes in the principal assets and liabilities of the Reserve banks during the week and the year ending March 17 1926 follows:

	Increases (+) or Decrease (—)	
	Week. During	Year.
Total reserves.....	+\$13,800,000	—\$45,900,000
Gold reserves.....	+12,100,000	—62,600,000
Total bills and securities.....	—56,900,000	+44,800,000
Bills discounted, total.....	—21,800,000	+141,100,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations.....	—3,400,000	+78,900,000
Other bills discounted.....	—18,400,000	+62,300,000
Bills bought in open market.....	—27,400,000	—19,600,000
U. S. Government securities, total.....	—7,100,000	—75,700,000
Bonds.....	+3,400,000	—15,400,000
Treasury notes.....	—111,900,000	—146,800,000
Certificates of indebtedness.....	+101,400,000	+86,500,000
Federal Reserve notes in circulation.....	—12,500,000	—61,200,000
Total deposits.....	—16,600,000	+53,600,000
Members' reserve deposits.....	+20,600,000	+54,800,000
Government deposits.....	—41,500,000	+1,000,000

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

The Federal Reserve Board's statement of condition of 712 reporting member banks in leading cities as of March 10 shows a reduction of \$95,000,000 in loans and discounts and an increase of \$3,000,000 in investments. These changes were accompanied by declines of \$113,000,000 in net demand deposits and \$79,000,000 in borrowings from the Federal Reserve banks. Member banks in New York City reported reductions of \$68,000,000 in loans and discounts, \$5,000,000 in investments, \$98,000,000 in net demand deposits and \$16,000,000 in borrowings from the Federal Reserve bank. It should be noted that the figures for these *member banks* are always a week behind those for the Reserve banks themselves.

Loans on corporate stocks and bonds were \$121,000,000 less than a week ago. Of this decline \$99,000,000 and \$13,000,000 were reported by banks in the New York and Boston districts, respectively. "All other" loans and discounts increased \$31,000,000, the larger increase of \$33,000,000 in the New York district being partly offset by a decline of \$8,000,000 in the San Francisco district. Total loans to brokers and dealers, secured by stocks and bonds, made by reporting banks in New York City show a further reduction of \$163,000,000, of which \$104,000,000 was in loans for their own account, \$55,000,000 in loans for account of out-of-town banks and \$4,000,000 in loans for the account of others. Further comment regarding the changes shown by these *member banks* is as follows:

Investments in U. S. securities were \$23,000,000 less than last week, the principal changes in this item being a reduction of \$24,000,000 in the New York district and an increase of \$16,000,000 in the San Francisco district. Holdings of other bonds, stocks and securities increased \$20,000,000 at banks in the New York district and \$26,000,000 at all reporting banks.

Net demand deposits fell off \$113,000,000, declines of \$107,000,000 in the New York district, \$15,000,000 in the Kansas City district, \$9,000,000 in the Cleveland district and \$8,000,000 each in the Boston and Philadelphia districts being offset in part by increases of \$22,000,000 and \$12,000,000 in the Chicago and San Francisco districts, respectively. Time deposits were \$8,000,000 higher than a week ago at all reporting banks and \$11,000,000 higher at banks in the New York district.

Reduced borrowings from the Federal Reserve banks were reported for all districts except Cleveland and Richmond. The principal reductions were \$20,000,000 in the Chicago district, and \$16,000,000 and \$14,000,000 in the New York and Boston districts, respectively.

On a subsequent page—that is, on page 1579—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.....	—\$95,000,000	+\$669,000,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations.....	—5,000,000	—29,000,000
Secured by stocks and bonds.....	—121,000,000	+528,000,000
All other.....	+31,000,000	+170,000,000
Investments, total.....	+3,000,000	+132,000,000
U. S. bonds.....	+18,000,000	+146,000,000
U. S. Treasury notes.....	—23,000,000	—218,000,000
U. S. Treasury certificates.....	—18,000,000	+11,000,000
Other bonds, stocks and securities.....	+26,000,000	+193,000,000
Reserve balances with Federal Reserve banks.....	—6,000,000	—22,000,000
Cash in vault.....	+3,000,000	—8,000,000
Net demand deposits.....	—113,000,000	—164,000,000
Time deposits.....	+8,000,000	+500,000,000
Government deposits.....	—3,000,000	+85,000,000
Total accommodation at Fed. Res. banks.....	—79,000,000	+56,000,000

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

The summary of foreign cablegrams received by the Department of Commerce at Washington, released for publication to-day, follows:

GERMANY.

A slight diminution of unemployment and a renewal of foreign buying proved some justification for the growing hope that Germany is on the way to a return to normal conditions. The results of the depression of the past six months show that some weaker business concerns which grew during the inflation period have been eliminated, the wholesale and retail price levels have been reduced, and a gradual reduction of imports has brought about a favorable trade balance for January. Interest rates on time loans, call money and private discounts have been reduced, and the banking situation is generally improved.

The program of the new Finance Minister has created a favorable impression, press reports indicate, as it tends towards a policy of tax reductions and simplification with a view to lightening the heavy tax burden which has been considered as a contributing factor to the depression. Attention is also centred on the means of obtaining a more effective distribution of commercial and investment funds through banks and credit institutions. The end of February showed a slight decrease in the number of unemployed receiving Government assistance; while the stock index has risen at the beginning of March. The annual report for all German savings banks showed a considerable increase during 1925.

Recent political discussions have not affected German financial markets during the past week and a spirit of confidence was evidenced by the steadiness of the stock exchange. Money remains easy.

BELGIUM.

Difficulties in connection with negotiations for the stabilization loan, and higher money rates, have depressed the Belgian business situation. The rediscount rate of the National Bank has been increased, likewise the rate on advances against securities and the amount of interest on six months Treasury bills, provoking tight credit, in accordance with the stabilization program, and also depressing business on the Stock Exchange. Metallurgical markets are uncertain with increased competition. Glass production is normal, but window glass shows a tendency to weaken. Dullness persists in the coal market, despite good demand from the cement and coal industry, and the renewal of activity in Charleroi metallurgy. The automobile market is good except for medium priced cars of heavy gasoline consumption. Lumber sales are excellent. Cotton yarns are dull but weaving is slightly improved; flax business has recovered somewhat. Tonnage of Belgian import trade in 1925 declined slightly, while export tonnage advanced; import values remained almost stationary, while exports increased, thus reducing the unfavorable trade balance.

THE NETHERLANDS.

The gradual strengthening of industry and trade in the Netherlands has continued during the past month. The advance is particularly marked in the artificial silk, shoe, margarine, paper and shipbuilding industries, while glass, textile and airplane manufacturing has shown an unfavorable trend. The new Cabinet has quieted political uncertainty and facilitated the enactment of definite legislation. Note circulation and gold reserves of the Netherlands were reduced during the month, with little change in the relation between them. Money continues to be abundant and German loans have again become an important feature of the market. Government revenues in January exceeded those of January 1925, reaching 43,100,000 guilders as against 40,800,000 guilders. Wholesale and retail prices both showed declines as compared with last year. Unemployment has been gradually reduced by the activity of the building industries, and seasonal

factors. January import trade was normal but exports reached the lowest figure since June 1924, with reduced exportation to Germany on account of the high tariff.

FINLAND.

General business conditions in Finland during January were quiet with a corresponding dullness in trade caused by the frozen condition of the harbors and heavy ice in the Gulf of Finland. Foreign trade during the month was very low with a large unfavorable balance, characteristic of this time of the year. Industries, however, are active and financial conditions show further improvement, as indicated by the easy money market, declining note circulation and a substantial increase in deposits during the past month. A sufficient supply of funds seemed to be available, and demands during January were somewhat heavy. Price levels showed a marked decline during the month.

ARGENTINA.

Weather conditions continue favorable. Purchases of linseed by American firms have increased and the market is slightly higher. Wheat advanced with other products and an early European demand is anticipated. The wool market has been active but prices have not advanced. Hide prices tendency has been upward with an improved buying interest. Livestock receipts are ample and prices remain unchanged. There has been a reduced export movement, while the imports continue to increase. Government remittances are depressing the exchange value of the peso. The general depression in local business continues with heavy failures still being recorded. Bank rates remain steady at from 6 to 8%. Congress is still inactive.

BRAZIL.

Exchange weakened from 6.870 milreis to the dollar on Monday to 6.900 to the dollar on Friday, but firmed again on Saturday. The weakness was due to lack of export bills. The Santos coffee market was firm for spot coffee with a slight fall for futures. The Rio market is weakening. Stocks at Santos on the 12th were reported locally at 1,318,088 bags. The State of Sao Paulo has negotiated an agreement with the State of Espirito Santo which unites the four principal coffee States in the defense plan. Espirito Santo is to build four regulatory warehouses, one in Rio de Janeiro, one in Victoria, and two in the interior. The State intends to finance the plan from State funds without increased taxation. Lloyd Brasileiro has reduced the coffee rate to American ports to 40 cents for cargo boats. Other lines are meeting the reduction. Mail steamers are asking 45 cents. An issue of 500,000 sterling has been granted in London for a Sao Paulo textile mill.

Break in Belgian Franc—Secretary Mellon Says Debt Settlement Not a Factor in It

The decline in the Belgian franc has been one of the outstanding developments of the week, its sensational fall causing two Cabinet meetings at Brussels on March 15, according to Associated Press cablegrams, which said the decline was due to Washington and London developments, according to the general opinion expressed in political and financial quarters. These cablegrams also said:

Failure of the United States Senate to ratify the Washington Belgian debt agreement and the insistence of British bankers on obtaining close control of the Belgian national railroads brought unrest in financial circles and heavy sales of Belgian securities, entailing depreciation of the franc.

A rumor which gained popular credence that the American bankers concerned in the proposed loan to Belgium had demanded supervision of the Belgian Congo Colony, was also responsible in part, it was asserted in well-informed financial circles.

Official information this evening indicated that all the foregoing was untrue, but the harm had been done. There had been a wave of selling of Belgian stocks and the purchase of foreign securities, which the Cabinet hopes, with the help of the Belgian bankers, to stem to-morrow.

Depreciation in the last two days has caused a loss of 14½% in Belgium's national wealth.

London Associated Press advices March 15 referring to the decline said:

The feature of the London Exchange market to-day was the sharp relapse of the Belgian franc from 107 to the pound to 121¼, due to the exhaustion of the credits obtained here and in America with which the Belgian Government has been supporting the franc at 107.

Selling orders were liberal most of the day, but in the afternoon there was a recovery to 117 under covering orders.

The market also was affected by rumors that there has been a hitch in the negotiations in which Belgium is seeking a loan of \$150,000,000 from bankers in the United States, Great Britain and Continental countries.

In the New York Market on March 15 a break was also witnessed, the New York "Times" in referring thereto saying in part:

A sudden crash of half a cent in the value of the Belgian franc yesterday caused reports to spread through Wall Street that a hitch had occurred in preparations for a Belgian stabilization loan which had been expected to amount to between \$100,000,000 and \$150,000,000. The onslaught of selling came from London, where discussions regarding Belgian financial affairs have been taking place, and New York bankers conversant with the Belgian situation said they were in the dark as to what had inspired the pressure. The attack against the franc was reflected in a decline in the prices of Belgian Government bonds, which sold off as much as ¾ of a point on the New York Stock Exchange.

Though various explanations were hazarded as to the reason for the break in the Belgian franc, an air of mystery covered the situation, to which, it was declared, the key lies in London. The following were some of the reports received by foreign exchange dealers to account for the break:

Advance information obtained by foreign operators that the Belgian Government's report would show that the budget had not been balanced, which would be expected to delay the granting of the international loan; that there had been a clash of opinion between financiers in London and the Belgian Government as to the proper terms of a large international loan; that the Brussels Government, which has been "pegging" the franc, partly with the use of credits granted here and abroad last year, had decided to withdraw its support and allow the franc to find its "true" level before attempting an official revaluation, and, finally, that the Government, which had been expected to revalue the franc in the neighborhood of 4½ cents, had decided that 4¼ or 4 cents would be a more suitable level.

Credits Expire This Month.

The credits obtained last year by Belgium amounted to \$50,000,000, the New York portion being advanced by a banking group headed by J. P. Morgan & Co. These credits expire this month, and an announcement regarding their renewal is expected within a few days.

No information is available as to the extent of the use that was made of the credits, but foreign exchange dealers said it was likely that the Belgian Government had used about 50% of the amount available in supporting the franc. It had been generally expected that the large international loan being discussed would absorb the credit. The Federal Reserve Bank in assisting the stabilization plans of Belgium, announced last year that it had offered to buy commercial bills, but it was learned yesterday that the bank had not been called on to make such purchases.

Government Support Withdrawn.

Whatever the reason, the Belgian Government withdrew its support of the franc, and this led to selling by speculators. The pressure came almost exclusively from Europe and the break in prices had occurred before trading in New York opened. It was pointed out that speculators knew in advance something of what was coming, for as early as last Friday there had been heavy selling of francs for future delivery, while spot quotations still were steady.

The opening quotation on the Belgian franc in New York yesterday was 4.24¼ cents, as against a close at 4.53 on Saturday. The rate quickly dropped to 4.04¼, the lowest it has reached since March 1924. There was a reaction from the extreme decline and the close was at 4.22¾, a loss of close to one-third of a cent net for the day. It was the first sharp movement in some time in the Belgian franc, which has held steady in the neighborhood of 4½ cents in the face of violent movements of the French franc and the Italian lira.

The decline in bonds occurred in the Belgian Government's 6s of 1955, which sold at a new low for the year at \$5¼ and closed at \$6, a net loss of ½ for the day; the 6½s of 1949, which closed ¾ lower at 93½; the 7s of 1955, which lost ¾ at 95½, and the 7½s of 1949, which lost ½ at 109¾.

On March 15 Associated Press advices from Brussels said:

The Cabinet Council, this afternoon decided to suspend all buying of foreign exchange temporarily, and to institute a close investigation of recent deals in dollars and sterling, and also stocks quoted in foreign exchange on the Brussels Bourse.

The Cabinet gave the Minister of Justice authority to take stern measures against any one found guilty of speculation or unable to prove the genuineness of purchases of foreign exchange for business transactions. It is generally admitted, however, that speculation is the result, not the cause, of the present crisis.

The following day (March 16) the following Brussels advices were reported by the Associated Press:

The Finance Commission of the Chamber of Deputies, after the Government's explanation regarding the negotiations for a foreign loan, decided to-day that they should be continued, with some modifications and new reservations.

Still later advices (March 17 from the same source said:

The "Etoile Belge" to-day says that the Cabinet at a lengthy meeting drafted the terms of a ministerial declaration announcing if not a complete rupture at least a postponement of the negotiations for a foreign loan.

The terms of the declaration, the paper adds, make the position of Finance Minister Janssen untenable, and with the failure of the Government to stabilize the Belgian franc inevitably will lead to a Cabinet crisis, which may come at to-night's meeting of the Chamber of Deputies.

The New York News Bureau on March 17 announced the following from the Central News at Brussels:

Ex-Finance Minister Vanderwyere declared the present situation in the Belgian franc is the result of foreign bankers, including the Bank of England, failing to keep their earlier engagements given verbally only.

Premier Poulett, before the Chamber to-day said that the stabilization plan still held good, and he further intimated that proceedings would be inaugurated for the severe repression of speculators in the currency.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon in a statement on March 16 had the following to say in the matter:

"I do not believe that the speculation in Belgium exchange can be attributed to any doubt of the ratification of the Belgian-American debt settlement here. The settlement passed the House by a vote of 316 to 25 and without the slightest criticism. I have heard of no opposition in the Senate to Belgium. We have made a fair adjustment and I anticipate a favorable reception to the settlement when it is reached in the Senate within the next few days."

Advices from Washington March 18 to the New York "Journal of Commerce", stated:

The Government will not interfere with pending negotiations between the Belgian Government and New York financiers for the placing of a substantial share of what is understood to be a \$150,000,000 loan Belgium is seeking to float here and in London.

This was made clear at the Treasury to-day by Secretary Mellon, who indicated that Belgium's efforts to settle her war debt to this country constituted sufficient guarantee, so far as the Government is concerned, of her good will towards this country. Mr. Mellon denied that the Administration is taking any stand against American nationals becoming creditors of foreign nations or interests in the issuance of long-term obligations.

The Treasury has received word that this reported attitude of the United States Government was principally responsible for the sharp decline in the Belgian franc during the past several days. Secretary Mellon, however, made it clear that the Government has taken no such attitude, adding that the only stand the Government has taken with reference to loans abroad is in connection with war debt funding negotiations and foreign interests said to be using their control of raw materials for artificial maintenance of high prices to American consumers.

In its issue of March 16 the same paper said:

New York bankers yesterday did not confirm the rumor that there was a hitch in the arrangements for the \$150,000,000 Belgian stabilization loan. Negotiations for the loan, it was said, had not gone beyond the "conversation" stage. Bankers here are awaiting news that Belgium has completed the balancing of her budget and other financial preparations, which must be made before the loan can be discussed.

Italy Pays £2,000,000 to Bank of England on War Debt.

An Associated Press cablegram from Rome (Italy), March 15, says:

The semi-official Stefani Agency announces that the Italian Government to-day paid £2,000,000 to the Bank of England, the first payment on Italy's war debt to Great Britain, which was funded recently in London.

Reference to the British-Italian war debt agreement was made in these columns Jan. 30, page 551, and March 13, page 1391.

Denmark House of Commons Passes Disarmament Bill.

Copenhagen (Denmark) Associated Press advices, March 13, report that the Folketing (House of Commons) passed the third reading of the disarmament bill, which calls for virtual abolition of the Danish army and navy, leaving only frontier and customs guards and a number of vessels for coast duty. The vote was 75 to 71. The cablegram says:

Strong opposition was shown by Conservatives and Liberals, who declared their astonishment that the Government dared to support such a measure under present conditions in Europe. M. Rasmussen, the Defense Minister, sponsored the bill.

San Paulo Bond Offering Next Week by Banking Group Headed by Speyer & Co.

\$7,500,000 State of San Paulo 7% secured sinking fund gold bonds, external water works loan of 1926, due Sept. 1 1956, will be offered Tuesday at 96½, to yield about 7.30%, by a group headed by Speyer & Co., and including Blair & Co., Inc., J. Henry Schroder Banking Corporation, Ladenburg, Thalmann & Co., E. H. Rollins & Sons, the Equitable Trust Co. of New York and Blyth, Witter & Co. The balance of the loan, viz., £2,500,000 sterling bonds, will be issued simultaneously in London by Baring Brothers & Co., Ltd., N. M. Rothschild & Sons and J. Henry Schroder & Co. The proceeds of the loan are to be used for additions, betterments and extensions to the water supply and sewerage systems of the City of San Paulo.

Brazilian Cotton Loan.

A cablegram to the New York News Bureau from the Central News, London, March 11, says:

The Vorantim Cotton Mills of Brazil offers £500,000 first mortgage debentures at 96¾.

Ratification of Agreement for Settlement of Disputes in Shipbuilding Trades of Great Britain.

At the last quarterly meeting of the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades of Great Britain it was announced that the agreement between the men's federation and the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation for the settlement and avoidance of disputes in that industry had been ratified. According to advices received by Bankers Trust Co. of New York from its British Information Service (made public March 15), the figures revealed a vote of four to one in favor of the agreement and aggregated 12,000 votes. The trust company's advices state:

Although the boilers makers' and several other unions not affiliated to the men's federation have not participated in the ballot and are not parties to the new agreement, the new negotiating machinery which will come into effect will be available for all shipyard workers.

The purpose of the agreement is to secure more prompt consideration and settlement of questions arising in the industry without recourse to stoppages of work. There is a complete procedure for dealing with questions in the yard in which they arise by district or nationally, as the case demands, with provision for mutual reference to arbitration. The question of the regulation of wage fluctuation was not dealt with in the present agreement, but will be the subject of a supplementary agreement.

Plan to Help German Rye Growers Opposed—Grain Trade Assures Reichstag That "Price-Boosting" Plan Would Be Ineffective.

From the New York "Times" we quote the following copy-right cablegram from Berlin, March 7:

The grain trade organization strongly opposes the plan for artificially maintaining rye prices in the interest of East German farmers. At a session of the Reichstag's Economic Committee last week representatives of the grain traders stated that out of 8,000,000 tons of rye produced in 1925 the farmers consumed, including fodder, 5,000,000 tons.

From this they argued that even if prices were driven up 30 marks per ton the actual gain to producers would be only 90,000,000 marks. The committee has been considering various other ways of encouraging rye production at the expense of the wheat output.

Stock of Money in the Country.

The Treasury Department at Washington issued its customary monthly statement showing the stock of money in the country and the amount in circulation after deducting the moneys held in the United States Treasury and by Federal Reserve banks and agents. The figures this time are for March 1. They show that the money in circulation at that date (including, of course, what is held in bank vaults of the member banks of the Federal Reserve System) was \$4,814,217,046, as against \$4,739,537,429 Feb. 1 1926 and \$4,804,208,822 March 1 1925, and comparing with \$5,628,427,732 on Nov. 1 1920. Just before the outbreak of the European war, that is, on July 1 1914, the total was only \$3,402,015,427. The following is the statement:

KIND OF MONEY	CIRCULATION STATEMENT OF UNITED STATES MONEY—MARCH 1 1926.				MONEY HELD IN THE TREASURY.		MONEY OUTSIDE OF THE TREASURY.		Population of United States (Estimated)
	Stock of Money, a	Total	Am't. Held in Trust against Gold & Silver Treasury Notes of 1890.	Am't. Held in Reserve against United States Notes (and Treasury Notes of 1890).	Held by Federal Reserve Banks and Agents, J	In Circulation.	Per Capita.		
Gold coin and bullion.....	\$ 84,444,791.375	\$ 3,710,605,169	\$ 1,696,436,819	\$ 1,652,888,335	\$ 312,106,847	\$ 422,079,359	\$ 3.67	114,931,000	
Gold certifi's.....	c(1,696,436,819)	.....	.....	.....	620,866,700	1,076,070,119	9.35	113,631,000
Stan. silv. dolls	525,346,078	456,701,894	451,343,864	.....	16,007,192	52,630,992	.46	107,491,000
Silver certifi's	c(449,974,260)	.....	.....	.....	78,824,988	371,149,272	3.23	103,716,000
Treasury notes of 1890.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Subsid'y silver-U. S. notes.....	288,639,915	5,829,587	.....	.....	16,957,977	265,852,401	2.31	108,027,000
Fed. Res. notes	346,681,016	4,302,174	.....	.....	48,757,236	293,621,600	2.55	108,027,000
F. R. bank notes	2,013,163,450	1,319,177	.....	.....	339,817,128	1,672,027,145	14.53	108,027,000
Nat. bank notes	6,095,248	160,856	.....	.....	5,934,392	5,807,665	.05	108,027,000
	706,303,719	13,955,357	.....	.....	38,745,179	653,603,183	5.68	108,027,000
Total Mar. 1 26	\$ 8,331,020,801	\$ 4,192,874,164	\$ 2,147,780,383	\$ 1,652,888,836	\$ 1,471,709,974	\$ 4,814,217,046	\$ 41.84	115,049,000	
Comparative totals:									
Feb. 1 1926	8,332,673,877	44,187,512,054	2,140,408,407	1,658,894,535	1,536,032,801	4,739,537,429	41.24	114,931,000	
Mar. 1 1925	8,399,192,700	64,188,931,070	1,944,007,848	1,536,620,986	1,350,060,656	4,804,208,822	42.28	113,631,000	
Nov. 1 1920	8,336,338,267	62,406,801,772	696,854,226	1,206,341,990	987,962,989	5,628,427,732	52.36	107,491,000	
Apr. 1 1917	5,312,109,272	42,942,998,527	2,684,800,085	152,979,026	105,219,416	5,053,910,830	39.54	103,716,000	
July 1 1914	3,738,288,871	41,843,452,323	1,507,178,879	150,000,000	186,273,444	3,402,015,427	34.35	99,027,000	
Jan. 1 1879	1,007,084,483	4212,420,402	21,602,640	100,000,000	90,817,762	816,266,721	16.92	48,231,000	

a Includes United States paper currency in circulation in foreign countries and the amount held by the Cuban agencies of the Federal Reserve banks.
 b Does not include gold bullion or foreign coin outside of vaults of the Treasury, Federal Reserve banks, and Federal Reserve agents.
 c These amounts are not included in the total since the money held in trust against gold and silver certificates and Treasury notes of 1890 is included under gold coin and bullion and standard silver dollars, respectively.
 d The amount of money held in trust against gold and silver certificates and Treasury notes of 1890 should be deducted from this total before combining it with total money outside of the Treasury to arrive at the stock of money in the United States.
 e This total includes \$15,014,261 of notes in process of redemption, \$159,533,272 of gold deposited for redemption of Federal Reserve notes, \$14,148,004 deposited for redemption of national bank notes, \$4,565 deposited for retirement of additional circulation (act of May 30 1908), and \$6,576,290 deposited as a reserve against postal savings deposits.
 f Includes money held by the Cuban agencies of the Federal Reserve banks of Boston and Atlanta.
 g Gold certificates are secured dollar for dollar by gold held in the Treasury for their redemption; silver certificates are secured dollar for dollar by standard silver dollars held in the Treasury for their redemption; United States notes are secured by a gold reserve of \$154,188,886 held in the Treasury. This reserve fund may also be used for the redemption of Treasury notes of 1890, which are also secured, dollar for dollar, by standard silver dollars, held in the Treasury. Federal Reserve notes are obligations of the United States and a first lien on all the assets of the issuing Federal Reserve bank. Federal Reserve notes are secured by the deposit with Federal Reserve agents of a like amount of gold or of gold and such discounted or purchased paper as is eligible under the terms of the Federal Reserve Act. Federal Reserve banks must maintain a gold reserve of at least 40%, including the gold redemption fund which must be deposited with the United States Treasurer, against Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation. Lawful money has been deposited with the Treasurer of the United States for retirement of all outstanding Federal Reserve bank notes. National bank notes are secured by United States bonds except where lawful money has been deposited with the Treasurer of the United States for their retirement. A 5% fund is also maintained in lawful money with the Treasurer of the United States for the redemption of national bank notes secured by Government bonds.

Expansion of State Bank of U. S. S. R.

An official report showing the expansion of the State Bank of the Soviet Union (State Bank of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics) for the past fiscal year has been received by the Russian Information Bureau at Washington. The report is accompanied by the financial statement of the bank as of Oct. 1 last, at the close of the fiscal year. A summary of the report at the year's close follows:
 Capital remains unchanged at 10,000,000 chervonetz (\$51,450,000). The reserve, however, has been increased from 790,000 cherv. (\$4,064,000, to 1,500,000 cherv. (\$7,717,000). In addition to the increase of reserve

the bank's earnings during the year 1924-25 amounted to the impressive figure of \$37,114,000, equivalent to about 63% of capital and reserve, as compared with earnings of \$17,265,000, or 31% of capital and reserve, during the previous year.

Deposits increased from \$164,228,000 on Oct. 1 1924 to \$489,518,000 on Oct 1 1925, an increase of 200% during the course of the year. In the same period loans and discounts increased from \$308,029,000 to \$774,417,000, an increase of 151%. These figures do not include the special deposits of the Government, amounting to \$108,694,000 on Oct. 1 1925, specifically intended for the purpose of Government loans to industry and agriculture, which aggregated \$108,905,000 on the same date.

The State Bank note circulation increased from 52,185,000 chev. (\$268,492,000) on Oct. 1 1924 to 75,664,000 chev. (\$389,291,000) on Oct. 1 1925. The "gold fund," i. e., holdings of stable foreign currencies and precious metals, remained unchanged at about \$153,356,000.

The Soviet State Bank is extending its network of branch banks, which are already located in every port and industrial and commercial centre of the Soviet Union. There were 390 branches and agencies of the bank in October 1924, which by October 1925 had increased to over 450. The bank's statement as of Oct. 1 1925 follows:

CLOSING STATEMENT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING SEPT. 30 1925.

	Chervonetz.	Dollars. (1 Ch. = \$5.145)
Assets—		
Cash	9,872,416	50,793,580
Bullion, coin, precious metals and foreign currencies	29,806,718	153,355,563
Securities	8,619,785	44,348,793
Goods	103,327	531,618
Loans and discounts	129,956,184	668,624,564
Loans against merchandise	20,562,110	105,792,058
Special loans to industry and agriculture on account of People's Commissariat of Finance	21,167,164	108,905,059
Commission, interest and other charges, &c	39,744	204,485
Other assets	7,244,551	37,273,213
Total	227,371,999	1,169,828,933
Liabilities—		
Capital	10,000,000	51,450,000
Reserve	1,500,000	7,717,500
Profits 1924-25	7,213,629	37,114,119
Note issue	75,664,026	389,291,414
Deposit and current accounts	95,144,385	489,517,862
Transfers	809,341	4,164,059
Government funds for loans to industry and agriculture	21,126,225	108,694,429
Commission and interest	864,564	4,448,179
Offices, branches and agencies	1,788,261	9,200,601
Other liabilities	13,261,568	68,230,770
Total	227,371,999	1,169,828,933

Grain Crop Statistics of Soviet Russia.

Late statistics of the grain crops of the Soviet Union for 1925 received by the Russian Information Bureau, show larger crops of corn and barley than had been reported, and slight decreases in wheat, rye and other grains. The gross crop of all grains shows a decrease of 22 million bushels from the estimate made about a month ago. A statement by the Bureau, issued in February, says:

The grain crop now stands at 2,732 million bushels, as compared with 1,826 million bushels in 1924, and a pre-war production of about 3,200 million bushels.

Individual grains, in millions of bushels, are as follows: Rye, 774; wheat, 663; oats, 658; barley, 287; buckwheat, 62; millet, 140; corn, 178. The corn crop marks a new high record for Russia.

Late statistics of cotton, flax and hemp show advances over previous estimates. The cotton crop was 906,000 bales, as compared with 521,000 bales in 1924 and a pre-war average of 953,000 bales. The gross flax fibre crop was 404,000 metric tons, as compared with 244,000 in 1924 and 419,000 in 1913. The gross hemp fibre crop was 449,000 metric tons, as compared with 308,000 in 1924 and 351,000 in 1913.

Foreign Trade of Soviet Russia.

The foreign trade turnover of the Soviet Union for the first quarter of the Soviet fiscal year, Oct. 1 to Jan. 1, was \$194,567,000, as compared with \$113,403,000 for the same period of last year, an increase of 72%, according to the Russian Information Bureau. Exports for the period were \$88,992,000 and imports \$105,575,000, giving an unfavorable balance of \$16,583,000, as compared with a favorable balance of \$9,373,000 for the same period of last year. The unfavorable balance was due to heavy imports of industrial and agricultural machinery throughout the quarter, a marked falling off of grain exports during December, and smaller seasonal decreases in the exports of timber, furs and oil products. The December trade turnover showed a decline of \$11,400,000, as compared with November, and of \$30,260,000 as compared with October, the high-record month for trade since the close of the war.

Output of Cement Industry in Soviet Russia in Current Year Planned to Equal that of 1913.

Plans for the cement industry of the Soviet Union for the current fiscal year ending Sept. 1 next call for a total output of nine million barrels, equal to the output of 1913, according to a report of the industry received by the Russian Information Bureau. Production rose from the low point of 534,000 barrels in the fiscal year 1921-22 to 3,960,000 barrels during 1924-25. Thirty-three factories are now working, as compared to fifty before the war. The present equipment is considered adequate to cover an increase in the annual

output to 13,000,000 barrels during the next few years. Demand is growing and the present price is 140% of the pre-war price. Exports of Soviet cement last year aggregated 30,078 metric tons, about five times the pre-war average. The export was almost wholly to the Near Eastern countries and Persia.

Increase in Output of Metal Industry of Soviet Russia.

The metal industry of the Soviet Union showed a substantial increase in output for the first quarter of the current Soviet fiscal year, Oct. 1 to Jan. 1, according to a bulletin received by the Russian Information Bureau. Iron and steel production advanced from 16 to 31% over the previous quarter, while copper smeltings showed no gain. The figures for the quarter, in metric tons, are as follows:

	Tons.	Per Cent Increase Over Previous Quarter.
Pig iron	479,396	16
Steel	649,731	24
Rolled iron	482,657	31
Copper	2,160	None

Offering of \$5,000,000 5% Bonds of Dallas Joint Stock Land Bank.

Lee, Higginson & Co. and the Illinois Merchants Trust Co. of Chicago offered on March 18 a new issue of \$5,000,000 5% Farm Loan bonds of the Dallas Joint Stock Land Bank of Dallas, Texas. The bonds were offered at 102½ and accrued interest, to yield about 4.68% to the optional date (1936) and 5% thereafter. The issue will be dated Jan. 1 1926 and will become due Jan. 1 1966. It will be redeemable at 100 and accrued interest on Jan. 1 1936 or any interest date thereafter. The bonds will be in coupon and fully registered form, interchangeable, in denominations of \$10,000, \$5,000 and \$1,000. Principal and semi-annual interest (Jan. 1 and July 1) will be payable at the bank of issue or coupons may be presented for payment at the offices of Lee, Higginson & Co., in Boston, New York or Chicago. As of March 10 1926, there were outstanding (including this issue) total bonds issued by the Dallas Joint Stock Land Bank to the amount of \$29,947,000. Security for these was approximately as follows:

First mortgages upon farms, \$29,997,000 deposited, secured by farms with appraised value of	\$77,900,000
Capital stock paid in (carrying double liability)	2,500,000
Surplus and reserve	625,811
	\$81,025,811

Average loans March 10 1926 represented 38.5% of the appraised value of the farms.

The loan statistics of the bank as of March 10 1926 are furnished as follows:

Total amount loans closed	\$32,622,116
Acreeage covered by loans	2,588,525
Appraised value of lands	\$75,965,378
Appraised value of improvements	8,684,175
Appraised value of land and improvements	84,649,553
Percentage of loans to appraised value of land & improvements	38.5%
Percentage of loans to appraised value of land only	42.9%

The Dallas Joint Stock Land Bank was organized on July 3 1919 under the provisions of the Federal Farm Loan Act. H. W. Ferguson is President.

Offering of \$2,500,000 Bonds of Denver Joint Stock Land Bank.

A new issue of \$2,500,000 tax exempt Denver Joint Stock Land Bank 5% Farm Loan bonds, dated March 1 1926, is being offered by C. F. Childs & Co. at 103½ and accrued interest, to yield 4.56% to the optional date and 5% thereafter. The bonds will become due March 1 1956, they will be redeemable at par and accrued interest on March 1 1936 or any interest date thereafter. They will be coupon bonds in denominations of \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000, fully registerable and interchangeable. Principal and interest (March 1 and Sept. 1), will be payable at the Chase National Bank, New York, or at the Denver Joint Stock Land Bank, Denver, Colo. The bank operates in the States of Colorado and Wyoming and is the only Joint Stock Land bank operating in those States. An analysis of the bank's loans as of Feb. 28 1926, follows:

Total loans—1,607	\$11,085,900 00
Appraised value of farms mortgaged	30,634,984 00
Average amount loaned per farm	6,898 50
Average number of acres per farm	853
Total acres mortgaged	1,371,395
Average appraised value per acre	22 34
Average amount loaned per acre	8 08
Ratio of total amount loaned to appraised value	36%
Real estate acquired by foreclosure	14,700 00

Its figures of capital, surplus and reserve are announced as follows:

Capital	\$1,000,000 00
Surplus and profits	153,901 39
Reserve (legal)	30,000 00

The Farm Loan bonds outstanding total \$10,381,000. C. L. Beatty is President and director of the bank.

Offering of Bonds of Ohio-Pennsylvania Joint Stock Land Bank.

The Union Trust Co. of Cleveland is head of a group, including R. V. Mitchell & Co., the Herrick Co., and Otis & Co., which is offering \$1,000,000 5% Farm Loan bonds of the Ohio-Pennsylvania Joint Stock Land Bank. The bonds are offered at 103 $\frac{3}{4}$ and accrued interest to yield approximately 4.53% to Feb. 1 1936 and 5% thereafter. They will be dated Feb. 1 1926, will mature Feb. 1 1956 and will not be redeemable before Feb. 1 1936.

Offering of Oregon-Washington Joint Stock Land Bank Bonds.

At 102 $\frac{1}{4}$ and interest to yield 4.71% to the optional date in 1936 and 5% thereafter, Brooke, Stokes & Co. of Philadelphia, Washington and Baltimore, are offering an issue of 5% farm loan bonds of the Oregon-Washington Joint Stock Land Bank of Portland, Ore. The bonds will be dated Jan. 1 1926, will become due Jan. 1 1956 and will not be callable before Jan. 1 1936. They will be coupon or fully registered bonds, interchangeable, in denomination of \$1,000. Coupons will be payable at the office of the bank, at Portland, or at Brooke, Stokes & Co., Philadelphia, on Jan. 1 and July 1. The bank reported \$3,011,000 farm loan bonds outstanding on Dec. 31 1925.

Formation of First Federal Foreign Investment Trust Regarded as Important Move to Guard American Investor.

The formation of the First Federal Foreign Investment Trust is an important effort on the part of the Government to safeguard the American investor in the purchase of foreign securities, according to a review published March 13 by Dominick & Dominick. The report says:

Americans invested over \$1,100,000,000 in foreign securities last year. 1926 will see another large sum added to this. As a rule, the investor has very little personal knowledge of the country in whose continued prosperity he is concerned. Now, financiers of wide experience, working under the conservative jurisdiction of the Federal Reserve Board, will offer the investor a chance to participate in the earnings, not of one sound foreign enterprise, but of many.

The trust (mention of which was made in these columns March 6, page 1240, and March 13, page 1394) was created under a provision of the Federal Reserve Act, and the officers and directors are for the most part bankers and economists of this city. The first issue of capital stock to the amount of 20,000 shares has already been offered to the public at \$110 per share.

Dominick & Dominick point out that the investment trust has been a successful and important factor in British financing for several years. There are now 200 companies in England with a total capital approaching \$1,500,000,000 invested mainly in securities from the United States and the countries of South America and Europe. The successful flotation of foreign loans through the British and Scottish investment trusts has stimulated British foreign trade. The report concludes:

The new Government organization will serve the investor by reducing to a minimum speculative elements in foreign financing. It will serve foreign industry by providing a new market for the securities of a large number of reliable municipalities, land banks, public utilities and industries not yet sufficiently prominent to attract participation separately.

Improvement in Business Conditions in Canada Reported by Canadian Bank of Commerce.

In its monthly "Commerce Letter," dated February, the Canadian Bank of Commerce has the following to say regarding business conditions:

That the improvement in business conditions is becoming more marked throughout the Dominion is evidenced by the reports received during the past month. Many of the industries have sufficient orders on hand to keep their plants operating at capacity for several months, and a number of them have been working on a daily schedule of 24 hours. Reports from wholesalers indicate that the volume and amount of orders received are in excess of the figures for the corresponding period of 1925, and that collections are much better than a year ago. Although the retail stores at a number of points are experiencing keen competition from mail order houses, generally increased retail sales are noted in all of the provinces and the outlook is regarded as decidedly brighter than for several years past. With a view to effecting appreciable savings through purchasing their goods as one unit, a federation comprising some thirty department stores in Ontario has been formed. It is estimated that the combined turnover of the firms in the group amounted last year to \$10,000,000, and the intention is to maintain purchasing offices in London, Paris and New York.

Illustrative of the real extent of the improvement in conditions in western Canada is the response to the overtures of a Winnipeg wholesale grocery firm which recently offered a larger line of credit to a number of its retail customers. Less than 50% of those written to availed themselves of the offer, the remainder stating that as payments from the farming community were much more satisfactory additional credit was not desired. A further indication is that good prices have been realized at farm auction sales. The demand for farm lands at improving prices continues and it is expected that the movement will assume considerable proportions in the spring.

A step of importance in the direction of economy for the Canadian National Railways and the Canadian Pacific Railway by the elimination of costly duplication of train service has been announced by the Minister of Railways. The outcome of the movement will be watched with considerable interest.

The sales of ordinary life insurance in Canada during the past year were greater than in any previous year. According to figures just published such sales amounted to \$424,872,000, an increase of \$33,709,000 over the 1924 figures. Practically every province shows a gain for the year, and gains in Newfoundland increased by 36%. In Ontario and Quebec, the two most important provinces, the gains were 10% and 8%, respectively.

J. R. Longmire, of Mississippi Valley Trust Co., on Protection Afforded Investors by Banks.

John R. Longmire, Vice-President and Bond Officer of the Mississippi Valley Trust Co. of St. Louis, in a recent address over the radio used as his subject "How Banks Help Protect Investors," as to which he said in part:

Sometimes I think the American people exercise less care in purchasing securities and making investments than in almost anything else they do.

When the average man plans to buy an automobile, he personally inspects several machines made by reputable manufacturers. He talks to his friends and possibly to a mechanic in an effort to learn the various points of construction, so he may get the best value for his money when he purchases. When he buys a radio set, he usually tries to learn as much as possible from radio users. Even when he purchases a suit of clothes, he tries to get the most for his dollars.

Yet the same man often invests his money with very little personal investigation and, indeed, sometimes with very little consideration. Sometimes he accepts the mere statements of an enthusiastic stock salesman; sometimes it is the tip of an acquaintance that such and such a security is a good buy. Then he rushes off and places his money without having any actual facts concerning the investment he purchases.

Perhaps this is because it is so difficult to make a personal investigation of bonds and stocks. To be sure, it is practically impossible for the small investor to check up financial statements and all of the other elements that enter into the safety of investments. But, on the other hand, it is equally impossible for the average man to verify all of the claims made concerning an automobile—he must take the word of a reputable manufacturer and the opinion of others qualified by training and experience in the automobile business.

Why shouldn't the prospective investor take the same care? Why should he buy an unknown security from a practically unknown person, when he would not buy an unknown make of car? Why shouldn't he deal exclusively with investment houses he knows to be reliable, or at least ask the advice of those who make a life work of banking and finance?

Millions of dollars are lost annually by the American people because they listen to fraudulent security salesmen and hand over their money without making any effort to get the real facts. Perhaps they are so overawed by the promise of great riches that they are afraid to go to a conservative banker for fear he might shatter the dream. But the dream is often shattered—after it is too late. My friends, the investment business is one of the most necessary and most honorable pursuits in our civilization, but it is to be regretted that there are many unscrupulous men in our country who make their living by preying upon uninformed people and selling them highly speculative and often worthless stocks and bonds.

The banks and reputable investment houses throughout the United States, acting individually and through associations, are attempting to reduce the annual loss by the American people through these unwise investments. The problem is almost entirely one of education. When you have a little money to invest, be fair to yourself. Don't be carried away by glowing promises of big returns. When a proposition offers really big prospects, it is not necessary for the promoters to send salesmen out to canvass small investors to spread the golden harvest.

Within the reach of my voice are residents of many different cities and towns. Within a short distance of every one of you is a good bank. Go to your banker with your investment problems. When a proposition is offered you, consult your banker before you put your money in it. He is your friend; he won't try to sell you something else or try to keep you from withdrawing your money just for his own benefit. He is in business to stay, and his success depends upon constant fair dealing with all of the people. He has a specialized knowledge of investments and finance. If he has not all the information regarding a security at his finger tips, he has the facilities for obtaining it readily.

Report on Government Cotton Crop Forecasts by Committee of United States Chamber of Commerce—Opposed to Two Forecasts a Month.

A report by the Agricultural Service of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States on Government methods of cotton crop forecasting was made public on March 13. The report, which surveys the forecasts for the past ten years, says that "under present conditions the system employed by the Crop Reporting Board in forecasting cotton production appears to be the only feasible system for arriving at an intelligent conception of the probable size of the cotton crop." The report adds:

The Government forecasts give valuable information to the cotton trade. In most instances they probably form a basis for trading that more nearly reflects current conditions than would be possible without them. But at the same time they do disturb the market, and there should be enough time between forecasts to allow the market to recover. Evidently this is not possible with two forecasts a month.

All that these forecasts attempt to do is to measure the cotton acreage and its condition of growth as of a certain date, and to calculate a figure for the prospective crop on the basis of the average size of the crop which similar conditions have produced over a series of years.

The accuracy of the Government's method is demonstrated by the fact that the average of its forecasts for a number of years approximates closely the average of the ginning returns.

The Department of Agriculture has the largest statistical organization of any of the agencies forecasting the cotton crop. Its forecasts, on the average, have been nearer to actual ginning returns than the figure commonly called "the average of the private forecasts." They have also been less variable from one time to the next. All of the forecasts are subject to about the same limitations.

The official character of the Government forecasts renders them much more authoritative than any of the private forecasts. Fear of fluctuations slows up the whole cotton trade for several days preceding the date of publication of the forecasts. On account of possible price declines or of falling off in the demand for cotton following the release of the Government reports, many are afraid to buy.

The disturbed condition of the trade has become greatly aggravated since the institution of the semi-monthly forecasts, and criticism of the forecasts has been correspondingly severe. As a result, a number of bills have been introduced in the present session of Congress providing for a reduction in the number of reports and for the elimination of the early season bale forecasts.

Cotton acreage estimates of the Department of Agriculture are criticized at times, but for the most part the trade accepts them. Very seldom are the preliminary estimates more than 5% off from the final revision.

Provision for Perpetual Charters for Federal Reserve Banks Incorporated in McFadden Banking Bill by Senate Committee.

Provision for making perpetual the charters of the Federal Reserve Banks is carried in the McFadden Banking bill, as reported to the Senate on Mar. 12 the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency having inserted the provision as a rider to the bill. The newly added section to the bill reads as follows:

Sec. 20. That the second subdivision of the fourth paragraph of Section 4 of the Federal Reserve Act be amended to read as follows:

"Second. To have succession after the approval of this Act until dissolved by Act of Congress or until forfeiture of franchise for violation of law."

The bill as it was passed by the House on Feb. 4 (the text of which was given in these columns Mar. 6, page 1245) was devoid of any legislation respecting the Reserve Bank charters and the action of the Senate Committee in attaching the provision to the bill may, it is feared, have the effect of killing the bill. The Washington accounts to the New York "Journal of Commerce" on Mar. 17, in indicating the possible defeat of the measure as a result of the amendment, said:

There is looming up a fight in House and Senate, not so much against the proposal itself, but against its inclusion in an omnibus measure.

Dilatory Tactics Possible.

The legislative situation in the House is such that should the Senate persist in retaining the provision in question its opponents may proceed to use tactics that will keep the matter open beyond the conclusion of the present session of Congress. The demand is for an opportunity to consider the proposal as an independent proposition.

Members of the House counted upon to attack the provision in question want an opportunity to express their views and to place before Congress information which they say has been furnished by their constituents, the consideration of all of which, they feel, may have the effect of righting some of the matters of which they complain, even beyond the improvements contemplated generally in the McFadden bill.

According to the same paper the amendment is understood to have been drafted by a sub-committee composed of Senators Pepper, Edge and Glass and approved by the full Finance Committee. The New York "Times" in Washington advices, Mar. 17, stated that the perpetuation of the Federal Reserve system by granting indeterminate charters to Federal Reserve banks is the aim of a movement started by Secretary Mellon and Senator Glass. That account in which was set out the attitude of Representative McFadden toward the provision, also said in part:

The argument is made by Secretary Mellon that the banking and business interests of the country have a right to assurance by Congress that the Federal Reserve system is to be continued in its present form, if that is its intent, and that inasmuch as present Federal Reserve bank charters expire by limitation in 1932 it would be well for Congress to act without delay.

If the Senate approves the charter amendment recommended by its committee the matter will at once become a controverted issue between House and Senate, according to Representative McFadden, Chairman of the House Banking and Currency Committee.

McFadden Favors Special Inquiry.

Mr. McFadden takes the position that extension of Reserve Bank charters as proposed is a matter of such transcendent importance to the business of the country that it should be considered as an independent proposition and not as a "rider" of his bill, which deals primarily with branch banking by national banks and co-related questions bearing on the activities of national banks.

Mr. McFadden said to-day that he regarded the question of extension of Reserve bank charters as of such importance that he would advocate investigation of its by a special committee, with instruction to report at the December session.

The second subdivision of the Fourth paragraph of Section 4 of the Federal Reserve Act provides that each Reserve bank charter shall "have succession for a period of twenty years from its organization unless it is sooner dissolved by Act of Congress, or unless its franchise becomes forfeited by some violation of law." The Senate amendment proposes that such charters shall be granted practically in perpetuity.

Chairman McFadden expressed the opinion that the proposed change in law might lead to general discussion of the Federal Reserve system and endanger his bill, which, he insisted, is urgently needed by national banks as a means for strengthening them in competition for business with State banks and trust companies.

When the House comes to deal with the matter of extending Reserve bank charters, he said, other changes in the law would necessarily have consideration. For example, he pointed out that criticisms had been made that Federal Reserve banks to some extent had encroached upon the banking territory of member banks, and that in the opinion of some opponents of the system the Federal Reserve banks had gone "far afield" from the functions supposed to have been marked out for them in the Act approved by President Wilson in 1913.

It is suggested that when the law is amended a provision may be enacted barring Reserve banks from any business of an international character.

New York Bank Criticized.

In this connection it was pointed out that there had been criticism of the action of the New York Federal Reserve Bank in guaranteeing the British credit of \$200,000,000. The principal duty of the Reserve banks, as contemplated by Congress, it was suggested here to-day, is to mobilize credits for use in emergencies. That Reserve banks had embarked on more extensive activities was the substance of a statement made to-day by a House leader.

The amendment to grant indeterminate charters to Reserve banks was adopted by the Senate committee on motion of Senator Glass, who to-day said this change in law was endorsed by Secretary Mellon.

"Its purpose is plain on its face," said Mr. Glass. "It provides that Reserve banks shall have indeterminate charters instead of being limited to a definite number of years. We want to perpetuate the Federal Reserve system. Existing Federal Reserve charters expire in six years, and, as we are legislating generally on banking questions we decided to adopt this amendment. That's all there is to it."

There is another Senate amendment to the McFadden bill to which exception is taken by Mr. McFadden and other members of the House Banking and Currency Committee. It vests the Comptroller of the Currency with discretionary power in authorizing establishment of national bank branches. As passed by the House the bill provided that branches should be authorized where the law was complied with, no discretion being lodged with the Comptroller. The House will insist upon the language of its bill on this particular subject.

Wants All Sides Discussed.

"There is no objection to the charter extension provided by the Glass amendment, but it should have most careful consideration before approved by Congress," said Chairman McFadden. "This question should not be injected into a bill such as that bearing my name. If the Senate amendment is adopted, no opportunity would be given the House to give it the discussion its importance demands. It would have to be considered as part of a conference report. It should have separate consideration, and for that reason I will oppose its incorporation in the bill."

"I believe it much better to deal with charter extension through a special committee directed to make an inquiry, hear all parties having interest and report its conclusion to the House. Full opportunity would thus be given the House to determine whether it desired to continue the limitation on Reserve Bank charters stipulated in the organic act."

Regarding other amendments to the bill made by the Senate Committee, we quote the following, appearing in the New York "Commercial" of Mar. 13:

The Senate committee also added as an amendment a provision sponsored by the Federal Reserve Board amending the interlocking directorate sections of the Clayton Anti-Trust Act by authorizing the Board to permit a banker to serve as officer or director of more than two banks if not incompatible with the public interest.

The modifications in branch banking provisions of the principal McFadden-Pepper bill as approved by the committee include the elimination of the so-called Hull amendments of the House bill, the extension of the branch banking privilege to contiguous territory in the discretion of the Comptroller of the Currency or Federal Reserve Board and a change in the restrictions applying to banks with branches coming into the national bank or Federal Reserve systems hereafter.

The original bill prohibits banks from bringing into the national banking system or the Federal Reserve system any branches outside city limits if they joined either system after the passage of the Act. This has been amended in the Senate committee bill so that banks may consolidate and join either system after the passage of the Act.

The "Wall Street Journal" notes:

Other sections of revised statutes are amended so as to provide that the capital stock of national associations shall be divided into shares of \$100 each. Every director must own at least \$1,000 of the capital stock, or if the capital of the bank is not more than \$25,000, at least \$500. Every director must be a citizen of the United States and at least three-quarters of them must have resided in the State, territory or district in which the Association is located, or within fifty miles of its office for one year.

An item regarding the report on the bill by the Senate Committee appeared in our issue of last Saturday, page 1397.

St. Paul Bankers Purport to Find a "Joker" in Senate Amendment to McFadden Measure—Bill Would Legalize Branch Banking in Minnesota, Despite State Law.

According to the New York "Journal of Commerce" a joker in the McFadden National Bank Bill as amended by the Senate Finance Committee was developed on March 18, when protests from St. Paul, Minn., bankers indicated the possibility that certain branches, additional offices and teller windows of Minneapolis banks would be legalized, when laws of the State are opposed to branch banking.

The account goes on to say:

The discovery by the St. Paul bankers of this feature of the bill, it is pointed out in Congressional circles, raises a very interesting question. The peculiar wording of Senate amendments further amending Section 5,155 of the revised statutes is responsible.

Mr. McFadden Explains.

"Paragraph (a) of this section as proposed by the Senate Banking and Currency Committee if not modified would confirm and permit to continue in operation the teller windows, additional offices or branch banks which are in operation in Minneapolis," explained Chairman McFadden of the House Banking and Currency Committee, author of the bill.

"My opinion is that these were created without the authority of the Comptroller of the Currency and in contravention of the law of the State of Minnesota and are now being operated without the approval or consent of the Comptroller, I think that Paragraph (a) should be amended, if retained, for the reason that the laws of Minnesota do not permit State banks to have branches of any kind whatsoever and, therefore, no national bank should have the right to establish any branches either inside or outside the city limits."

"While maintaining this view of the situation, I cannot see how any bank, either State or national, located in the City of Minneapolis could have branches or additional offices in the City of St. Paul or in any other city within the State as long as State laws prohibit branch banking."

"I appreciate the fact that the branches, additional offices or teller windows in Minneapolis were established at a time when the State law was

silent on the question of branch banking, and that the law prohibiting branch banking in any form was passed by the State Legislature immediately after the establishment of these forms of banks. However, Paragraph (d), as provided by the Senate committee, would legalize them.

"Another difficulty is with respect to Paragraph (f) which would permit, with approval of the Comptroller of the Currency, the establishment and operation of one or more branches beyond the boundaries of the city, town or village as now strictly defined by law as being in the same metropolitan area as that in which the parent bank is situated.

Public Interest Proviso.

"This paragraph also would confirm the establishment of these additional banking facilities if they are located within the metropolitan area of Minneapolis, but outside of the distinctive city limits. There is an added proviso to the effect that a public interest must be shown as developed at a public hearing.

"I consider all of this objectionable as it only serves to continue the present controversy in regard to the establishment of branches beyond the scope provided in the bill as passed by the House. 'Contiguous' territory would be a continuing basis of controversy.

"I do not believe we can afford to leave the matter so wide open as to permit the construction of 'contiguous' territory as contemplated by the Senate draft of the bill, as it might lead to State-wide branch banking.

"I hope that, although this bill was reported unanimously by the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, some of these provisions will be so modified on the floor of the Senate as not to throw these objectionable features into conference."

It was later learned that a move already is under way to formulate an amendment to the Senate committee's amendments that will remove the features referred to by the St. Paul bankers.

Representative McFadden's Bill for Enlarging Scope of Depository System of Government—Secretary Mellon's Views.

A bill introduced by Representative McFadden has for its purpose the designation of State banks and trust companies, members of the Federal Reserve System, as depositaries of public moneys. Secretary of the Treasury Mellon, in a letter to the author of the bill, giving his views thereon, says that "the necessity for strict economy in deposits of Government funds has dictated the present policy of the Treasury in limiting such deposits with national bank depositaries to the minimum amounts required for the transaction of some essential Government business, and no such deposits are maintained at points where Federal Reserve banks or branches are located. Consequently, the Treasury feels that authority to designate State banks as depositaries of public moneys for general purposes, in addition to the present authority of designating national banks as such depositaries, is not necessary at this time." The letter of Secretary Mellon, dated March 10, follows:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Office of the Secretary.

Washington, March 10 1926.

My dear Congressman:

I have your letter of Feb. 9 1926 enclosing a copy of H. R. 7760, a bill to amend Section 9 of the Federal Reserve Act, and requesting an expression of my views of this pending legislation. My reply to your letter has been withheld pending a complete review of the depository situation.

The Treasury, on several previous occasions has expressed its opposition to any legislation which would result in broadening the scope of the depository system of the Government. As contemplated by the Federal Reserve Act, the Federal Reserve banks and their branches have gradually become the principal depositaries of the Government for the transaction of the regular depository business, and, as a result, the necessity for the designation of banks other than Federal Reserve banks and branches is diminishing rather than increasing. The necessity for strict economy in deposits of Government funds has dictated the present policy of the Treasury in limiting such deposits with national bank depositaries to the minimum amount required for the transaction of some essential Government business, and no such deposits are maintained at points where Federal Reserve banks or branches are located. Consequently, the Treasury feels that authority to designate State banks as depositaries of public moneys for general purposes, in addition to the present authority of designating National banks as such depositaries, is not necessary at this time. Furthermore, State banks are now authorized to participate in the greater part of all Government deposits carried with banks by the Treasury, inasmuch as such banks are eligible for designation as special depositaries of public moneys under the Act approved Sept. 24 1917, as amended and supplemented. Under this designation banks are permitted to participate in deposits of public moneys arising from such sales of bonds, notes or Treasury certificates of indebtedness of the United States offered from time to time, as, under the terms of the official offerings, may be paid for by credit. The amount of such special deposits is largely determined by the bank's own subscription to current offerings of Government securities for which payment may be made by credit. At the present time there are 7,533 special depositaries of public moneys, of which 3,709 are State banks and trust companies. The total deposits carried with such depositaries, according to the latest available figures, is \$257,532,000, of which \$105,000,000 is held by State banks and trust companies. Upon the same date the total Government deposits carried with general national bank depositaries by the Treasury, for the purpose of transacting the essential business of the Government, was \$7,002,848 66 deposited with some 300 national banks.

In view of the fact that State banks and trust companies are now upon substantially an equal basis with national banks in the matter of Government deposits, it appears that there is no necessity, from the standpoint of the Government, for enlarging the scope of the present depository system.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) A. W. MELLON, Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. Louis T. McFadden, Chairman Committee on Banking and Currency, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

The following is the text of the bill:

H. R. 7760.

In the House of Representatives—Jan. 15 1926.

A BILL

To amend Section 9 of the Federal Reserve Act.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled, That Section 9 of the Federal Reserve Act be amended by adding thereto a new paragraph as follows:

"All banks or trust companies incorporated by special law or organized under the general laws of any State, which are members of the Federal Reserve System, when designated for that purpose by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall be depositaries of public money, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary; and they may also be employed as financial agents of the Government; and they shall perform all such reasonable duties, as depositaries of public money and financial agents of the Government, as may be required of them. The Secretary of the Treasury shall require of the banks and trust companies thus designated satisfactory security, by the deposit of United States bonds or otherwise, for the safe keeping and prompt payment of the public money deposited with them and for the faithful performance of their duties as financial agents of the Government."

Senate Passes McFadden-Pepper Bill Changing Method of Taxing Shares of National Banks.

The U. S. Senate on Mar. 18 passed the McFadden-Pepper bill designed to change the method of taxing national bank shares. On the same day the House Committee on Rules reported a special rule making immediate consideration of the bill an order in the House following the adoption of the rule. Under the rule four-hour debate is provided, preliminary to the reading of the bill for amendment, and final action by the House. We have already indicated the provisions of the bill in these columns—Mar. 6, page 1244, and Mar. 13, page 1397. The New York "Journal of Commerce," in referring to the Senate consideration of the bill on Mar. 17, said:

Chairman McLean, of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, brought the measure to the attention of the Senate to-day, but its passage was blocked because of the belief of some of the Senators that it would bring about large refunds of taxes heretofore paid by national banks. Senator Glass of Virginia pointed out that a similar bill was before the Senate a few years ago, having been sponsored by the present Secretary of State Kellogg. The measure proposed, Senator Glass explained, involved quite a considerable refund of taxes which had been collected from certain banking institutions.

On the 18th inst. the New York "Commercial" reported the following advices from Washington:

Senator McLean of Connecticut, Chairman of the Banking and Currency Committee, gave assurance that the question of refunds of taxes to national banks does not enter into the matter as feared by some Senators when the bill was called up yesterday.

Senator McLean explained that the purpose is to permit States which adopt income tax laws to tax shares and income from national banks on the same basis as State banks are taxed. The bill provides one more alternative method of taxation to those already specified by law. He said that it applies especially to the situation in New York and Massachusetts and that there is a desire that action be taken by Congress before the New York Legislature adjourns.

The Future of the Bond Market.

"With relatively little new domestic financing in immediate prospect, and a sustained demand, which will, no doubt, be somewhat augmented by the disappointed recruits from the stock market, now rendered more cautious by their recent experience with speculative securities, the outlook remains reassuring for the bond buyer." In brief, such is the opinion of Halsey, Stuart & Co. as to the outlook for the bond market as expressed in their quarterly review just issued. Commenting on the general business situation, the review says:

Despite some ripples on the surface of things, the underlying situation in business and industry is one justifying confidence in their future. The speculative trend, until recently apparent in some other fields, has been noticeably absent in the conduct of business generally; supply, for the most part, has been gauged to demand; inventories have been kept low, and efficiency in operation, including a satisfactory labor situation, has generally prevailed.

While the stocks of some companies have tumbled from the unwarranted heights to which they were carried by the over-optimism of the stock market, this can hardly be interpreted as a reflection of conditions in the business and industrial situation which gives promise of continuing sound and active.

Discussing the situation with regard to the various classes of bonds, the review says:

The strength and activity that have characterized the bond market over a considerable period continued unabated into the new year, carrying the price level during the latter part of February to the highest point since 1917. Despite some liquidation attending the long-expected break in the speculative market, the undertone in bonds remains distinctly strong.

With careful discrimination, some of the best bargains of to-day are to be found among the foreign bonds. New offerings of such securities, especially corporate issues, have continued in large volume since the first of the year, and for the most part have been well received. Considering the educational process that attends the distribution of successive issues of foreign bonds, the large amount of capital available for investment, and the uncertain supply of new domestic issues, there is good reason to believe that the present wide disparity in yield between foreign and domestic issues will narrow.

But in view of the fact that American investors are still relatively inexperienced in the foreign field and often lack complete information regarding foreign corporations—and even Governments and municipalities, more than ordinary care should be used in selecting such issues.

While new offerings of public utility bonds have continued in large volume since the first of the year, some recession in the output seems not improbable, considering the present well-financed condition of the in-

dustry. With supply therefore somewhat uncertain and demand steadily expanding—much of it coming from institutions which previously have accorded first choice to high grade rails—it seems probable that the price level of utilities will be well maintained.

The quick absorption by investors of the \$15,000,000 Commonwealth Edison Co. 4½% bonds, recently offered, is a striking indication of the high favor in which first-class utilities are held. This is the first 4½% coupon bond issued by a public utility since the war.

Fairly consistent activity has characterized the market for tax-exempt bonds during the opening months of 1926, and the demand for the obligations of the States and larger cities, has, in general, tended to exceed the supply of new offerings.

The reduction in Federal income tax rates was apparently discounted by investors well in advance of the adoption of the new Revenue Act. The new rates, being gauged more closely to minimum Governmental requirements, promise a greater degree of permanency than the high rates previously prevailing, and therefore constitute a sounder basis upon which to capitalize the value of tax exemption in a long-term investment.

Indications, therefore, are that current price levels will be well sustained. Bonds of many smaller political subdivisions, and of various joint stock land banks, are still priced at relatively attractive figures.

Dr. Anderson, of Chase National Bank, on Credit Situation—Says Federal Reserve Banks Have Pursued Cheap Money Policy.

Benjamin M. Anderson Jr., Ph.D., Economist of the Chase National Bank of New York, in discussing before the Bankers' Club of Chicago, on Feb. 25, "The Credit Situation," while referring to the commercial credit situation as sound, declared that the Federal Reserve banks have been pursuing a "cheap money" policy, which has led to a great surplus of funds. The following is an abstract of his remarks, to which we referred editorially in our issue of March 6, page 1212:

The commercial credit situation, by and large, is very sound. Banks and business men have been prudent. The volume of "commercial loans" of the "reporting member banks" of the Federal Reserve System increased only \$85,000,000 (about 1%) from Jan. 7 1925 to Jan. 6 1926.

But the commercial banks and business men have not had full control of the matter. The Federal Reserve banks have been pursuing a "cheap money" policy which has led to a great surplus of loan funds. They have kept their rediscount rates systematically below the market rates. When, despite low rediscount rates, the banks have been reluctant to borrow unnecessary funds, the Federal Reserve banks have gone into the open market and bought Government securities and acceptances on a vast scale. This was particularly true in 1924, when hundreds of millions of unneeded reserve funds were forced on a reluctant money market.

Commerce would not use the funds thus artificially created. But the securities markets absorbed them cheerfully. From Jan. 7 1925 to Jan. 6 1926 the stock and bond collateral loans of these same reporting banks increased approximately one billion dollars, or over 20%. How great the increase in this twelve-month period for all the banks of the country is, it is not easy to say, but the reporting banks have only about 46% of the total bank resources of the country. This excess of money has also worked over into the real estate market and the mortgage market. It has facilitated the rapid growth of installment buying.

The present volume of bank credit afloat in the United States stands about 12% above the peak of the post-war boom period, although commodity prices are far lower and although commercial loans stand well below the figures of 1920. I do not believe that these tendencies should be regarded with indifference.

From a dispatch to the New York "Times" from Chicago, Feb. 25, giving an account of what Dr. Anderson had to say, we take the following:

Early in 1924 the Federal Reserve banks glutted the market with money by buying Government securities. They did this to employ funds which were not needed in commerce. Ever since then the banks have forced money into the market which had no real need for it. They have kept their rediscount rates artificially low and so tempted the member banks to borrow and relend profitably.

This practice has marked an undesirable change in the conduct of the Reserve System. It has generated a prolonged stock market boom and brought about a situation that is not conducive to safety.

The mission of the Reserve banks is to avert crises, if possible, and to assist in times of crises by extending credit. But it is not their mission to finance stock market booms and they have done this by keeping their rediscount rates below the open money market rates.

The same paper contained the following in its Feb. 27 issue relative to the views expressed by Dr. Anderson:

Bankers in close touch with Federal Reserve policies took exception yesterday to remarks made in a Chicago address Thursday night by Dr. Benjamin M. Anderson Jr., Economist of the Chase National Bank, who said that the Reserve banks had fostered the prolonged stock market boom and had thus gone beyond their rightful function. Dr. Anderson asserted that the banks glutted the market with money and tempted borrowing by keeping the rediscount rates artificially low. He further declared that member banks in the year ended Jan. 6 1926 increased commercial loans by only \$85,000,000, whereas their stock and bond collateral loans increased about \$1,000,000,000.

"The figures bearing on the situation speak for themselves, and so does the economic position of the country," said an authority on Federal Reserve operations. "In 1921 the total of Federal Reserve credit was about \$3,000,000,000. Early in 1922, with the bulk of the war-time financial left-overs cleaned up, the total declined to about \$1,250,000,000. Since then the amount has remained almost stationary. At the end of 1925 and the start of 1926 it rose rather sharply, but it has since receded and now stands at about \$1,200,000,000, virtually the same level as four years ago.

Sees No Inflation.

"If the rediscount rate had been kept artificially low, the assumption would be that it was for the purpose of inducing the member banks to increase their borrowings from the Reserve banks. Such an increase has not taken place. The borrowings have been on about the same level for several years. Dr. Anderson contends that the Reserve System's policy has tended to engender inflation. The inflation question is settled best by a study of prices. Indexes show that wholesale prices have been almost stationary for four years.

"As a matter of fact this country has had fine business, level prices and no undue expansions of credit. As for the high prices of stocks, the Reserve banks cannot be blamed for that. Stock prices always are moving in one direction or another due to causes outside of banking policies.

"The increase in stock and bond loans is due to a change that has taken place in the method of financing industry in this country. For the last few years it has been relatively easy for businesses to obtain new financing and the sales of new securities have been unusually large. Where in former years business men obtained their needed funds through commercial banking channels, they have recently been attending to this through the sale of new securities. This has transferred the borrowing to the other end of the credit line—the buyer of the securities. Bank loans obtained by the purchasers of the securities account for the increase in the volume of collateral loans."

Speech Caused Much Talk.

Dr. Anderson's address caused considerable discussion in Wall Street, as the rediscount rate and the question of credit expansion have been in the public eye since the decision early this year of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the New York Stock Exchange to publish the amount of brokers' loans. For the most part bankers said that the totals did not seem large in view of the increase in the nation's business and the volume of new financing that it entailed.

At the Chase National Bank, officials made it clear that Dr. Anderson spoke only for himself and did not present the official views of the bank in his Chicago address.

"We realize that the Reserve System is doing invaluable work and that we could not get along without it," an officer of the bank said. "The bank, of course, would not dream of engaging in a controversy over Reserve policies. At the same time we all have the greatest respect for Dr. Anderson as an economist, and a difference of opinion is as wholesome in the financial world as anywhere else."

Walter Lichtenstein, of First National Bank of Chicago, Undertakes to Answer Dr. Anderson's Criticisms of Federal Reserve System.

Walter Lichtenstein, Executive Secretary of the First National Bank of Chicago, on March 11 undertook to reply to criticism of the Federal Reserve System's policy of buying and selling Government securities or acceptances in the open market, voiced recently by Dr. Benjamin M. Anderson Jr. of New York. Referring to what Mr. Lichtenstein had to say, the Chicago "Journal of Commerce" of March 13 stated:

Mr. Lichtenstein's defense of the System was contained in an address before a meeting of the Purchasing Agents Association of Chicago at the Auditorium Hotel.

Admitting that there is much to be said for Dr. Anderson's theory that the Reserve System's activities in the securities markets were largely responsible for the boom market of 1925, Mr. Lichtenstein took the New York economist to task for not giving publicity to both sides of the situation.

Calls Criticism Most Unfair.

"It seems to me," he said, "that Dr. Anderson was most unfair in not giving the other side of the story. Dr. Anderson, himself, stated that part of our prosperity has been due to the restoration of the gold standard in many countries, and the successful operation of the Dawes plan. It is questionable whether either of these events, so necessary not merely for the prosperity of 1925, but for the even development of business in the future, would have been possible had it not been for the Federal Reserve banks keeping money easy in this country, thus enabling foreign credits to be floated readily, and at the same time making it possible for the Bank of England to keep its discount rates above ours, and attracting from this country funds to Great Britain, without at the same time having so high a discount rate that it would hamper her own business.

"I maintain that this was not an altruistic act for the benefit of foreign countries, but primarily benefited us by restoring the financial standing of our customers, thus making it possible for them to take our products off of our hands and give our factories and our firms adequate employment with adequate prices.

Cotton Exports Cited.

"This is well shown by the export statistics of one of our most important crops. In the five years ending with 1925, the annual average export of cotton was about 6,000,000 bales, but in 1925 exports rose to 8,000,000 bales.

"I have no desire to enter here upon a tariff argument. I am merely pointing out certain possibilities which may in the near future check, or at least temporarily embarrass, our industries. Naturally, the need for this sort of stimulus has gradually passed, and we find that whereas on Dec. 23 of last year the earning assets of the Federal Reserve banks amounted to \$1,505,000,000 by March 3 of this year, they had decreased to \$1,207,000,000.

"Normally, it is not desirable to have the Federal Reserve banks increase their earnings to such an extent that stock market speculation is artificially stimulated. Naturally, in times of prosperity people have more money and there will always be more or less speculation. This is exactly what we have had occur this last year, and prices, especially of speculative stocks, reached unwarranted heights. That is true, because human nature is as it is. Sooner or later, the weak point in the chain gives, and you have a collapse such as we had last week.

Big Aid to Europe.

"When conditions are normal and the policies of the Federal Reserve banks are not dictated by considerations such as have had to prevail in recent times, they can do much to prevent these speculative tendencies from going as far as they did in recent times.

"Under the circumstances as they existed, the Federal Reserve System had to weigh in the balance the desire to check speculation in this country and the desire to aid Europe in getting back on her feet. In my opinion, the System decided widely in permitting the speculation to go on, and throw what weight it could into the scale, to enable Europe to become sound financially once more.

"At the present moment money is still very easy, perhaps too easy, and it is a fair question whether the time has not come for the Federal Reserve banks to sell some of their holdings and thus help in tightening the money, and prevent another flare-up in the stock market, followed, presumably, by a reaction similar to the one which we have just experienced."

Subscriptions and Allotments in \$500,000,000 United States Treasury Bond Offering.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon announced on March 15 that subscriptions amounting to \$647,243,900 were received to last week's offering of 3 3/4% long term Treasury bonds. As indicated in our item of a week ago (page 1401) bonds to the amount of \$500,000,000, or thereabouts, were offered at 100 1/2. The amount of bonds allotted was \$494,898,100. In a statement on March 12 announcing that subscriptions in amounts not exceeding \$50,000 were allotted in full, while allotments above that amount were scaled, Secretary Mellon said:

Reports received from the twelve Federal Reserve banks show that for the offering, which was for \$500,000,000 or thereabouts, total subscriptions aggregate some \$647,000,000.

Allotments on subscriptions were made as follows: Subscriptions in amounts not exceeding \$50,000 but not exceeding \$100,000 were allotted 80%, but not less than \$50,000 on any one subscription; subscriptions in amounts over \$100,000 but not exceeding \$500,000 were allotted 60%, but not less than \$80,000 on any one subscription, and subscriptions in amounts over \$500,000 were allotted 50%, but not less than \$300,000 on any one

The Secretary's further announcement on March 15 making known the subscriptions and allotments stated:

As previously announced, all subscriptions in amounts not exceeding \$50,000 were allotted in full, while allotments on subscriptions in amounts over \$50,000 were made on a graduated scale.

The subscriptions and allotments were divided among the several Federal Reserve districts as follows:

Federal Reserve District—	Total Subscriptions Received.	Total Subscriptions Allotted.
Boston.....	\$80,855,700	\$69,110,700
New York.....	171,108,600	98,601,600
Philadelphia.....	77,456,300	67,061,300
Cleveland.....	67,819,800	51,090,000
Richmond.....	28,303,200	20,740,400
Atlanta.....	28,835,100	26,945,100
Chicago.....	54,373,200	48,655,200
St. Louis.....	22,017,100	19,348,100
Minneapolis.....	16,438,900	13,894,700
Kansas City.....	22,402,100	18,087,100
Dallas.....	17,620,400	12,920,400
San Francisco.....	60,013,500	48,443,500
Total.....	\$647,243,900	\$494,898,100

Results of United States Treasury's Offering to Purchase Third Liberty Loan Bonds for Sinking Fund.

In announcing on March 12 that the privilege of tendering Third Liberty Loan 4 1/4% bonds for sale to the United States, through the Cumulative Sinking Fund, expired at the close of business on March 10, and that no further proposals would be received, Secretary of the Treasury Mellon stated that all proposals for sale at prices not exceeding 101 10-32 had been accepted, and that such proposals aggregated about \$121,750,000 face amount. The Treasury Department's proposal to purchase \$100,000,000 or thereabouts of the issue at the lowest prices offered was referred to in these columns March 6, page 1244. In his announcement of March 12 Secretary Mellon stated:

Under the terms of the Secretary's earlier announcement, purchases were to be made at the lowest prices offered plus accrued interest.

According to reports received from the Federal Reserve banks, over \$148,000,000 face amount of bonds were tendered for sale.

The Treasury has accepted all proposals for sale at prices not exceeding 101 10-32. Such proposals aggregate about \$121,750,000 face amount, and the average cost of these bonds to the Government (exclusive of accrued interest) will be slightly under 101 8-32. On all offers which have been accepted the bonds should be in the hands of the Federal Reserve banks by March 23 1926, payment therefor to be made on that date or, in the case of registered bonds, as soon thereafter as the registration may be discharged on the books of the Treasury.

All tenders for sale at prices exceeding 101 10-32 have been rejected.

Federal Inheritance Tax—Recommendations to State Legislatures.

The "report and recommendations on Federal Inheritance Tax Measure" which was presented at a meeting in Washington on March 6 of a committee of speakers of State Legislatures have been made available by Senator Fletcher, at whose instance the matter has been inserted in the *Congressional Record*. While reference to the recommendations appeared in our issue of a week ago (page 1402) we take occasion to give herewith the complete report and recommendations.

To the legislatures of all States in the Union and the people thereof:

We, your committee, appointed to safeguard the interests of the States in joint-tax levies and appropriations made by Congress, beg leave to report on inheritance-tax legislation and to make recommendations to State legislatures as follows:

Recommendations.

1. That State legislatures take no action that permanently commits them to the joint inheritance-tax levy plan enacted by Congress.
2. That Congress repeal that portion of the Federal inheritance-tax provision relating to State levies and reduce the Federal levy accordingly.
3. That State legislatures demand recognition by Congress in all joint levies, appropriations, and interlocking policies of Government before Congress legislates upon such matters.

4. That an estate tax is a property tax and is a source of revenue belonging to the State and should be abandoned by Congress and every legitimate effort should be made to accomplish that result.

The House measure carried a graduated inheritance-tax levy at a minimum rate of 1% and a maximum rate of 20%, but provided that death taxes of any form which had been levied by and paid to States might be deducted from the Federal levy up to 80% of that levy. An exemption of \$50,000 was given to each State.

The Senate bill repealed the Federal inheritance tax. A compromise was effected in conference raising the exemptions from \$50,000 to \$100,000 for each estate and accepting the House bill as so amended. This compromise, in our opinion very greatly destroyed the practical effect of the measure in so far as it applies to those States now levying an inheritance tax, except a very few States where large units of wealth are concentrated, among them New York, Massachusetts, Illinois, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. In these States the legislatures will have to raise their State inheritance-tax rates to 16% in order to avail themselves of the credit due them on the large estates.

In all other States that levy an inheritance tax and where there are very few large estates no change in the present State inheritance-tax law would seem necessary. As we understand it, an estate in settling with the Federal Government is to be given credit for any amount the estate has paid to any State Government up to 80% of the Federal levy. No special or additional legislation on the part of State legislature is necessary to secure this credit provided the present State inheritance-tax rates absorb the 80% levy the Federal Government offers the States. The Federal Government exempts \$100,000 estates and the initial levy made on a \$150,000 estate amounts to a total of \$500. These brackets cover most of the properties levied against in a majority of the States.

The Federal levy is against the estate as a whole and makes no distinction between close kin exemptions or provisions which all State legislatures recognize, and in accepting the Federal measure the State legislatures must surrender their basis of levy and conform to the Federal provisions in most all instances, as well as accept the basis and methods of appraisal made by Federal agents. These are matters for all legislatures to consider.

For your information and use in applying the Federal levy to your State we list below the amount of the Federal levy against each estate up to a value of \$1,000,000 as submitted to us by acceptable authority. The proportion the Federal Government takes and the proportion it offers the States is shown separately.

Bracket—	Value of Estate.	Amount of Levy.	Federal Proportion.	State Proportion.
1%-----	*\$150,000	\$500	\$100	\$400
2%-----	*\$200,000	1,500	300	1,200
3%-----	*\$300,000	4,500	300	3,600
4%-----	*\$500,000	12,500	2,500	10,000
5%-----	*\$700,000	22,500	4,500	18,000
6%-----	*\$900,000	34,500	6,900	27,600
7%-----	*\$1,100,000	48,500	9,700	38,800

*\$100,000 exempt.

The Federal act works a hardship upon those States that have no State inheritance tax such as Alabama, Florida, and Nevada, as well as upon all States that exempt close kin or apply a very much lower rate to near relatives than to remote kin. We question the constitutionality of the act.

Regardless of the legal status of the measure, we consider its provisions obnoxious to the public sentiment and an offense against State legislatures of the Nation. The object of the measure, as stated by its proponents, and the acknowledged effect of its operation, is not to raise revenue for the Federal Government but to regulate the taxing powers of the States. It is proposed to compel all States to levy an inheritance-tax and to levy it at a rate and under conditions prescribed by Congress. Both procedures are a grievous invasion of the rights of States. We challenge the statement that it is in the interest of the public welfare that legislatures be forced to enact laws and the people be compelled to think and act according to mandates laid down by Congress.

The gift tax was repealed. It was passed in 1924 as a companion measure to the estate tax and for the purpose of preventing evasion of the estate tax.

As soon as developments warrant it, we will call a meeting in Washington of the speakers and officers of all State legislatures and adopt a definite program of procedure understood and approved by those most interested.

Respectfully submitted.

- ARTHUR A. SHERMAN, *Chairman,*
President pro tempore Rhode Island Senate.
 HUGH D. MERRILL,
Speaker Alabama Legislature.
 EDGAR A. BROWN,
Speaker South Carolina Legislature.
 FRANCIS P. CURTIS,
Speaker Maryland Legislature.
 A. Y. MILAM,
Speaker Florida Legislature.

In session at the Raleigh Hotel, Washington, D. C., March 6 1926.

Secretary Hoover on Future of Foreign Trade—Control of Raw Materials by Foreign Governments.

Discussing "The Future of Our Foreign Trade," Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover, in an address on March 16 before the Export Managers' Club of New York, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, this city, referred to the repeated assertions made by him regarding "the increasing practice of foreign governments directly or indirectly to create controls of raw materials for price fixing purposes where such nations dominate the production of a commodity." "Our long view solution," he said, "is to secure independent supplies and our temporary solution is to co-operate with the trades in organizing our consumers for resistance when there is unreasonable demand, by better use and substitution of other commodities." Incidentally the reports of the House Committee inquiring into alleged foreign monopolies of commodities were made public this week, and an item regarding the Committee's findings appears elsewhere in this issue. In his address on the 16th, Secretary Hoover is reported in the New York "Times" as having said:

The immediate effect of these large incursions into business by foreign governments is that in nearly every one of these cases our American business men and consumers have insistently demanded the support and intervention of our Government in their protection. For years in some of these

cases our people have exhausted every effort by negotiation to avoid inevitable friction. Finally our Government is plunged into business if we would not see our consumers unprotected. Emotion is common enough between individual buyers and sellers, but when governments get into price-fixing they have established emotion upon a mass production basis.

From an objective point of view, price fixing by governmental restriction on production or otherwise not only creates artificial famines, but it also works to restrain the adequate growth of future supplies from the territories best adapted to production. In this way the expanding future need of the consumers is also jeopardized. In the end the consumer is forced to reduce his use and to employ inferior substitutes. All this is the negation of world progress.

We have had various possible courses to consider. Some of our bankers, business men and public men have advocated that the best way to handle these situations was to avoid consumer outbreaks by having our Government negotiate the terms and thus fix prices on behalf of the consumer, or to authorize the trades or the banks to do so. I do not believe they have thought this through. Such negotiation would be a recognition of price fixing as an economic basis of world trade by our Government. It would be a step inevitably followed into our domestic trade every time some industry fell into trouble. The Administration at Washington has steadfastly refused to countenance any price fixing.

Our countrymen are making progress in the long view provision of independent supplies in a number of these commodities. The campaign of the manufacturers and consumers for better use and conservation of rubber is a demonstration that the consumer possesses a potent weapon even against the formidable character of governmental price fixing and without resort to trade reprisals, and this movement is not confined to the United States.

Any doubts as to what the result of this campaign has been in the diminished demand for new rubber goods and the corresponding increase in the demand for repair material and substitutes during the last sixty days can be resolved by inquiry among the rubber trade. And it has had a repercussion in the 50% fall of rubber prices and a decrease in tire prices.

I am convinced that the world has gained something from this effort far greater than the saving of rubber. It is notice to the world that the consumer must have reasonable treatment by these controls. It has shown that speculation against the consumer in these commodities is a dangerous calling. It may help the enlightenment of the managers of such controls for whose actions we should not hold their countrymen responsible. It may check the formation of other price-fixing controls in some other thirty commodities where it is possible. This demonstration should thus make for less friction in the future. It will save us from resort to price-fixing schemes, and it may also save us from necessity of legislation. It has not been pleasing business, but the artificial suspension of the law of supply and demand is no parlor amenity.

We do not wish to buy any commodity without fair and stimulative profit to the producer. We have ourselves suffered greatly and still suffer from selling our farm products below the cost of production. It is not in the interest of any nation that it shall buy products on such terms, for the world needs expanding production. If there is any truth in economics at all, this cannot happen for long.

We would prefer to have established industries do the business in commodities which we cannot produce within our own borders than to force new industries in them elsewhere. We want to see their people prosper and expand their power to consume our export products. We earnestly wish for good will as the first necessity for trade. But none of these things will be accomplished by governments endeavoring to suspend the law of supply and demand and the entry of the world upon an era of price-fixing.

Without entering upon any partisan discussion of the protective tariff principle, which I, of course, support, there is one phase which I believe experience shows has less effect upon the volume of international movement of commodities than had at one time been assumed.

As a result of the hardships suffered by many people of both combatant and neutral nations during the war, there came to all nations a deep resolution, in so far as the resources of their countries permitted, to produce as far as possible their essential commodities. The struggle to overcome post-war unemployment has added to this impulse. The result is that 52 of the 70 nations of the world, including almost every important trading nation, increased their tariffs after the war. It might seem that these widespread protective policies would tend to localize industry and thus decrease the total volume of international trade. But it certainly appears that internal economic and social currents which make for prosperity or depression in a nation have a much larger effect upon the total volume of imports than the tariffs, and thus more largely affect world trade as a whole.

In our case, far from our present tariff diminishing our total imports, they have increased about 35% since the higher tariff came into effect. This has also been the case with other nations who have progressed in international economy. In any event, our experience surely indicates that in considering the broad future of our trade we can dismiss the fear our increased tariff would so diminish our total imports as to destroy the ability of other nations to buy from us.

The most commonly remarked revolution in our foreign economic relations is our shift from a debtor to a creditor nation upon a gigantic scale. It is the father of much speculative discussion as to its future effect upon our merchandise trade. Alarm has been repeatedly raised that repayment of the war debts must necessitate the increase of imports of competitive goods in order to provide for these payments—to the damage of our industry and workmen. These ideas are out of perspective. Our war debt when settled upon our own views of the capacity to pay will yield about \$300,000,000 per annum, although as yet the actual payments are about \$180,000,000 per annum. The private foreign loans and investments to-day require repayments in principal and interest of about \$600,000,000 annually, or nearly twice the war debt. I have heard of no suggestion that interest and repayment of these private debts will bring the disaster attributed to the war debt.

The question is of importance, however, as to how this \$800,000,000 or \$900,000,000 of annual payments may effect our merchandise movement. There is a compensating factor in American trade relations unique to our country which has a large bearing upon this question—that is, the vast dimension of our invisible exports in the form of tourist expenditures, emigrants' remittances and other forms of American expenditure abroad. These items in 1925 amount to about \$900,000,000, or about \$100,000,000 more than our incoming payments on debts of all kinds. In other words, at this stage of calculation the balance of trade should be in our favor by about \$100,000,000. But beyond this we are and shall long continue to make loans abroad. For the last four years these loans have averaged nearly \$700,000,000 a year, and in fact the merchandise balance in our favor has been running just about this amount.

Now the summation and purpose of all these words is the conclusion that there is no disastrous shift in our imports and exports of merchandise in prospect from debt causes.

The making of loans to foreign countries for reproductive purposes not only increases our direct exports, but builds up the prosperity of foreign countries and is an economic blessing to both sides of the transaction. And I do not put this business of loans upon any sentimental footing although

the economic advantage to foreign countries of our great financial strength in these times cannot be denied. Nor did we get this financial strength out of war profits. We lost enormously by the war. We created this reserve of capital as any study of our economy will show, from our growth of efficiency, by hard work, and savings, since the war.

Merchant Marine.

Before I conclude I wish to mention one more ever present most important problem in foreign trade. That is our merchant marine. We need to visualize our overseas transportation not as a lot of ships, but as about twenty important sea routes, which are the extensions to our own inland trade routes. There is only one protection of our commerce from discrimination and from combinations which would impose onerous freight rates. That is to maintain upon these trade routes the regular operation of very substantial shipping under the American flag. Commerce cannot operate upon uncertainty of transportation; it requires regular, ferry-like sailings. The type of ship which is best adapted to such regular service and at the same time is the most practical for us to operate is the cargo liner.

The Government is now deeply in the shipping business, and I believe must continue to operate upon routes where private operation cannot undertake it, until the routes have been built up to the point where private operation can undertake them. But we will never have a real or satisfactory merchant marine until it is owned and maintained by private enterprise. The Government cannot operate cheaply. It cannot secure revenue as large as private enterprise. It cannot avoid the interminable difficulties and wastes of bureaucracy and, above all, the direct and indirect political pressures. We must get out of Government operation as quickly as we can establish private operation.

Some of the lines on important trade routes are to-day successfully operated by American flag private enterprise. Some of the Government lines which are losing money to-day are rapidly approaching the point where they will pay private enterprise. With the growth of the volume of trade most of the lines can, I believe, be ultimately disposed of to successful private operation. But we will never attain even the best mediocrity of Government operation until we reform the method of administering the fleet, until we make it responsible to the President instead of directly to Congress and until we have more definite merchant marine policies.

Death of Col. Coolidge, Father of President.

Col. John C. Coolidge, father of the President, died at 10.41 p. m. March 18, after an illness dating back early last year. Last December his condition took a more serious turn, and while it was stated then that it was improbable that he would ever fully recover the use of his lower limbs, the critical stage of his illness had only developed during the past week, and he had gradually been sinking, following a heart attack the week before his death. Col. Coolidge would have reached his eighty-first birthday in two weeks. His death occurred at his home in Plymouth, Vt. The President was on his way from Washington to his father's bedside when news came to him of his death. The special train of the President reached Woodstock at sunrise yesterday (March 19); from there the trip to Plymouth (16 miles) was made by automobile. The funeral will take place to-day. It was Col. Coolidge who administered the oath of office to his son, when the latter assumed the Presidency in August, 1923, following the death of President Harding.

Farm Relief Proposal of Former Secretary of Agriculture Meredith—Agricultural Stabilization Commission Proposed.

Before the House Committee on Agriculture on March 9 Edwin T. Meredith, of Iowa, formerly Secretary of Agriculture offered a plan for the solution of the agricultural problem which proposes the establishment of a Federal price-fixing agency, with (says the "United States Daily") authority to determine prices on six major crops and levy an equalization fee to be funded as an "agricultural guaranty fund." The proposal of Mr. Meredith, says the same paper was offered as a counter plan to the pending Dickinson bill and the modification of the proposal submitted by delegates from the recent Des Moines and Chicago Corn Belt Conferences. We likewise take from the "Daily" the following:

Crop Losses Payable From Treasury.

Convinced agriculture is the country's basic industry and that its prosperity and purchasing power affect every other industry, Mr. Meredith declared he was equally convinced agricultural losses sustained by reason of crop surpluses should be paid directly from the Federal Treasury, on the theory that business and labor should carry their share of the load and that business and labor would realize that fees levied against the farmers would be passed on to the consumer anyway.

Having fixed minimum prices which would be guaranteed the farmers for the six major crops, including wheat, wool, corn, butter, sugar and cotton, the Federal board proposed in his plan would not enter the market to buy any of the crop until one year after the harvest and then only to buy, Mr. Meredith said, "surplus not absorbed either in our domestic or export trade."

Warehousing Major Crops.

Each of the six major crops suggested in the program, Mr. Meredith pointed out, are subject to warehousing if the commission should decide to carry a portion of any bumper crop over into another year rather than sell it into export trade at a loss. Corn was included, he said, because of its relation to pork and beef, butter because stabilization of its price would stabilize milk and other dairy products; and sugar because it is now produced all over the United States.

"By raising and lowering the prices of these crops from year to year," continued Mr. Meredith, and "relying upon the law of incentive, a balance can be kept and continuous surpluses avoided. The price of a given crop would be kept low enough so it could be engaged in by only the number

who, in the aggregate, could produce the quantity that the experience of previous years proved was desired by the combined domestic and foreign market—and yet high enough to encourage farmers to produce that quantity.

"From the consumers' standpoint," Mr. Meredith argued, "this plan would mean stabilized business through stabilized agriculture and this would mean steady employment and further, that food would be produced by the best farmers on the best land, nearest to markets, because the inefficient farmers could not compete with the efficient and the price necessarily would have to be the lowest price which would induce the aggregate production desired. Poor land could not compete with good."

Tax Is Provided.

In the bill submitted by Mr. Meredith, the "guaranty fund" would be raised by a tax of one half of 1% on the value of the six major crops, and would be used to meet farmers' losses in marketing any one of the contributing crops. The price-fixing commission would include the Secretaries of Commerce, Labor and Agriculture as well as four other members named by the President.

"The real problem," said Mr. Meredith, explaining his program, "is not to handle the surplus, but to work out an agricultural policy which will eliminate the surplus and give us a balanced production—a production meeting all the demands of the domestic market, plus all the foreign demands for our agricultural production, at a price which will give our farmers, as we have demanded for our labor, an American standard of living.

Eliminate Surplus.

"Our great need is a continuing agricultural policy which will eliminate a surplus, granted the surplus must be sold at a price less than offers reasonable compensation. I am willing that farmers should produce any quantity, no matter how great, over domestic needs, granted it will be absorbed in the world's markets at fair prices.

"Production exported under these conditions is, in effect, not a surplus, but is simply meeting our market; but I am not willing that our farmers should be led to produce a real surplus to be sold at a loss and this loss charged back to the farmers.

"An individual manufacturer would not continue to follow such a policy and viewing the farmers as individual manufacturers, as they are, why should legislation be passed which encourages them to do so. Business is in the position of accepting or declining a given offer for a given service and that is the privilege I feel should be granted.

"If the consumers of wheat, for instance, will bid what they wish to pay for wheat, whether it be much or little, the individual farmer can determine for himself whether he wishes to undertake the task of helping fill the order.

"If the bid is high enough to encourage the production necessary to sustain our people, well and good. If it is not high enough to interest the farmer the consumer must raise his bid or go without wheat, the same as he is denied any other service for which he is not willing to pay a fair price.

"There are two great laws which must be linked together to give us balanced production and avoid over-production—the law of supply and demand and the law of incentive. Use the latter to enable us to live in accordance with the former."

According to the New York "Times," the Agricultural Stabilization Commission, which would be created under the bill, would be empowered to procure full information concerning crop prospects, probable demand in the domestic and foreign markets and other information to enable it to fix, a year in advance, a minimum price per standard commercial unit for each crop commodity which the Government would guarantee. The "Times" account also had the following to say regarding the excise tax carried in the bill:

The bill also provides that the price fixed be paid in the purchase of any crop not consumed in the domestic market, the surplus to be sold abroad at the best prices obtainable. To meet any liabilities incurred in carrying out the guaranty, the bill provides for an excise tax of $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1% of the value of the annual marketable crop or crops of any commodity produced by them, computed according to the minimum price fixed by the commission. The commission would have authority to lower or advance the tax in its discretion.

Section 7 of the Meredith plan would authorize the President, upon recommendation of the commission, to alter existing tariff duties when necessary to maintain domestic markets for our production. It is provided that the minimum prices for crops of 1926 shall be 40 cents for wool, 40 cents for butter, 25 cents for cotton, \$1.25 for wheat and 65 cents for corn. The bill does not attempt to fix the 1926 price for sugar.

Crop Reporting Conference to Be Held at Topeka April 13-16.

With regard to the Crop Reporting Conference to be held next month, we take the following from the "U. S. Daily" of March 18:

Bureau of Agricultural Economics officials characterize as the largest and most important statistical conference to be held by the Federal Crop Reporting Service in a decade, the meeting scheduled to take place at Topeka, Kan., April 13-16, the Department of Agriculture announced March 17.

The conference is under the auspices of the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates of the Bureau and besides representatives from the Washington office, 33 field men from 24 different States will be authorized to attend.

There will be two sections, one dealing with livestock and the other with general crops. Methods of collecting and handling statistical reports and making estimates from them are on the program for discussion.

Senate Resolution Calling for Inquiry Into Functioning of United States Tariff Commission.

Two resolutions having for their object an inquiry into functioning of the United States Tariff Commission have been adopted by the Senate. One of these, introduced by Senator Smoot of Utah, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, calls upon the Commission to submit to the Senate a copy of its minutes. This resolution, as agreed to by the Senate on March 9 reads as follows:

[S. Res. 165].

Resolved, That the United States Tariff Commission be, and is hereby requested to submit to the Senate a certified copy of the minutes of the meetings of the Commission from Sept. 19 1922 to Jan. 26 1926, inclusive, and that these minutes be printed as a public document.

The other resolution is that of Senator Robinson's (of Arkansas) which was agreed to by the Senate on March 11, and directs an investigation into the manner in which the flexible tariff provision of the tariff act of 1922 is being administered. The inquiry is to "have particular reference to the regulations and procedure of the Tariff Commission, the powers exercised and the functions performed by said Commission, and to the institution, investigation, hearing and decision of cases arising under said section." As originally introduced by Senator Robinson the resolution proposed that the Senate Committee on Finance should conduct the investigation. At the instance of Senator King the resolution was amended so as to provide that the investigation be undertaken by a special committee consisting of five Senators, three of whom shall be members of the majority, and shall include a Progressive Republican, and two of whom shall be members of the minority. Vice-President Dawes, who was authorized under the resolution, to name the committee, announced as follows on March 12 the appointees: Senators Wadsworth of New York and Reed of Pennsylvania (Republicans); Senator La Follette of Wisconsin (Progressive); and Senators Robinson of Arkansas and Bruce of Maryland (Democrats).

Before the adoption of the Robinson resolution by the Senate on the 11th inst. it was amended by Senator Norris of Nebraska (we quote from the Washington "Post" of March 12) so that the proposed investigation would specifically deal with the question of whether "any attempt has been made to influence the official action of members of said commission by any official of the government or other person or persons, and if so, what were the means or methods so used." The Norris amendment was adopted, 38 to 30. The "Post" also says:

After this vote, Senator Bingham made a determined but ineffectual attempt to strike out the provision for the appointment of a "Progressive Republican." This term had no official status, he maintained, and the Vice-President should not be called upon to decide which Republicans were or were not progressive.

But Senators Robinson and Norris both opposed the effort of the senator from Connecticut. His motion was then defeated, 29 to 41.

Prior to the adoption of the resolution Senator Robinson moved to strike out the provision providing that

The committee may summon witnesses, administer oaths, hear testimony, and compel the production of papers, documents, books and records in the possession of or kept by the Tariff Commission.

In moving the elimination of this provision, which was agreed to by the Senate, Senator Robinson stated that in the regular course of events the special committee will submit to the Senate a resolution giving it the authorization necessary, and making provision for the expenses of the investigation. The following is the resolution as agreed to by the Senate:

Resolved, That a special committee composed of five senators, three of whom shall be members of the majority and include one who is a progressive Republican, and two of whom shall be members of the minority, said committee to be appointed by the Vice-President, is hereby authorized and directed to investigate the manner in which section 315 (the flexible provision) of the tariff act of 1922 has been and is being administered. The inquiry shall have particular reference to the regulations and procedure of the Tariff Commission, the powers exercised and the functions performed by said commission, and to the institution, investigation, hearing and decision of cases arising under said section.

Said inquiry shall also comprehend the agents and processes employed by the Tariff Commission in proceedings to ascertain the difference in costs of production in the United States and in competing countries, as well as the method of ascertaining which country constitutes the principal competing country within the meaning of said tariff act of 1922.

The committee may inquire into any and all other facts, circumstances and proceedings which it deems relevant in arriving at an accurate conclusion touching the operation and administration of the tariff laws.

The committee shall also investigate the appointment of members of said commission and report to the Senate whether any attempt has been made to influence the official action of members of said commission by any official of the Government or other person or persons and if so what were the means or methods so used.

The committee shall promptly report its proceedings, findings and recommendations to the Senate.

At the time of the introduction of the resolution on March 6, Senator Robinson had the following to say regarding it:

I introduce a bill to reduce the membership of the Tariff Commission and provide for the disqualification of members to serve in proceedings of the commission in certain cases. I ask leave to make a very brief statement respecting the bill, and I also desire to submit a resolution which has direct relationship to the subject matter of the bill I introduce. The resolution directs the Finance Committee of the Senate to make an inquiry into the proceedings, the regulations, the findings, and the recommendations of the Tariff Commission, and particularly with respect to what is known as the flexible provision of the tariff act of 1922.

The bill to reduce the membership of the Tariff Commission from six members to four, if enacted, would have the effect of abolishing the position to which Mr. Baldwin has been nominated, but not confirmed, and would result in abolishing the position now filled by Mr. Glassie after the expiration of his term, which will occur about the middle of September next, as I am informed. I want to take just a few minutes to explain what I conceive to

be the justification for this bill and this resolution, because I expect to ask action by the Senate within a reasonable time.

As at present constituted, the Tariff Commission functions very poorly, and scarcely at all in the manner contemplated by the law which created it. Every one here knows that the Tariff Commission was designed to be a bi-partisan body and the purpose of making it such was to have fairly reflected by the membership of the commission the two prominent economic theories or views respecting tariff policy.

By the appointment of a Commissioner, nominally a Democrat, but actually an advocate of high protective tariff rates the Tariff Commission has been perverted into a partisan body, that is into a body into which partisanship dominates.

Of course, the commission ought to be permitted to discharge its duties without compulsion or undue influence from any source.

The action of the Executive in requiring a member of the commission to resign and to place his resignation in the hands of the Executive subject to being accepted at any time it pleased the Executive, necessarily intimidated and embarrassed the Commissioner. No question has been raised as to the occurrence of the incident to which I refer. It was discussed in the Senate by the able Senator from Nebraska (Mr. Norris), and evidence by the nature of quasi records was produced, showing conclusively that the Executive demanded of Commissioner Lewis his resignation, with the understanding that the President should pigeonhole it or pocket it, and accept it when it pleased the Executive. That, of course, meant that if in the performance of his duties as a member of the commission the commissioner displeased the Executive, the commissioner would immediately lose his official status. The only object in requiring the resignation in such a manner would seem to be a deliberate design on the part of the Executive to subordinate the Commissioner's views to his own and to restrain the Commissioner from a free exercise of his judgment. Nothing could be more subversive of sound principles of government.

The usefulness of the Tariff Commission as a fact-finding body has been well-nigh destroyed. If the proposed bill is passed the bi-partisan character of the commission will be restored and, it is to be hoped, safeguarded and maintained.

Other provisions of the bill contemplate a legislative determination of the long continued controversy in the commission as to whether a member shall be the judge of his own qualifications when he has been challenged because of alleged interest in the result of the commission's findings or recommendations.

The bill provides that no member shall be deemed qualified to serve if he or any member of his family has a direct pecuniary interest in the result, or if any former employer of the Commissioner has such an interest. It is also contemplated that the commission shall be authorized to make rules and regulations for determining when a Commissioner is not qualified, but in no case shall the Commissioner himself whose right to serve is questioned, participate in deciding that issue.

The resolution of inquiry which accompanies the bill authorizes a comprehensive investigation of the proceedings of the Tariff Commission with a view to determining its efficiency, and the necessity for the legislation which I am now discussing, and other legislation. The investigation has particular reference to the flexible provisions of the Tariff act of 1922, under which the tariff may be raised or lowered by the President in accordance with the alleged difference in costs of production in the United States and in competing countries.

The resolution is broad enough to permit an inquiry into all facts and circumstances which reflect light on the manner in which our tariff laws are administered and on the way in which those laws influence the commerce of the country.

The record of proceedings by the commission under the so-called flexible provision of the tariff law show that in every important instance in which it has been employed the result has been to increase very greatly the rates of duties, and in most instances the existing rates are already too high. The only instance I can now recall in which the flexible provision of the tariff act of 1922 has been used to reduce import duties was in the case of quail imported from the Argentine. In all the important cases, in instances involving the very necessities of life, the flexible provision of the tariff law has been employed to increase the burdens, already too heavy, resting upon consumers of this Nation.

If the Congress wants to pass legislation helpful to the American farmer, of whom we hear so much and read so much as the prospective beneficiary of our wise conclusions, the first measure it ought to pass is a general tariff law, revising downward the rates now in force. It would not only be helpful to consumers but it would also be helpful in stabilizing business conditions, both at home and in the foreign countries with which the United States trades.

The administration will, of course, resist any effort to modify the tariff, except in conformity with a misconceived conclusion as to the purpose of the flexible provision of the law. It is quite likely that it will be impracticable, if not impossible, to consider and enact during this Congress a general tariff law, but it is to be hoped that in the early future conditions in both branches of the Congress will be changed to such an extent as to enable the people of the Nation to obtain relief from the very unjust burdens which the tariff law imposes.

Even though it seems impracticable now to effectually deal with the general subject of the tariff, it is both practicable and necessary to take such action as will enable and require the tariff commission to function in the way it was intended, to function in the public interest rather than for the benefit of those who practise extortion against the people of this Nation.

Senator Robinson asked that the bill be sent to the Committee on Finance. On the 9th inst. Senator Robinson had read into the *Record* a letter from Commissioner Henry H. Glassie challenging the statements of Senator Robinson. This letter we give herewith.

UNITED STATES TARIFF COMMISSION.

Washington, March 9 1926.

(Thomas O. Marvin, Chairman; Alfred P. Dennis, Vice-Chairman; Edward P. Costigan; Henry H. Glassie; A. H. Baldwin; Edgar B. Brossard; John F. Bethune, Secretary).

Hon. Joseph T. Robinson, *United States Senate, Washington, D. C.:*

My Dear Sir:—In your remarks in the Senate on Saturday, March 6 1926, as reported in the Congressional Record, I observe that, with pointed reference to me, you stated that "by the appointment of a commissioner nominally a Democrat but actually an advocate of high protective-tariff rates the Tariff Commission has been perverted into a partisan body; that is to say, into a body in which partisanship dominates."

Speaking of the Tariff Commission you also stated "that its decisions reflect the fact that it has been so constituted by the appointment of one nominally a Democrat but known to be in favor of high protective tariffs; that those who favor the reduction of tariff as an economic principle are never able to have their views considered, much less carried into effect."

Is it not proper to inquire why you lend the prestige of your name to these statements? You do not, of course, possess any personal knowledge on the

subject, saying, however, that I am "known to be in favor of high protective tariffs." Under the circumstances it seems to me that common fairness requires a statement of the name of the person or persons upon whom you are here depending for the supposed information. Surely a charge such as this should not be made without offering some proof of it. Any statement that I am a nominal Democrat or an advocate of high protective-tariff rates is not true.

I, as well as other members of the Tariff Commission, have repeatedly stated that I welcome an investigation of the administration of the flexible provisions of the tariff act in all its ramifications. Is it consistent with your notion of fair play that statements such as those made concerning me should be given currency from the floor of the Senate when the evidence which would enable me to disprove the imputations is necessarily locked up in the minutes of the commission? It needs only a word from Congress to make these minutes accessible to all. Once open, they will demonstrate clearly and indubitably that the charges which you are now repeating are without foundation.

In justice not only to myself but to other members of the commission, an immediate and thorough investigation should be made. In truth, it seems to me that under the circumstances I have a right to demand such an investigation, and I trust that you will insist upon its being made without delay.

I respectfully ask that you will be good enough to place this letter in the Record, so as to afford me at least the small justice of making my position publicly known, for I have at present no other means of doing so.

Respectfully yours,

HENRY H. GLASSIE.

The New York "Journal of Commerce" in its Washington advices March 12, said:

While the probe is said to be one to determine the efficiency of the administration of the Tariff Commission, it will assume something of the nature of a probe of the Presidential action in that under the terms of the resolution the committee is to consider whether or not undue influence has been sought to be exercised over any of the present or former commissioners.

Charges Openly Made.

Charges have been openly made on the floor of the Senate that President Coolidge refused to renominate former Commissioner Lewis because the latter had declined to place with the President a resignation with date in blank to be accepted at the will of the Chief Executive and that former Vice-Chairman Culbertson had been given a diplomatic post in order to divorce him from his post on the commission. It is said to be quite probable that both these officials will be called before the probe committee.

An initial meeting of the probe committee will probably be held next Monday and there are indications that the investigation will run along after the adjournment of the present session of Congress. In such event, of course, the report which the committee is obligated to make would not be presented to the Senate until next December.

The investigation was brought under way on Thursday of this week, March 18.

National Industrial Conference Board on Part Played by Agriculture in National Economic Life—Warns of England's Fate in Developing Industries at Cost of Agriculture.

Agricultural production is so closely interwoven with the general business structure of the nation, and plays so large a part in our national economic life, that there is no individual no matter what his occupation or place who would not ultimately be affected by continued agricultural depression, according to statistical data presented in the agricultural report of the National Industrial Conference Board, 247 Park Avenue, New York, and made public March 18. Agriculture, by reason of its fundamental place in our national economy, in the view of the Board, is the mainstay of our general business prosperity. The business man located in the midst of an agricultural region, or selling principally to rural markets, looks for a good season when there has been a good crop, and anticipates poor business when there has been a poor crop. Likewise, the Board points out, the nation at large is not independent of agricultural conditions, and the rise or decline in agricultural prosperity will inevitably make itself felt in the long run in general business conditions.

As the chief source of our food supply, agriculture, it is pointed out, is a principal factor in maintaining our national security as well as a major economic necessity. But the farm also looms large as a primary source of supply for industrial raw material, as a purchaser of goods and services furnished by the rest of the population, as a reservoir of future citizenship, and as bearing a large portion of the cost of Government activities. The self-interest of every portion of the population, the Board declares, is affected by the various ramifications of the agricultural situation. The following facts taken from the Conference Board's report strikingly summarize the relations of agriculture to the rest of our economic activities, and indicate the important place the farm holds in our national economy:

- (1) The agricultural industry normally buys \$6,000,000,000 worth of the goods and services of other industries, annually.
- (2) The farm supplies the materials upon which depend industries giving employment to nearly half of our industrial workers.
- (3) It supplies about a fifth of the total tonnage of freight carried by the railroads.
- (4) Its products constitute nearly half of the total value of our exports.
- (5) It pays in taxes one-fifth of the total cost of government in the United States.

(6) Our farms and farm property represent more than one-fifth of our total national tangible wealth, and contribute, normally, about one-sixth of the total national income.

(7) The total capital invested in agriculture in 1921 at current values amounted to \$65,000,000,000, as compared with \$44,000,000,000 invested in the manufacturing industries.

(8) With the rapid development of our industrial production, and the increasing pressure for foreign and domestic markets, the purchasing power of the farming population, which buys about one-sixth of the value of our total manufacturing production, may become a determining factor in industrial and business prosperity.

(9) The great dependence of our industries on the basic materials furnished by agriculture demands the maintenance of an adequate and well-balanced agricultural production, lest we become dependent on foreign countries for such materials necessary to our industries and economic life.

(10) Last, but not least, the Conference Board urges that inasmuch as the farming population constitutes nearly one-third of our total population, it is a vast reservoir of future citizens, and justly claiming weighty consideration in the management of the affairs of the nation.

The Board also says:

The extent to which the American farmer must meet foreign competition in his home market, the Conference Board declares, can be measured by the proportion of competitive items in the list of our total agricultural imports during the year 1925. Out of the total of approximately \$1,818,000,000 worth of imported agricultural commodities in 1925, \$1,056,000,000, or more than half were of such nature as to be in direct competition with or tending to displace the products of the American farm. They included animals, approximately \$8,800,000 worth; meat, \$7,252,000 worth; eggs and egg products, \$8,988,000; milk and cream, \$10,114,000; butter, \$2,646,000; cheese, \$17,349,000; animal fats, \$637,000; hides and skins, \$96,746,000; leather and partly manufactured leather, \$36,266,000; miscellaneous animal products \$25,000,000; grains and grain preparations, \$26,237,000; fodders and feed, \$11,850,000; vegetables and vegetable preparations, \$36,244,000; fruits (excepting bananas), \$24,500,000; nuts, \$34,283,000; oil seeds, \$64,725,000; vegetable oils and fats, \$75,000,000; sugar, syrup and honey, \$266,008,000; seeds, \$11,870,000; tobacco, \$83,881,000; miscellaneous vegetable products, \$5,000,000; cotton, \$52,775,000; flax, \$3,575,000; straw materials, \$3,798,000; wool, \$141,976,000.

While some of these are imported because not produced in the United States in sufficient quantity, the Conference Board declares, this is the case rather because production cost and competitive market prices do not leave sufficient margin to make it pay to produce them in the United States, and not because they could not be produced here in sufficient quantity, the very condition which, in the light of the Board's report, is responsible in part for the decline of agricultural production in proportion to our population growth.

Non-competitive agricultural imports, such as ostrich feathers, coffee, tea, rubber and raw silk are not included in the total given by the Board, although the progressively increasing use of some, the Board points out, may well be considered as tending to decrease the demand for domestic agricultural products. Each class of commodities, moreover, has been carefully scrutinized with view to excluding articles not of a competitive nature. The figure given for imported animals, for instance, covers only such as are raised on American farms, but excludes imports of snakes, monkeys and parrots and other zoological specimens.

In warning the United States not to neglect its agricultural development in too intensive preoccupation with other industrial, commercial and financial interests, the Board on March 14 recalled that it is now England's fate to regret the mistake of too intensive an industrial development, achieved at the cost of having her agriculture lag behind so that for a long time the country has not been self-sufficient as regards food and other farm products, and that the difficulties arising out of her agricultural problem to-day constitute one of the gravest issues confronting the British Government. The shrinkage of our agricultural "plant" in proportion to our population growth, the dwindling of agricultural wealth and income since 1900, the report declares, are real symptoms of a relative decline in American agriculture which challenge the attention of all classes, including that of the urban manufacturing and commercial population, for reasons of self-interest if no other. The Board adds:

Other nations, principally European countries, have since the war taken cognizance of the necessity of an agricultural development that well balances the requirements of their population growth. A number of countries suffering from post-war depression have been making special efforts to increase their agricultural production, and to diminish their dependence on outside sources. As a result, the report says, wheat production in Australia has increased 110% from 1919 to 1925; in Canada, during the same period, 100%; in France, 75%; in Italy, 42%; in Argentina, 25%; and in India, 15%. All of this represents increased competition for the American farmer in both domestic and foreign markets, according to the report, and further aggravates his problem of meeting foreign competition based on lower production costs than his own.

Despite these efforts on the part of some countries, the report goes on, there is indication that the total world production of agriculture also is not keeping step with the increase in population, but is actually declining. Figures on agricultural world production show an actual net decrease in most important farm products between 1913 and 1924, with the exception of potatoes, wool and tobacco. While the total of wheat produced in 1913 was 4,087,000,000 bushels, total world production in 1924 was only 3,298,830,000 bushels. Corn production likewise dropped from 3,743,000,000 bushels in 1913 to 3,366,000,000 bushels; oats, from 4,798,500,000 to 3,519,000,000 bushels; rye from 1,893,000,000 to 1,174,148,000 bushels, and barley from 1,779,000,000 to 1,214,911,000 bushels. Cotton production decreased from 26,259,000 bales to 24,700,000 bales. The number of swine declined from 2,881,000,000 to 1913 to 2,837,000,000 in 1924.

This situation of reduced agricultural production the world over indicates a world agricultural problem similar to that which exists in the United States, and is an added reason why prompt attention should be given the national problem, the Board feels. Neglect of the farmer's difficulties of high cost production with low prices in the markets where he must sell, ultimately, it is intimated, may lead to a reversal of the problem. It might result in conditions where the non-farming industrial groups, constituting the urban population, would face the dilemma of having to pro-

duce at rising costs, caused by the rising prices of scarcer food, and, on the other hand, of having to sell their manufactured goods at low prices in ever-sharpening competition with the world.

National Industrial Conference Board Suggests Co-operation of Agricultural and Business Groups with View to Solving Agricultural Problem.

A suggestion for a plan of co-operation between agricultural and all other productive and business groups to work out a policy to bring agriculture and the rest of the industrial and commercial structure of the country into readjustment, is made by the National Industrial Conference Board, Inc. The solution of the agricultural problem through joint and sympathetic study of the situation by the leading representatives of industry, commerce, transportation and finance, in conjunction with leading agriculturists, to facilitate the formulation of "a sound, effective and well-digested program" for righting the existing economic maladjustment, is proposed by the Board, in concluding its agricultural report, under date of March 15. The Board does not presume to undertake to solve the farmers' problem for him, nor to suggest specifically how he may solve it for himself, declaring such course to be "neither desirable nor feasible." The whole weight of the Conference Board's proposal lies in urging, first, the economic nature of the problem, and second in emphasizing that the agricultural problem, because of the close interdependence of agriculture and our whole industrial and commercial business structure, is not the farmer's problem alone, but a common problem concerning all classes of the population. The Board does not go beyond the proposal of a co-operative joint study of the economic aspects of the agricultural situation and its effects on the rest of our business structure and general national welfare. But it places its report at the disposal of those who may be chosen by the various agricultural, industrial, commercial, transportation and financial groups of the country to make such study.

The agricultural problem, according to the diagnosis of the Board's report, is that since the beginning of the rapid and intensive development of our industrial, commercial and financial life toward the end of the last century, agriculture has fallen out of step, and there has evolved a progressive maladjustment and inequality between the economic position of agriculture and that of the other major branches of our national economy. The real underlying practical problem, it is intimated, is one of much larger and more significant scope even than of the existing maladjustment. It is the problem, in the view of the report, and in the light of the Board's suggestion for a joint investigation of the farm problem by representative of all economic interests, of formulating sound economic policies for the future co-ordinating of all branches of production and business, on the basis of scientific analysis and in the light of collective experience. The following is the text of the Conference Board's closing statement of the report containing its suggestion for a rational solution of the agricultural problem:

The study of the agricultural problem by the National Industrial Conference Board indicates clearly that since the beginning of the rapid and intensive development of our industrial, commercial and financial life toward the end of the last century, there has been developing a progressive maladjustment and inequality between the economic position of agriculture and that of the other major branches of our national economy.

The Symptoms.

This is reflected in the contraction of our agricultural plant and its output relative to the growth of our population; in the growing effectiveness of the competition of foreign producers both in our domestic and foreign markets; in the increasing costs of agricultural production compared with the price of farm products; in the declining relative share in the national income of those engaged in agriculture; in the wide disparity between return on investment and reward for labor in agriculture as contrasted with that in other productive activities; and in the marked difference between the per capita income of the farm population and of the remainder of the population in all the dominant agricultural sections of the country.

Fundamentally, these conditions have arisen partly out of inherent differences between the productive processes of agriculture and those of industry, and partly out of circumstantial factors affecting the inter-relationships between agriculture and the rest of our economic life. They not only constitute a serious menace to the progress and prosperity of American industry, commerce and trade, but are equally of great significance for our national welfare, for they deeply affect the future economic development, the social advancement, the political unity and the national security of the United States. This situation presents a far-reaching question of national policy and therefore demands clear and full understanding, careful and open-minded consideration, and earnest effort toward readjustment on the part of all major economic groups in our country.

Urges Joint Inquiry.

From this point of view, it would seem proper and desirable in the national interest for leading representatives of American industry, commerce, transportation and finance, in conjunction with leaders of agriculture, to study jointly and sympathetically, on the basis of the Conference Board's comprehensive report, the agricultural situation and its causes, to appraise its consequences and to present for the consideration of the public their

mature judgment of the possibilities and desirable avenues of remedy and readjustment. In this way it is possible that, apart from the disturbing and transient influence of partisan politics, there may be provided a constructive and practical plan for mutual understanding and full co-operation between agriculture and all other groups in our productive life, as well as a basis upon which may be developed a sound and far-sighted national policy embracing and justly balancing all the interests involved.

The agricultural problem is essentially an economic problem; its solution should be sought through the co-operation of all economic interests along sound economic lines. It is not desirable or feasible for others to undertake to solve the farmer's problem for him or to suggest how he may solve it for himself. The responsibility for the agricultural situation and its correction rests upon all groups in common. Outstanding business leaders in the major economic activities of our national life, selected by their respective national organizations or otherwise, may well address themselves to the important task of co-operating in the effort toward agricultural readjustment to the end that the country may be assured of a prosperous agriculture as a part of a prosperous national economy.

Foreign Monopoly of Rubber and Other Commodities Alleged in Majority Report of House Committee— Findings of Minority—Allegations of Secretary Hoover.

Majority and minority reports were filed on March 13 by members of the Senate Committee on Inter-State and Foreign Commerce, which was called upon to inquire into alleged Government price fixing in the shipment to the United States of crude rubber, coffee, silk, nitrates, potash, quinine, iodine, tin, sisal, quicksilver, pulpwood and other important raw materials, and the effect of such action on American commerce. The committee was directed to report its findings and recommendations for remedial legislation. The majority report was submitted by Representative Newton (Republican) of Minnesota, while the minority report was presented by Representative Rayburn (Democrat) of Texas. The majority report finds that "controls of either production or exportation which materially affect prices have been instituted by direct or indirect foreign Governmental action," the effect of which "has been to increase the price which the American consumer must pay for several of these essential commodities to an unreasonable and exorbitant figure." Although no legislation is recommended, the report strongly suggests:

1. That American citizens refuse to furnish credit to the countries indulging in these controls.
2. That independent sources of supply, such as the Philippines, be given serious attention as a remedy to the rubber monopoly.
3. That conservation and substitution campaigns be carried on among the consumers, with government assistance if necessary.

The majority reports says "retaliation by the United States against these controls was not given serious attention by the committee, and will not be except as a last resort." The majority states that it makes no suggestion for remedial legislation "since it believes that a frank discussion of these questions and the development of a better understanding of the consequences of the intrusion of Governmental price controls in international trade may secure an abandonment of the practice. "If, however," it adds, "it develops that the American public cannot be protected against a repetition of its experiences in the past by resort to methods mentioned above, the committee will have no hesitation in reopening the question. Accordingly, the committee makes this preliminary report with the purpose of making further report to the House later, if the occasion should require it."

In reciting control over commodities by foreign countries, the majority report says:

"That controls of either production or exportation which materially affect prices have been instituted by direct or indirect foreign governmental action as follows:

- "The government of Great Britain, through direction of its Colonial Office to its East Indian possessions, over rubber.
 - "The government of the States of Sao Paulo, Brazil, over coffee.
 - "The government of Chile, over nitrates and iodine.
 - "The governments of Germany and France, over potash.
 - "The government of Egypt, over long staple cotton.
 - "The government of Japan, over camphor and at times over silk and
 - "The government of Yucatan, Mexico, over sisal.
- "All of them have maintained or brought about prices simply profitable to their producers and some of them have from time to time advanced prices to exorbitant levels. Seemingly, they either take the course of all monopolies not to remain content with highly profitable prices or they fall into the hands of speculators who force the price to extortionate levels. In many cases the declared stabilized price has thus been exceeded greatly. For instance, the price of rubber was advanced to 300% of the originally announced fair price.

"The effect has been to increase the price which the American consumer must pay for several of these essential commodities to an unreasonable and exorbitant figure, and in other ways to restrict the natural flow of adequate supplies.

"This entry of foreign governments into the business and control of trading and the consequent rise in price at once compels consumers of such commodities to deal directly with foreign governmental authorities, and sooner or later our citizens are forced to demand that their government assist in these negotiations. This projects the government of both parties into business in large issues. As a result, the complaints of consumers of

such controlled commodities throughout the world regarding real or fancied wrongs in prices, supplies and other trading conditions become matters of governmental policy and concern, and consequently stir international ill will.

"In fact, through these processes, trading is being taken from the market places and encumbered with the formalities and far-reaching, serious consequences of international relations, with an evitable harmful effect to the world.

"An immediately effective remedy against price exactions has been demonstrated in the power of the American consumer to decrease demand as recently accomplished in the case of rubber. Emphatic complaints of American users of rubber goods, particularly tires, began to reach the Department of Commerce in the latter part of 1925. Since both official and unofficial representations to the British government had brought no action, the Secretary of Commerce advised the complainants and the public generally to reduce their demand for rubber by using substitutes and by extracting a greater measure of service from all rubber articles through using them properly and repairing them promptly.

"The immediate response indicated that the consumers realized the power they held. The price of crude rubber began to decline almost immediately from a high of \$1 10 in November, and the decline has continued until the best grades are now selling on the New York market at around 50 cents per pound. Attendant circumstances to this remarkable result include a 16% lower consumption of crude rubber in the last quarter of 1925 than in the previous quarter, a 46% advance in the sales of tire repair materials, an appreciable decrease in tire purchases and consequent increase in tire stocks, an 80% increase in the consumption of reclaimed rubber and substantial increases in the stocks of raw rubber in New York and London.

"The committee believes that American consumers generally will not be slow to realize that what has been done in the case of rubber can be done with other commodities, when their prices are advanced to unreasonable levels by monopolies controlling them."

Regarding the further findings of the majority, we take the following from the New York "Herald Tribune":

Findings of Majority.

The report of the majority of the committee after relating in detail its findings as to the facts of the alleged monopolies of foreign countries on raw products reached the following conclusion.

"1. It has been proved in the case of rubber that a conservation campaign can be conducted by the American people as a protest against high artificially controlled prices and with a fair degree of success. This experience is of considerable significance in showing the ability of the consumer to take matters into his own hands and secure some measure of protection through exercising positive control over demand. As a result of this demonstration the committee believes that a considerable measure of protection can be attained in this way for the American consumer.

"While the committee believes that it is desirable to give time for consideration by foreign governments of the undesirability of such combination before resorting to legislation in the United States, yet, if the American consumer should be further subjected to unfair prices, the committee believes that further and more extended efforts as to carrying on conservation campaigns should be systematically organized and carried out. If necessary the government should assist.

"2. The ultimate solution of the problem of foreign control of commodities essential to American industries and progress will unquestionably be for the United States to become more self-sufficient in their supply through endeavoring to produce these commodities for itself, either under its own flag or in suitable foreign countries which would agree not to interfere free trading in them at any time. In effecting such agreements, the governmental facilities of the United States should freely assist.

Southern Philippines Favored.

"3. For growing rubber under the American flag the southern Philippines appear most suitable. Physical conditions are known to be excellent. Under the existing Philippine land laws the holdings of individuals or corporations are limited to about 2,500 acres. This condition could be altered by the Philippine Legislature or by the Congress of the United States if it chose to change the basis law under which the islands are now administered. Furthermore, certain experiments have recently undertaken to develop the production of rubber from the Guayule shrub in the Southwestern States. For several years rubber has been produced from this wild shrub in Mexico. In 1925 our imports of the rubber amounted to 8,469,123 pounds. The committee believes that these experiments contain such possibilities as to warrant serious attention and consideration.

"Outside American territory, good possibilities for successful rubber culture appear to exist in the Isthmus of Darien, in the Republic of Panama, Brazil, Colombia and other parts of tropical America. Plantations in such locations would be especially valuable to the United States from the standpoint of national defense, since rubber from them would most likely be uninterruptedly available in the event of war. Substantial progress is also being made in Liberia by American interests. As a step in the direction of assuring such supplies, the committee specifically recommends that the Department of Agriculture be authorized and enabled, in co-operation with their respective governments, to establish and maintain demonstration rubber plantations in South and Central American countries. Certain suggestions were made in this connection to the committee by Dr. H. N. Whitford, formerly crude rubber expert for the Department of Commerce.

"4. Efforts of the Bureau of Standards and others to develop a synthetic rubber and other synthetic products should be further encouraged.

"5. The committee considers that opportunity exists for the development of the potash resources of the United States, and believes that support should be given to the Bureau of Mines or the Geological Survey for the exploration of potash deposits in Texas, Utah and possibly other States.

"6. It is recommended that Congress bring to an early settlement the Muscle Shoals question. Such action will give protection to the American consumer of nitrate, both because Muscle Shoals is now an unknown and deterring factor to our growing nitrogen industry and because undoubtedly that plant itself will be used for nitrogen production.

"7. The committee recommends that the Department of Agriculture be encouraged to further investigate the possibilities of producing sisal in continental United States or its insular possessions, and to make experimental plantations for this purpose.

Americans Should Refuse Credit to Foreign Countries Controlling Commodities.

"8. Since these governmental controls are contrary to the interests of the American consumer, the committee takes the position that American citizens should refuse to aid or assist them by extending credit to them. This is obvious. Furthermore, self-interest should prompt this action on the part of American financial interests for the granting of loans of this character would create a just resentment against them on the part of the American public. In some instances requests for loans of this character have been refused. In at least one instance the loan has been granted. Requests for loans should be discouraged and if made should be refused.

Retaliation Not Considered.

"9. Retaliation by the United States against these governmental controls was not given serious attention by the committee and will not be except as a last resort.

"10. The committee has received suggestions that Congress give direct aid by representative American citizens of alternate supplies of these raw materials, but takes the position that aid or subsidy of this sort is inadvisable, partly because it is an intrusion of government into production, against the principle of which this investigation is directed.

"11. Suggestions made to the committee that it secure passage of a law permitting combination of American purchasers to buy co-operatively are not approved at this time. Such action is not urgently demanded by the trades concerned.

"12. The committee for reasons heretofore appearing has not at this time suggested remedial legislation, since it believes that a frank discussion of these questions and the development of a better understanding of the consequences of the intrusion of governmental price controls in international trade may secure an abandonment of the practices. If, however, it develops that the American public cannot be protected against a repetition of its experiences in the past by resort to methods mentioned above, the committee will have no hesitation in reopening the question. Accordingly, the committee makes this preliminary report with the purpose of making further report to the House later if the occasion should require it."

The minority report, was signed by five Democratic members of the committee, viz., Representatives Rayburn, George Huddleston (Alabama), A. C. Shallenberger (Nebraska), Tillman B. Parks (Arkansas) and Robert Crosser of Ohio. Summarizing the conclusions of the minority, the "Herald Tribune" says that while it agrees with the historical and statistical data of the majority, it complains that the majority's outstanding recommendations "point toward boycott and retaliation," which it says are "the only weapons a nation can employ when such nation itself pursues policies of international trade obstruction, restriction, discrimination and reprisal. Our existing high tariffs, with their network of restrictions and discriminations, offer precisely a case in point." Continuing, the "Herald Tribune" account says:

Denying the assertion of the majority that the tariff is not responsible for these monopolistic controls, the minority declares:

"The time of the enactment of the Fordney law as it related to the launching of the Stevenson plan, however, is entirely immaterial. This is true because the Stevenson plan was represented as having for its only purpose the stabilization of rubber prices at 36 cents a pound. This within itself was unobjectionable, so far as other countries were concerned. It was after the Fordney law, with its trade restrictions and discriminations and obstructions, had for some time been in operation that it was made possible for the Stevenson commission's work to result in and become a price hold-up agency.

Followed Dingley Tariff Law.

"Attention might also be called to the fact that the Brazilian coffee restrictions originated during the Dingley high tariff, and were placed in operation during high tariffs in this country. It is well for us to look to our own policies and see if they are not an invitation to others to engage in practices such as those against which we protest justly at this time. In other words, those who seek equity must do equity."

America could have pursued free trade policies and avoided this trouble, the minority declares. "America," it says, "never had such an opportunity for favorable agreements of this kind, embracing each of the important materials we do not produce, as she has since the war, when so many countries and industries therein have had occasion to invoke either her financial or general business co-operation. These opportunities and the entire principle of fair trade agreements have been cast aside, however, and America herself has proceeded to set the opposite example which has left to her as her sole remedy the boycott and retaliation, which in all the past have inevitably led to bitter economic war and acute unfriendliness among nations. The entire British press, for further illustration, justified the recent rubber price expansion upon the ground that America herself was pursuing economic policies which embraced this precise principle and practice. Boycott can be only temporary relief and is fatal to trade relief and international understanding."

The minority report also says:

"The sane and liberal policy of abolishing unfair trade methods and practices by mutual agreement would discredit as almost suicidal the policy of rebuffing applications for American loans to owners of such monopolies as coffee and rubber. This policy, on the contrary, would suggest, first, that agreements be entered into to avoid price inflations, and secondly that loans would be freely made but on the condition precedent that fair and reasonable prices of a monopoly product should be guaranteed to American purchasers. The fatuous and short-sighted course of refusing loans advocated by some in high position not only falsely assumes that loans could not be procured elsewhere, in Amsterdam or London, for example, but such course irritates and invites price holdups later. A glance at the world economic and trade situation must convince any far-seeing person that unless commercial nations are to bump along in the future under conditions of frequent boycott, retaliations and war-breeding trade controversies, the policy of fair trade methods and friendly trade relations must be developed through mutual agreements.

In giving an account of a report filed by Representative Shallenberger incident to the investigation, the New York "Times" had the following to say in Washington advices March 15:

A charge that American tire manufacturers made the "so-called British control" an excuse for boosting the price of their product and a criticism of Secretary Hoover's recommendation that American bankers should withhold credit from foreign combinations curtailing supplies of raw material urgently needed in this country were embodied in a report to the House to-day by Representative Shallenberger of Nebraska, Democratic member of the Inter-State Commerce Committee.

The report was critical of the one made to the House on Saturday by the majority of the committee by Representative Newton of Minnesota, Republican, who held that publicity of the exactions of the British rubber control had forced it to reduce the price of raw rubber in the American market. This was denied by Mr. Shallenberger, who said that rubber prices on the New York market had dropped about 50% since Feb. 1, due

to the action of the British in authorizing a release on that date of 100% of their standard rubber production.

He also said that American tire manufacturers failed to give the public the benefit of the price reduction in crude rubber brought about by the February release of the British rubber producers.

Says Peak Price Was Never Paid.

Asserting that American manufacturers had not paid anywhere near the peak prices of \$1.01 and \$1.21 a pound for crude rubber in 1925, Mr. Shallenberger directed attention to a statement authorized by Secretary Hoover to the effect that this country had imported that year rubber to the value of \$860,000,000, a much larger sum, he said, than would have been expended at anything like "fair prices." Mr. Shallenberger insists that the amount paid for crude rubber by this country in 1925 was \$479,000,000 instead of \$860,000,000, and that "if it was worth \$860,000,000, our importers still owe the British rubber producers a lot of money.

"What the Secretary, perhaps, meant to state," he added, "was that it was worth \$860,000,000 to the rubber manufacturers of America because they charged the American consumers a gross advance of \$500,000,000 behind the smoke screen of foreign price controls."

Mr. Shallenberger declared that following the "widely advertised" advance in crude rubber prices, tires that formerly sold for \$27 were increased to \$54.

Mr. Shallenberger asserted that Department of Commerce reports show that the average cost of rubber to importers in 1925 was only 48 cents a pound, and he charges that the big tire companies did not pay the average. He said it was clearly shown that rubber did not cost them 10 cents above the agreed fair price for crude rubber in the Far East, and added that the increase paid by American tire manufacturers in 1925 amounted to only \$88,000,000, "whereas the manufacturers boosted the cost of their wares to the public \$500,000,000."

Declaring that Firestone, Seiberling and United States Rubber admitted an advance of 50% on a million-dollar-sale volume, Mr. Shallenberger remarked: "Robber, robber, where is the rubber robber?" He avers that the profits of the tire manufacturers in 1925, which he said ranged from \$9,000,000 in the case of Fisk to \$17,000,000 in the case of United States Rubber, clearly revealed "who got the milk in the rubber price manipulation" of that year.

The resolution calling for the inquiry into alleged foreign monopolies of commodities was introduced on Dec. 18 by Representative Tilson of Connecticut, Republican leader of the House, and was passed by the House on Dec. 21. The introduction of the resolution followed a conference which Mr. Tilson had with secretary of Commerce Hoover. The latter had previously (Dec. 10) addressed a letter to Senator Capper, answering the Senator's inquiry "as to the present activities of combinations and monopolies to fix prices of our important raw material imports that have been created or fostered by foreign Governments." In this letter Secretary Hoover said:

This matter has become even more urgent than when two years ago you introduced some defensive legislation in support of which I addressed you at the time.

We are now subject to the full result of monopoly action and we have no machinery of adequate defense. It is inherent in all unregulated monopolies everywhere that they never can be content with reasonable returns but must sooner or later undertake extortion. Without traversing the developments in all the ten or twelve combinations now running against us or in those that are in contemplation, I may use the single case of rubber as a sufficient illustration of where these things carry.

The control of rubber production in the British East Indies was organized under the Stevenson plan in 1922. That area produces about 70% of the world's rubber, and we consume about 70% of the world's rubber. At the time the plan was put into effect by Colonial legislation the claim was made that its purpose was to assure a fair price to the growers. The Growers Committee stated that such a fair price would be from 15 to 18 pence (30 to 36c.) per pound. We were assured that this "fair" price was the sole objective of the combination. Exhaustive investigations of the Department of Commerce into the industry in the East Indies showed that at that price the capital invested in the industry would earn an annual average profit of from 15 to 25%.

The price has been advanced during this year in the following stages, as shown by average New York spot quotations:

Month—	Cents.	Month—	Cents.	Month—	Cents.
January-----	36.7	May-----	58.4	September----	88.9
February-----	36.0	June-----	77.3	October-----	98.1
March-----	41.0	July-----	103.2	November-----	109.5
April-----	43.6	August-----	83.0	December-----	---

The price at one time reached \$1.21 per pound.

That the situation is wholly an artificial creation is evidenced by the fact that the normal world consumption of rubber for 1926 is estimated at about 580,000 tons, whereas the potential production if unrestricted would be probably 625,000 tons. We are therefore not in the midst of a genuine rubber famine but purely an artificial one created by restriction on production for the purpose of advancing prices.

Our imports for 1925 will be about 860,000,000 pounds, and at normal growth our consumption will be 900,000,000 pounds in 1926. At the price declared by the price fixing body as "fair" to them, our next year's supply would cost us about \$324,000,000, but at the present prices of \$1.10 per pound it will cost us about \$990,000,000, or \$666,000,000 in excess of the "fair" price.

These increased prices of rubber are a very real thing to every family in the United States. The price over and above the so-called "fair" price means an increased charge of probably \$20 or \$30 for each set of tires on a light automobile, and \$50 to \$70 for each set on a heavy car.

I may mention that if present prices are maintained against us, the excess sum of \$650,000,000 or \$700,000,000 which we shall pay is equal to more than twice the net earnings for dividends on all our electric power companies, or equal to 30% more than the net earnings for dividends of all our railways. It would seem, therefore, to be worth some attention.

The dangers to our manufacturing industry that may come through a collapse in the price are so great that some of the smaller manufacturers have ceased production as they fear they could not stand the loss of suddenly diminishing inventory values.

I have referred at length to the case of rubber merely by way of illustration. Coffee could be similarly used. All of these combinations are potentially dangerous.

The problem we have to confront is a most pertinent one. What can we do to defend ourselves against trade war being made upon us?

The measures that we can take of course vary with each combination. I do not wish to favor trade reprisals. Some of the following measures

would ultimately afford relief if we had them organized, and all are wholly defensive in nature:

1. Our bankers can be discouraged from giving American credits to the support of these combinations.

2. We should initiate a strong systematic campaign for voluntary saving in use in every one of the commodities where these combinations become extortionate.

In an address in New York the current week (March 16) Secretary Hoover alluded to "the increasing practice of foreign Governments directly or indirectly to create controls of raw materials for price-fixing purposes" and this address is referred to under another head in this issue of our paper. In furtherance of its inquiry the House Inter-State and Foreign Commerce Committee conducted hearings—its investigation into the effects of the British rubber monopoly on American economic life having been concluded on Jan. 22, the last witness being Secretary of War Davis, who in closed session told of the problem as viewed from the standpoint of national defense. The committee later directed its attention to inquiring into alleged foreign monopoly of coffee, nitrates, sisal, etc. During the course of the investigation both Sir Robert Horne, formerly Chancellor of the British Exchequer, and Sir Esme Howard, British Ambassador to the United States, defended Great Britain against the criticisms which had been directed against that country. In copyright advices to the New York "Times" from London, Jan. 2, Sir Robert Horne said in part:

I am, perhaps, in as good a position as any unofficial person to put forward a point of view, as I was Chancellor of the Exchequer at the time when there was formulated the scheme of restricted export—commonly known as the Stevenson plan—which many people in America are condemning as a cause of great injury to the United States.

As to Need for Restrictions.

The circumstances which gave rise to the restriction of export were these: There had been a great slump in the price of rubber in 1920, which was followed by a protracted depression. Enormous stocks of surplus rubber had accumulated. The prices at which rubber was being sold were, in many cases, not paying for the production. The vast capital which had been put into the rubber industry was in jeopardy, and ruin stared a great many of the planters in the face. It was commonly anticipated that the majority of the rubber plantations would fall back into a condition of jungle and that the work of many years in building up the industry would be wiped out.

In these conditions a scheme was provided that the producers should only export 60% of their standard production, but a scale was arranged whereby if the price of rubber was maintained above 30 cents for three consecutive months, an extra 5% should automatically be allowed to be exported in the following quarter. Similarly, if the price was maintained at over 36 cents an increased export of 10% was to be permitted. There was a similar diminishing scale under which exports should be reduced by 5% if the price were reduced to under 24 cents.

Far too much importance has been attributed to this restriction scheme as affecting the price of rubber. It has, I think, come to me that at the time it was instituted it stopped a rot which would, in my view, have ended in disaster for the rubber trade. But it is ridiculous to say that it alone is responsible for the present high prices of the commodity.

Says Demand Has Raised Prices.

The chief cause of the increased price is the enormous growth in the demand for rubber—particularly in the United States. The advent of the balloon tire has been an important factor in this development. The demand suddenly outran the supply.

To prove this it is only necessary to look at what happened after the restriction scheme was put in force. It began its operation in November 1921, and for two years thereafter the average price was over 30 cents in only the second of three monthly periods. So recently as July 1924—a year and eight months after the institution of the Stevenson scheme—the average price for one quarter was actually less than 22 cents. It is, therefore, obvious that the restriction scheme was not then acting in the direction of raising prices unduly.

Similarly, if one looks at the prices which are being fixed for supplies after next February, when there is to be a full release for export of the whole standard production, one finds that they vary very little from the prices at which contracts were being made before it was announced that there was to be a resumption of 100% export. This means that the demand is sufficient to take up the full supply, even at present prices.

The truth is that the old rule of supply and demand applies to prices in the rubber industry just as in every other.

I am inclined, however, to press the point further. My opinion is that without the restriction scheme many plantations would have been in difficulties during 1921 and 1922, and I doubt whether the supply of rubber would have been as good as it is to-day, and that for that reason the prices would probably have been higher than now.

Asks What Is Our Disadvantage.

But whatever view the American manufacturer and consumer of rubber takes of the British scheme of restriction, I am puzzled to understand what disadvantage he thinks he suffers from. He is paying exactly the same price for his rubber as his British, French or Italian competitor. The British manufacturer gains no benefit at the expense of the American, and the American suffers no prejudice at the hands of the British. In the world's markets they are on absolutely an equal footing. Indeed, this understanding is the case because the United States is so much more prosperous than any other nation that it could afford to bear the increased price for rubber better than the manufacturers of any other country.

If it is said that the United States uses more rubber than any other nation, and therefore carries a greater total of the burden, that is because there are 110,000,000 Americans and only 45,000,000 British people, but the total profits which the Americans make out of the rubber which they buy are correspondingly greater. In addition, the private market of the American manufacturer is so much more extensive than that of his competitors that he ought to be able to produce more cheaply than they can.

I see that it has been stated in America that the British Government guaranteed that the price of rubber should not rise beyond 36 cents. No such guarantee has ever been given by any person in behalf of the British Government and no evidence of such a guarantee can be produced.

Statements, I know, were made by some rubber producers to the effect that they believed that if the rubber industry got a fair chance the Ameri-

can manufacturers would be able to obtain all the rubber they required at 36 cents. I believe that in this view they would have been proved not far wrong if the consumers, instead of adopting a hand-to-mouth policy in purchasing, had placed their orders with sufficient foresight to enable the rubber industry to accommodate itself to the prospective demand.

In my closing sentence I should like to revert to a consideration which I put forward in the earlier part of this article. I agree with those who think the present high prices of rubber are a disadvantage ultimately to the rubber-producing industry itself. I should like to see them back at a more healthy figure. I am confident that the ordinary operation of economic laws and market conditions will bring about that result.

Sir Esme's defense of Great Britain was contained in an address delivered in New York on Jan. 23 before the Advertising Club of New York, and Representative Tilson, commenting on Jan. 24 on the Ambassador's remarks, was quoted in the New York "Times" as saying:

"I welcome the British Ambassador's defense of his Government's action in establishing a monopoly in crude rubber and thereby lifting prices to present levels, because we can only clear these matters by frank discussion," said Mr. Tilson. "Sir Esme properly discusses the matter from the viewpoint of the consumer. Our mutual difficulty is also confirmed, that when Governments enter the commodity business, the prices, the conditions and the conduct of such business become matters of debate between nations instead of between merchants, and as he says, 'I am willing to agree that monopolies in raw materials exercised by Government action are, generally speaking, a misfortune and likely to lead to international friction.'"

"Sir Esme rightly states that the British consumers are treated to the same prices as ours and also that they are complaining about it. It is desirable to recall that the United Kingdom consumes 12% of the world's rubber, while we consume 75%, therefore, there is not wholly an equality in the burden. The fact that her citizens are complaining would seem to confirm the complaints from this side.

"The Ambassador, like many others, seems to have been misled into the belief that the monopoly has been abandoned by the announcement that the release of export restrictions will be 100% on Feb. 1. The hearings before our committee proved that the real production is from 115 to 125% on the scale used, and that from 15% to 25% restriction is still in force after Feb. 1.

Restrictions Maintain Prices.

"It was shown that if the restrictions were to be entirely withdrawn the prices would drop still further and, therefore, the continued restrictions must be for the purposes of further upholding of price and continuing the monopoly. It is interesting to note that the increased exports on Feb. 1 were announced after the American consumers' protests, and while this has contributed to reduce the price, yet it is still 400% over the cost of production, which was shown to be about 17 cents per pound."

"Sir Esme considers the action of his Government as having been necessary to save the industry from disaster caused by the world slump in 1920. This was denied before our committee, and it is interesting to note the following statement from The London Daily Telegraph of Jan. 15 1923, written before the monopoly got its prices into action and after the slump had passed:

"Speaking generally, the cost of producing rubber has been so surprisingly reduced that within the present price of over 1 shilling 3 pence (30 cents) per pound for the commodity, practically all the companies are now working at a profit."

"There can be few industries that have come through the world depression with so little loss as the rubber industry. Not a single rubber company has disappeared and there have been fewer appeals for capital and less numerous reconstructions than in other industries of equal magnitude."

Compares Rubber to Cotton.

"The evidence before our committee shows that while the rubber industry was coming so successfully through the world slump our own farmers were going bankrupt right and left selling their product to Great Britain for less than cost. It was also shown that the cost of producing cotton is about the same as rubber, and I have no doubt of the volume of international friction if our Government had fixed the price of cotton at \$1 or even 72 cents.

"The Ambassador's statement seems to justify the present prices of 73 cents per pound as reasonable—or the average price of \$1 per pound which preceded American action in reducing consumption and taking steps to procure supplies from elsewhere. I may mention that the law creating the monopoly implies that a fair price was to be 36 cents a pound—upon which it has been conceded that the growers receive 15 to 25% profit."

"The law itself provides an increase or decrease of restrictions on production above and below this price. Moreover, the hearings before our committee show amply that the representatives of the British Planters' Committee repeatedly gave assurances, both to the British and American consumers, that 36 cents was a fair price and was all they desired.

"Every 33 cents above this price means \$300,000,000 annually to the American consumer on our rate of imports, and when our investigation began it was twice 33 cents above the 'fair' price. This does not seem to be very consistent with the notion that prices are even yet very reasonable.

Britain May Change Rubber Releases.

According to Associated Press cablegrams from London March 18, Colonial Secretary Amery stated in the House of Commons that day that he was closely watching the rubber situation, and hoped to be able to make a public notification, possibly in about a fortnight, regarding the release of crude rubber under the Stevenson restriction scheme. These advices (quoted from the New York "Journal of Commerce") add:

This declaration was made in answer to a question regarding the intentions of the Colonial Office in the matter.

Upholds Hoover's Policy.

Eric Miller, former Chairman of the British Rubber Growers' Association, and a member of the committee which formulated the Stevenson plan, told the guests at an American Chamber of Commerce luncheon to-day that he considered Secretary Hoover's efforts to arouse the interests of Americans in the importance of the rubber industry entirely proper.

He differed with Mr. Hoover only over details, such as the attention which the Secretary gave to the speculative phase of the industry.

"It is amazing," he said, "that the United States, which consumes two-thirds of the world's rubber production, is represented by only 2½% of the capital invested in the industry. This fact alone shows what faith and confidence the Americans must have had in the British methods."

Mr. Miller reiterated the British contention that the Stevenson plan benefited every user of rubber in the world as it saved the plantations from

ruin. Many gross exaggerations had been made in the United States regarding the rubber situation, he said, denying that the members of the British committee which visited the United States in 1923, had pledged unlimited supplies of rubber at prices ranging from 15d. to 18d. (30c. to 36c.) a pound.

The speaker declared there was no violation of the law of supply and demand when the power of securing the supply of a product was put into the hands of the buyers alone.

This, he maintained, was the case with the Stevenson plan, with its system of rising and falling releases of the product. The buyers' function under the scheme, he said, was to maintain standard prices in order to keep the releases in operation.

Inter-States Commerce Commission Denies Application of Western Roads for Authority to Reduce Freight Rates on Long Hauls.

The Inter-State Commerce Commission, for the second time in five years, denied on March 13 the application of Western Transcontinental railroads for authority to depart from the long-and short-haul provision of the Inter-State Commerce Act. The carriers had sought permission to reduce freight rates on long hauls without applying the cuts to intermediate movements. The roads' petition involved reductions on 47 commodities, moving from origin territory west of the Indiana State line to Pacific Coast terminals, the lower rates having been sought to cope with Eastern manufacturers who can ship through the Panama Canal. The Commission by a 7 to 3 vote, with Commissioners Eseh, Meyer and Aitchison dissenting, held that the reduced rates would have diverted a substantial volume of traffic, principally iron and steel articles, from interior Eastern points to Chicago territory, and would have deprived Eastern lines of the revenue they now derive from the movement of such traffic to Atlantic ports. No estimate of this loss, it is said, appeared in the record of the case. With an all-rail movement from Chicago of 300,000 tons of iron and steel a year and a gain of 50% because of the reduction in rail rates, the Commission declared by way of illustration, the Eastern lines would lose the revenue of 150,000 tons. "If this tonnage should be lost to the Pittsburgh district," it asserted, "the Eastern lines would lose in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000. At 40 cents per 100 pounds the loss to the water lines would exceed \$1,000,000." The Associated Press advices from Washington also stated:

While the gain to the Western lines would about offset the loss to the Eastern carriers and water lines, the commission added, the Eastern roads would not only "suffer a loss of revenue through a reduction in the waterborne traffic, but the increase in the spread between the all-rail rates from Chicago and from the East would tend to deprive them of a considerable proportion of such traffic as now originates in the East and moves by rail."

The dissenting commissioners, who set forth their views at length, declared the majority had failed to decide the question whether the proposed cuts, if applied on shorter hauls, would be fully compensatory, or whether the present rates to the intermediate territory are reasonable or unreasonable.

This, they declared, had "always been considered one of the fundamental questions in cases of this kind."

The principal commodities on which the roads sought reductions were iron and steel, paper and paper products, ammunition, cotton piece goods, lard substitutes, paint, roofing, rosin, soap and soda.

Extensive hearings were held throughout the country, with Midwest interests, excepting iron and steel industries affiliated with the United States Steel Corporation, generally supporting the reduced rates, and Eastern manufacturers and shippers aligned with the opposition. Except for certain lumber, fruit, mining and flour milling interests, those in the intermountain territory also withheld their support of the proposed reductions.

From the New York "Times" we take the following regarding the majority opinion:

Commissioners Lewis and Woodlock, concurring in the decision, stated that the situation emphasized the necessity of placing the rates for transportation through the Panama Canal under regulation.

"The first and most necessary step," said Commissioner Woodlock, "to a proper settlement of the matter is to place the canal rates under the regulative jurisdiction of this commission, with a view to prescription of minimum coast-to-coast rates. In my judgment the Congress should legislate to this effect at as early a date as possible."

The decision of the Inter-State Commerce Commission came at a time when the so-called long and short bill introduced by Senator Gooding of Idaho, to bar the commission from granting reductions in long-haul rates, such as requested by the Western carriers, was being debated in the Senate.

The Commission has been opposed to having its hands completely tied by the adoption of such a measure, and there has been considerable opposition to the bill among Administration Senators. It is believed that this decision, which places the Commission on record as against the rate reductions, will help the opponents of the bill, and that it may not be adopted in the present session.

The chief commodities on which permission to reduce rates was asked were iron and steel articles, paper and paper articles, ammunition, cotton goods, lard substitutes, paint, roofing rosin, soap and soda. These new rates would be from points specified from the Chicago district on the East, to Denver, Colo., on the West, to the Pacific Coast terminals, the desire being to meet competition of traffic which now goes from these points to East or Gulf ports and thence west by way of the Panama Canal.

One of the contentions made was that the new rate arrangement would place the manufacturers of the Middle West more nearly upon a rate equality with their Eastern competitors, who by reason of their location on or near the Atlantic seaboard enjoy the advantage of cheaper water transportation to the Pacific ports.

Second Time Application Fails.

"The applicants," the Commission said, "hope that by stimulating traffic through the proposed reductions they may be able to increase their

net revenues, but they do not propose to apply the reduced rates to intermediate destinations, since to do so would more than offset the gain from increased traffic to the ports."

There have been former applications of a like nature, the last of which, except the present application, was passed upon adversely by the Commission in the so-called transcontinental cases of 1922. The Eastern carriers joined with the Western carriers in the former application, but did not join in the case decided today.

"It is claimed," the Commission commented to-day, "that the reductions proposed are necessary if the Western rail carriers are to transport to the Pacific Coast in any volume articles produced or manufactured in the Middle West which are also produced on or near the Atlantic seaboard, and move therefrom through the Panama Canal at rates substantially lower than the present all-rail rates from the origin territory covered by this application."

Dealing with the growth of traffic through the Panama Canal, the Commission had this to say:

"From exhibits introduced by the applicants, it appears that in 1921 they hauled 83,473 tons westbound and the water lines 91,197 tons. In 1922 the movement by rail was 63,790 and by water 260,949 tons, and in the following year 82,563 and 446,310 tons, respectively. The figures given for the water movement are approximate only, as the classification of vessel cargoes is not as accurately kept as is the case with traffic moving by rail. The United States Shipping Board reports a movement through the Canal of iron and steel articles during June, July and August 1923 of 386,689 long tons, equivalent to 433,092 net tons.

"The rail carriers recognize that transportation by water is so much cheaper than by rail that they cannot hope to divert to their lines much, if any, traffic which may originate at the Atlantic or Gulf ports or close thereto. Most of the production, however, is inland, and they anticipate that by reducing their rates from Chicago and related territory so as more nearly to equal the combination of the rail-and-water rates from the principal Eastern originating points, more tonnage will move over their lines, thus increasing their net revenues."

Eastern Manufacturers Oppose Plea.

Eastern manufacturers, the Commission says, generally oppose the application, contending that the relief sought is based on market competition rather than water competition and that such competition is not sufficient ground for the granting of the relief.

The Commission did not believe that all of the benefits which the Western carriers hoped to obtain would be realized.

"It is unnecessary to proceed through the entire list of commodities enumerated in the application," the Commission said. "Considered as a whole, it cannot be said that the proposed terminal rates, with the exception of the rate on ammunition, are lower than would be necessary to permit the Middle West manufacturers to compete on relatively equal terms with manufacturers located at some distance from the seaboard who ship their products through the Atlantic ports.

But before the relief from the operation of the fourth section which is here sought may be granted we must be satisfied there would not thereby be created infractions of other provisions of the Act, particularly those of Section 3 prohibiting undue or unreasonable preference or advantage or prejudice or disadvantage to persons or localities. We should likewise be convinced that the adjustment proposed will result in the substantial benefits which its proponents anticipate."

Fear War With Water Carriers.

The Commission then took up the subject of whether the water carriers, which are not regulated, would lower their rates if the rate reductions asked by the carriers in the application were granted.

"The proposed rates on iron and steel articles, from which the applicants hope to obtain their greatest increase in net revenue, might be expected to divert some of the traffic which now originates in the Pittsburgh district if the rail and water rates from Pittsburgh remain the same. There is no assurance, however, that the Eastern rail carriers, and particularly the water lines, would permit any substantial diversion of their traffic without making an effort to retain it. They would be urged to take this action by Eastern manufacturers whose business would suffer through loss of their Pacific Coast trade, and the record shows that in one instance a committee already has been appointed to appeal to them for offsetting rate reductions in the event the proposed rates are permitted to become effective.

"A slight reduction in the water rate would suffice to retain the advantage to the rail-and-water route, and this would call for further reductions in the rates of the Western carriers to bring about the near equalization of the Middle West and Eastern markets. On the other hand, if the Western carriers were not inclined to meet reductions in the water or rail-and-water rates the competitive situation would remain as it is at present, the revenues of the applicants and the water lines would be unnecessarily reduced, and the Pacific Coast shippers would receive the only advantage.

Water Traffic Restricted.

"There is another phase of this matter which must not be overlooked. Section 500 of the Transportation Act, 1920, declares the policy of Congress to be 'to promote, encourage and develop water transportation service and facilities in connection with the commerce of the United States, and to foster and preserve in full vigor both rail and water transportation.'

"The field of operations of the water lines is restricted to a comparatively narrow area along the Atlantic seaboard and to a much narrower area along the Pacific Coast. Since but little traffic originates at the ports, the water lines must reach out for it into the interior. The inherent disadvantages of shipping by water, prohibit them from competing with the rail lines at points where the combined rail and water charges equal the all-rail charges, and consequently the territory from which they may draw traffic is confined to an area from which the rail rates plus the water charges are substantially lower than the all-rail rates.

"Their destination territory is confined almost exclusively to the Pacific Coast cities. Unlike the rail carriers they have no intermediate territory from which to draw or whic to deliver traffic. It is strongly urged, therefore, that to permit the Western carriers to publish the proposed rates from Chicago for the avowed purpose of depriving the water lines of a substantial portion of such traffic as they are now able to obtain would be to disregard wholly the policy of Congress to promote, encourage and develop water transportation. To be of material benefit to the rail carriers, a substantial portion of this tonnage must be diverted to their lines. The declared policy of Congress is to foster and preserve in full vigor both rail and water transportation.

"If the hopes of the applicants should be realized, the benefits which they as a whole might obtain from the granting of the application would be greatly disproportionate to the loss which the water lines would suffer. The record shows that the total tonnage, both eastbound and westbound of all the water lines is but a very small fraction of that of the trans-continental carriers operating west of Chicago. It is evident therefore that the diversion of any substantial tonnage, both eastbound and westbound, could have but an inappreciable effect on the net revenues of the rail carriers. On the other hand, it might very seriously impair the ability of the water lines to maintain their present standard of service.

"Upon full consideration of the record, we find that the application for authority to depart from the long-and-short-haul provision of the fourth section of the act should be denied."

Amendments to Watson-Parker Bill for Adjustment of Railroad Labor Disputes Urged by Manufacturers, Shippers and Farm Organizations.

It was announced this week that renewed efforts will be made to have the Watson-Parker Railroad Labor Disputes Bill "amended to adequately protect the public interest in uninterrupted railroad service and reasonable rate charges." The bill is now before the Senate. According to an announcement made this week by the National Association of Manufacturers, that organization, numerous State associations of manufacturers and commercial shippers in a majority of the States, and the fourteen railroads, have joined in a statement to the Senate of the United States, urging amendments to the pending bill.

The four amendments to be urged are:

1. Adoption of the proposal of the American Farm Bureau Federation and the National Grange that power to control wage awards and agreements now possessed by the Railroad Labor Board be transferred to the Inter-State Commerce Commission. This assures the preservation of existing public safeguards. The alternative is, in the language of the former Chairman of the Railroad Executives, addressed to the Howell-Barkley bill, to "leave the question of increases in railroad wages to the uncontrolled agreements of the parties or to the casual arbitration tribunals that may be agreed upon by them."

2. To place upon the parties to a railroad labor dispute a clear legal obligation to preserve continuity of service during an investigation into the merits of such dispute through a committee appointed by the President. The provisions of the bill intended to accomplish this object are ambiguous in themselves and the subject of contradictory interpretation by the bill's proponents. They should be clarified in the public interest. "Such legislation," said the President in his message to Congress Dec. 3 1924, "will not meet the requirements of the situation unless it recognizes the principle that the public has a right to the uninterrupted service of transportation."

3. The investigating committee to be appointed by the President in an emergency should possess the authority necessary to its task. The possession of such power cannot lessen the efficacy of the committee. Its absence imperils the performance of its function. Compulsory power is given in the bill to private arbitrators appointed by the parties to a dispute. Why should a public committee representing the people of the United States in a crisis have less authority?

4. The President should be empowered to appoint a committee of investigation when, in his judgment, a substantial interruption of transportation is threatened. Under the bill he can only do so on recommendation of the Board of Mediation. The responsibility of protecting the public interest against a paralysis of transportation rests upon the Chief Executive. His authority and discretion should correspond with his responsibility.

Among the bodies urging these amendments are:

The National Association of Manufacturers, the Denver & Salt Lake RR. Co., Minneapolis & St. Louis RR. Co., Denver & Rio Grande Western RR. Co., Kansas City Southern Ry. Co., St. Louis-San Francisco Ry. Co., St. Louis Southwestern Ry. Co., Bangor & Aroostook RR. Co., Maine Central RR. Co., Erie RR. Co., Delaware & Hudson Co., Western Maryland RR., Virginian RR., Missouri-Kansas-Texas Lines, Chicago & Alton RR. Co., &c. &c.

In an item in our issue of March 6 (page 1257), referring to the adoption of the bill by the House, we gave the views previously expressed by representatives of the National Association of Manufacturers regarding the bill. In the current issue of our paper we note the diverging views of members of the Association of Railway Executives anent the bill.

Divided Views of Members of Association of Railway Executives on Watson-Parker Bill for Adjustment of Railroad Labor Disputes—Opposition of L. F. Loree.

The opposition previously voiced by L. F. Loree, President of the Delaware & Hudson, to the Watson-Parker bill, providing new legislation for the adjustment of railroad labor disputes, was evidenced anew this week, at the meeting in this city on March 18 of the Association of Railway Executives. In giving in our issue of March 6, page 1257, an account of the adoption of the bill by the House of Representatives, we made known the stand taken against the bill by Mr. Loree, at the same time stating that the proponents of the bill had as their leader W. W. Atterbury, President of the Pennsylvania RR. At the meeting of the Railway Executives on the 17th, majority members of the Association endorsed the action of its Labor Committee in supporting the bill, while a minority group of the Association, under the leadership of Mr. Loree, adopted a resolution notifying the Secretary of the Association that under no circumstances did they wish to be included among the railroads endorsing the acts of the organization's Labor Committee. The New York "Times," which thus records the action of the two factions, also had the following to say in its issue of March 18:

The Labor Committee of the association, headed by General W. W. Atterbury, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, formulated the provisions of the Watson-Parker bill in conjunction with a similar committee appointed by the railway labor unions.

Want I.-S. C. C. to Control.

Yesterday's action constituted a last-minute effort by the minority group to insert in the bill a provision that the Inter-State Commerce Commission may set aside any wage agreement reached by the railroads and their employees.

Mr. Loree charged that enactment of the Watson-Parker bill would remove the protection to the public against a possible increase in freight rates and leave the railroads at the mercy of the wage demands of their employees. His fight against the bill dates back to the association's convention at Chicago, when 80% of the country's railroad mileage went on record as favoring the passage of the act.

All of his arguments were met by General Atterbury, representing the majority, who declared that the passage of the bill would herald a new era in the relations between railroad employer and employee and would go down in history as the "Locarno" of the railway labor situation.

Meeting defeat on the main issue, the opponents attempted to adopt a resolution placing restrictions on possible actions of the new Board of Mediation formed under the provisions of the bill to replace the present Railroad Labor Board.

Resolution Voted Down.

This resolution introduced by W. G. Bied, receiver and operating head of the Chicago & Alton, was defeated by an adverse vote from 75% of the country's railroad mileage. It read:

"Provided that the Inter-State Commerce Commission may upon its own motion suspend the operation of any such award, or any wage agreement, between the parties to this act, except one resulting from the operation of Section 10, if the commission is of the opinion that such award or agreement involves any increases in wages or salary, likely to necessitate the substantial readjustment of the rates of any carrier. The Inter-State Commerce Commission shall hear any award or agreement so suspended, and as soon as practicable and with due diligence affirm or modify such suspended award or agreement."

Although the majority voted down this proposal, which also bore the endorsement of the National Grange and the American Farm Bureau, it agreed to refer the matter to the Labor Committee for conference and the taking of "such action as may seem wise after such conferences and as may be consistent with agreements already made in respect to the proposed legislation."

Minority Records Dissent.

This did not satisfy Mr. Loree and his friends who decided at the minority convention that the President of each railroad represented there should inform the Secretary of the association in writing of his dissent from the majority and the reasons therefor.

Prominent among those who shared Mr. Loree's view were E. N. Brown, Chairman of the St. Louis, San Francisco Railway and the Pere Marquette; W. H. Williams, Chairman of the Wabash; Frank G. Alfred, President of the Pere Marquette; C. E. Shaff, President of the Missouri-Kansas-Texas; Daniel Upthecrope, President of the St. Louis Southwestern and James E. Gorman, President of the Rock Island.

Forty-three railroads, constituting about 75% of the mileage, represented the majority at the meeting and nineteen roads the minority. Thirty-eight roads, including the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, were not represented.

Mr. Loree in a letter addressed on March 18 to S. J. Strong, Secretary of the Association of Railway Executives, declares that "the attitude of the majority membership toward the Watson-Parker bill is an absolute reversal of the position taken by the executives against the Howell-Barkley bill and the testimony offered, at their request, by Hale Holden, Alfred P. Thom, Mr. Neill and other representatives. The introduction and handling of this bill," he further says, "invites disaster to the railroad interests." He likewise says that the action of the majority in referring to the Labor Committee the amendments proposed by the farm organizations was "a mere parliamentary method of burying it." Mr. Loree in part states:

The farm population constitutes 32,000,000. They supply approximately 35% of the materials used in manufacturing industries, and if forest products are included, about 75%. They supply one-fifth of the total tonnage of freight carried by the railroads. They produce one-half of the value of our exports. They pay one-fifth of the costs of government, contribute one-sixth of the national income, and represent one-fifth of the national wealth. They claim, and rightly claim, that their position has for the last ten years been steadily growing worse, and rightly fear that this bill contemplates a large increase in railroad wage expenses, to be followed by demands for increases in railroad freight rates.

A request coming from their official representatives was of sufficient importance to require a frank discussion and a determination of the policy of the association upon the floor. The reference to the labor committee, where action will be dependent upon the committee's ability to agree with representatives of labor, was a mere parliamentary method of burying it.

Eastern Presidents Conference Names Committee to Confer With Trainmen on Wage Demands.

The Eastern Presidents' Conference appointed on March 18 a committee to confer with representatives of the conductors and trainmen in regard to the demands of the latter for increased wages. Mr. Loree, Chairman of the conference, announced that the committee, would comprise the following: John G. Walber, Vice-President in charge of personnel of the New York Central; C. E. Denney, Vice-President and General Manager of the New York Chicago & St. Louis; C. H. Ewing, Vice-President and General Manager of the Reading Company; C. W. Galloway, Vice-President of the Baltimore & Ohio; R. V. Massey, General Manager of the Pennsylvania Railroad Lines in the East, and Vice-President Pollock, of the Boston & Maine. The proposal to name the committee was made known in our issue of Saturday last, page 1406.

Proposal for All-American Ship Canal Connecting Great Lakes with Atlantic Ocean.

Supplementing his message to the New York Legislature on March 8 in support of the proposal for the construction of an all-American ship canal from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean through New York State, Governor Smith of New York on March 15 made public a letter which he

addressed to the Senators and Representatives in Congress from New York State, in which he presented arguments as to the advantages of the all-American proposal. The Governor expressed it as his conviction that "a ship canal from lakes to sea has become a necessity to the commercial needs of our country; . . . that the route of the American canal, following the long-established line of traffic, is the best one to build, and that an American canal is the only one for which American capital should be spent." The Governor's message to the New York Legislature appeared in our issue of a week ago, page 1403. His letter to the Senators and Representatives, as given in the New York "Times" March 16, follows:

For more than a century and a half this country has talked of connecting the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean by a ship canal. One hundred years ago this desire was partially met by the construction of the old Erie Canal, and it is doubtful if any transportation project was ever a greater success.

Up to 1883, the year that tolls were abolished, the Erie Canal together with its branches, chiefly the Oswego Canal, had repaid the State not only all it had cost for construction, operation and maintenance, but it had turned in the handsome profit of \$43,599,177 over and above these charges.

What was of greater benefit, however, than mere dollars, the Erie Canal fostered the growth of that great industrial zone which, with its chain of cities and factories, extends from Buffalo to Troy and on down the Hudson River to end at Greater New York. When the railroads appeared they followed this well-established trade route, so that as a traffic line to the West it was not only the first in point of time but it has remained the first in importance in this country.

Canals in War Emergency.

As the population of our Middle and Western States increased, lake commerce grew in proportion and the agitation for a deep waterway between our inland seas and the ocean became more pronounced. Then, without warning, came the World War and with it the necessity for transporting hundreds of thousands of tons of supplies from our Middle and Western States to the Atlantic seaboard, and for the first time it was proven beyond dispute that our railroads were not adequate to meet such an emergency.

To relieve the overburdened railroads, the Federal Government hastily designed and built barges to be used on the New York State Barge Canal, and, though boat operators disagree as to whether or not these vessels were of the proper type, none deny that they did carry many tons of bulk freight and that they did serve to relieve rail congestion.

The war, having clearly shown the necessity for a ship canal, both political parties heeded the warning and have given their promise to the American people that such a canal will be built.

A ship canal, however, is not needed solely to meet emergencies. Our five Great Lakes make up the largest body of inland waters in the world; the States bordering them are large in area, population and production. These Lake States with the more westerly ones, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri, now produce an enormous tonnage of both agricultural and manufacturing products. And as the years go by this output of farm and factory will surely increase and the demand for the cheaper water transportation to the markets of the world will become more insistent.

Deals Only with Transportation.

In the discussion of a ship canal from lakes to ocean, I shall deal with the subject solely as a transportation proposition divorced from the question of hydro-electric development, which is an entirely different problem, one which should stand by itself and not be permitted to befog the question of transportation.

There exist three possible routes for such a canal: One from the east end of Lake Ontario through the St. Lawrence Valley to the Gulf of St. Lawrence and thence to the sea. A second route leaves the St. Lawrence River at Lake St. Francis, runs through Canadian territory to Lake Champlain, thence to the Hudson River and the sea.

The third route leaves Lake Ontario at Oswego, passes through the Mohawk Valley to the Hudson and thence down the Hudson to the sea. It is this last, the so-called American route, that I believe should be built.

American Route to American Ports.

It is natural and proper that every American should wish the supremacy of American ports continued; to accomplish this, a ship canal to the lakes through American territory is a necessity.

The Canadian-St. Lawrence Canals in 1900 carried only 1,309,066 tons; in 1925 their business had increased to 6,206,988 tons. During the last eight years (1918-1925) the St. Lawrence Canals carried 14,575,180 tons of freight that originated in the United States. Every ton of this should have been carried on an American canal to or through an American port.

The American canal will not only provide the cheaper water rates desired by our Western States, but it will make Erie, Pa., Cleveland, Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Superior, Duluth and other lake cities seaports, having the shortest water route to every Atlantic port and to West Indies, Central and South American markets.

I say these lake cities will be seaports in spite of the contention so often heard that ocean ships will not go to nor navigate upon the lakes. The large and ever increasing tonnage handled at Montreal proves that so far as the success of a ship canal to the lakes is concerned, it is not necessary for ocean steamers to enter the lakes at all.

What is necessary is to provide a junction point where fresh and salt water tonnage may be exchanged, a port where the lighter-built lake steamers may meet and transfer cargo to the ocean vessel.

Fifty Hours from Lakes to Ocean.

That the American route is practical from the engineering standpoint has been certified by the army engineers who recently reviewed the exhaustive report of the special board which surveyed and reported on this route in 1900. To my way of thinking, the advantages of the American route are so evident that only a few arguments are necessary to convince any one not having some personal advantage to gain through the Canadian route that the American route is the one for this country, at least, to build.

The distance from the lakes to the Hudson is only 166 miles. It has been argued that canal navigation is too slow to meet modern traffic requirements, but a rate of 5 miles an hour is admitted to be practical on the canal proposed; this means that the actual canal journey can be made in 33½ hours.

The trip on the broad and deepened Hudson to Sandy Hook is 165 miles. Here steamers can run at full speed, let us say 10 miles an hour. The entire trip, then, from lakes to ocean can be made in 50 hours.

The American route runs through territory seldom troubled by fogs and ends at New York Harbor, where the ocean is free from the menace of icebergs

Finally, the success of any line of transportation depends upon the tonnage carried, and as the American canal will serve a region that, per square mile, produces more potential freight than any other territory in the country, this canal should, and in all probability will, carry more freight than any other inland waterway.

National Defense.

To say that a ship canal to the lakes would be an aid to our national defense in time of war is to state a fact as obvious as that rations are needed for troops. In recent letters to the Chairman of the Rivers and Harbors Committees of Congress both the Secretaries of War and of the Navy so declared themselves.

It is of small moment that, following the visit of certain politicians to the White House, the wording of their first letters was somewhat modified; the fact remains that the Secretary of War stated:

"In the event of a great war the transportation of the agricultural products and raw material of the Middle West to the Atlantic seaboard and to the thickly populated industrial areas of the Eastern and New England States would impose a great burden on the railroads. The probable resulting congestion could be relieved by the further development of the waterways connecting the Great Lakes with the Hudson River."

And the Secretary of the Navy said:

"I am of the opinion that the proposed all-American deeper waterway connecting the Hudson River with the Great Lakes, would be a very important addition to the transportation system of the country and would be, therefore, an important asset to the national defense."

Conclusions.

In my consideration of this subject, that phrase so convenient to the vacillating, "an open mind," has no place.

I am convinced that a ship canal from lakes to sea has become a necessity to the commercial needs of our country; that it will some day be built is inevitable; that the promise of both our major parties should be kept; that the time to fulfill that promise is now; that the route of the American canal, following the long established line of traffic, is the best one to build and that an American Canal is the only one for which American capital should be spent.

Very truly yours,

ALFRED A. SMITH.

According to the new Washington newspaper, the "United States Daily," a group of Senators and others interested in the proposed St. Lawrence waterway project which would connect the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean via the St. Lawrence River, called on President Coolidge on March 10 to protest against a letter written by Secretary of War Davis to Representative Dempsey of New York, in which he gave approval to the "All-American Canal." In part the paper quoted said:

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Included in the group are Senators Willis, Ohio, and Lenroot, Wisconsin; former Governor W. L. Harding, of Iowa; and Charles P. Craig, of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Tidewater Association.

Figures were presented to the President to show that the all-American plan would cost over half a billion dollars more than the St. Lawrence project.

Cost Is Estimated.

"To build the All-American Canal would cost \$600,000,000, with another \$30,000,000 for maintenance," said Senator Lenroot. "The St. Lawrence project would cost only \$270,000,000 with \$2,500,000 for maintenance, and the Canadian Government would pay half."

The White House spokesman on Tuesday indicated that President Coolidge's attitude on the Lakes-to-the-Ocean Waterway was still the same as that conveyed to Congress in his annual message. In that document, he called attention to the fact that the joint commission of the United States and Canada was still working on plans for the St. Lawrence project and that surveys of that route would not be completed and ready for report before April.

Objectors' Statement.

Later, the delegation went to the War Department to carry its protest directly to Secretary of War Davis, and after this conference the Great Lakes-Tidewater Association, under the signature of Charles P. Craig, executive director, issued a statement reading in part as follows:

Thousands of miles of peaceful unguarded boundary line between Canada and the United States after more than a century suddenly becomes a menace to peace, according to Secretary of War Dwight F. Davis.

Secretary Davis says, in response to a letter from S. Wallace Dempsey, chairman of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors:

"From the military standpoint it is essential that waterways connecting the Great Lakes with the Atlantic seaboard shall be entirely within American territory."

Presumably, Mr. Davis means entirely in United States territory.

This is vital news for in all the years that the development of the St. Lawrence River for deeper shipping has been discussed and studied, never has this thought of defense or danger therefrom been expressed by an army engineer, a war strategist, or a Secretary of War. Three administrations have approved the development of the St. Lawrence for ocean navigation as a relief to the freight congestion and high cost of transportation for the north Mississippi Valley.

Many Surveys.

Time after time our best army engineers have surveyed the St. Lawrence route and never once has any one of them reported that development was hazardous from a national defense standpoint. Many times eminent engineers, both Army and civil, have reported on routes, various and sundry, across New York State and never once has one of these engineers thought to make favorable report on these projects because of national defense.

Congress last year made further appropriation for a survey of a route across New York State to connect the Great Lakes with the ocean. There were a half dozen reports available but yet in order to satisfy Dempsey another report was ordered. The Division Engineers who made the report—Secretary Davis' own army engineers—after careful study and research reported to their superiors that the Dempsey route across New York State is not feasible because of the high cost of operation. This report is not final—only the report of the Divisional Engineers—and must still go to the army engineering board for checking and approval.

The report, however, being in harmony with former reports means that the only feasible workable route out to the sea from the Great Lakes is down the St. Lawrence. Mr. Dempsey has said the north Mississippi Valley is entitled to get to the ocean, but when the army engineers won't make the kind of report he wants he appeals to the Secretary of War and is accommodated with a letter raising the issue of national defense and danger.

International Question.

However, Secretary of War Davis, with his letter to Dempsey, raises an international question of defense between friendly neighbors. For

more than a century the United States and Canada have had 3,000 miles of unguarded boundary line—not a soldier, not a gun, not a suspicion, not a fear—and now the Secretary of War of the United States raises the question of defense. One hundred years of peace between Canada and the United States, one hundred years of unguarded boundary lines between two great nations—this is a world wonder and a world example—is now to be broken or jeopardized merely to defeat forty million landlocked people in their natural desire to use the St. Lawrence as a way out to sea.

The letter of Secretary Davis raises an issue, for if we build a deep-sea way across New York because we are afraid to trust Canada and join her in deepening the St. Lawrence, then rightfully the 9,000,000 people of Canada could well insist upon developing the St. Lawrence as a means for their defense.

Canada can beat us in completing the job. They have a 30-foot channel to Montreal and a 30-foot channel on to Buffalo, except for 33 miles and then a little more digging at Niagara Falls.

Power Facilities Compared.

Meantime, Canada can develop millions upon millions of electric power while we can develop no electric power in our journey across New York. Then, too Canada will have plenty of water and a channel that a gunboat can navigate—practically an ocean seaway. We will have a long winding channel with some water when and if it rains.

Mr. H. C. Gardner, an eminent engineer of Chicago, and President of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Tidewater Association, puts the matter well in the following:

Suppose we should proceed with the construction of the "All-American" shipway from the Hudson across New York State to Oswego, what would be the inevitable reaction in Canada and Great Britain? With such Hudson-Oswego route completed, we would be in position to put into Lake Ontario, without let or hindrance, battleships and cruisers, destroyers, and submarines and what not in the way of fighting craft. Would the people of Toronto, Hamilton and other cities of Ontario feel secure? True, we have a treaty under which both nations are bound to keep war craft out of the lakes, but treaties do not always save the day.

Discusses Reaction.

The reaction inevitably would be bad, there would come instantly a demand by our neighbors for the immediate construction of their Georgian Bay route, and the two countries would find themselves racing for the earliest completion of the two shipways, each a potential danger to the other country. Would this make for peace? With the Georgian Bay route under construction, how would the people of Detroit, Milwaukee, Chicago and a hundred other places look upon the situation? One early reaction would be a demand for the immediate fortification of the Straits of Mackinac and the creation of modern defense works at Fort Gratiot, Mich. Could our Government neglect such necessary precautions and resist the political and other varieties of pressure that would demand those fortifications? They would be finished and fitted before either shipway could be completed—and how would the peace probabilities on our North American continent look then?

Secretary's Position.

Secretary of War Davis declared Wednesday that he had made no comparative study of the All-American waterway and the St. Lawrence routes nor of their commercial possibilities.

In his letter to Rep. Dempsey, the Secretary answered a formal specific question as to the military value of the All-American Canal. Such an inquiry from the chairman of a Congressional committee requires an answer, and the answer was confined to the question, it was pointed out.

The letter of the Secretary, it was said at the Department, did not attempt to state whether the military value of the All-American Waterway was sufficient to justify the construction of the canal, nor did it discuss the commercial features.

The Secretary has formed no opinion as to the relative merits of either of the proposed routes, it was stated.

It was stated in Associated Press dispatches from Washington March 15 that national defense considerations raised by advocates of a New York all-American route for a ship canal from the Great Lakes to the sea were assailed that day before the board of army engineers by Senator Lenroot, Republican, of Wisconsin, who declared such an issue never should have been brought into the question. The New York "Evening Post" in stating this added:

Such action, he said, could be justified only by those who looked for war between the United States and Canada, and he said wherever a waterway was built it would be subject to airplane or artillery bombardment. He favored the St. Lawrence route.

The use by Representative Dempsey, Chairman of the House Rivers and Harbors Committee, of letters from Secretaries Wilbur and Davis touching national defense aspects of an all-American canal also was assailed by the Senator, who said the Secretaries had not expressed opinions regarding costs of such a waterway.

Representative Dempsey replied the letters spoke for themselves, although Mr. Lenroot said they were merely for information of the House committee.

Calls Erie "White Elephant."

The Erie Canal, part of the proposed All-American, was assailed by Lenroot as a "white elephant" which New York wanted to get rid of.

Senators from Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin and Representatives in the House from Minnesota, North Dakota and other Lake States supported Senator Lenroot.

The army engineers were urged to-day by the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Tidewater Association to support the conclusions reached by a special engineering board which has advised against the feasibility of the proposed All-American ship canal across New York State.

Instead, a brief filed by the association urged that the St. Lawrence project had proved to be practicable, that it would be much less expensive and would extend more benefits to the farmers who must ship commodities for export.

The Great Lakes territory, the brief said, was entitled to the natural way to the sea and the way that would serve the great grain-producing section best. Eighty-two bridges and thirty-one locks on the All-American, it said, would make navigation slow, tedious and impracticable, while the maximum depth would not meet the demands for deep shipping from the Great Lakes.

Sets Cost at \$506,000,000.

Latest estimates for a ship canal of 25 feet draft between Lake Ontario and the Hudson, the brief said, were \$506,000,000.

"To provide such a canal wholly within American territory between Lakes Erie and Ontario," it continued, "there must be added between \$125,000,000 and \$155,000,000, making a grand total cost for the so-called all-American route of between \$635,000,000 and \$661,000,000."

The official estimate for a 25-foot channel in the St. Lawrence River from Montreal to Lake Ontario, with locks 25 feet deep, is \$252,728,200 and for a 30-foot channel \$270,714,380. More than \$100,000,000 of the cost of the St. Lawrence development, however, is for work required solely for water power—making the navigation improvement \$152,000,000 and \$170,000,000, respectively, for the two countries (the United States and Canada).

After presenting a mass of statistics as to the relative services the two routes would render, the brief said:

"With this evidence of the vastly greater expense of building and operating a project of doubtful value across the State of New York as compared with a thoroughly practical waterway by way of the St. Lawrence, what legitimate reason can be assigned for giving serious consideration to the New York route."

The brief did not oppose the New York route as a barge development, but as a substitution for the St. Lawrence.

Referendum Among Business Men by United States Chamber of Commerce Shows Opposition to Legislation Permitting Maintenance of Resale Prices.

Legislation by Congress permitting maintenance of resale prices does not have the support of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. This is the conclusion reached through a referendum vote among business organizations making up the membership of the Chamber. The result of the balloting recently announced makes clear the Chamber's position as to which there had been some controversy since a referendum was taken on the same general subject in 1916. The vote was close. On four of the five questions submitted a majority voted in favor of the principle of price-maintenance, but under the by-laws of the organization a two-thirds vote is required for commitment. The questions submitted and the vote on each are as follows:

1. Should there be Federal legislation permitting the seller of identified merchandise, sold under competitive conditions under a distinguishing name, trade-mark or brand to control the re-sale price thereof?

In favor, 1,079; opposed, 911; necessary to carry, 1,327.

2. If there is to be such legislation, should it take the form of permitting contracts for the maintenance of resale prices on identified merchandise sold under competitive conditions under a distinguishing name, trade-mark or brand?

In favor, 1,116; opposed, 576; necessary to carry, 1,129.

3. If there is to be such legislation, would restrictions proposed by a special committee, and included in the referendum pamphlet, be proper restrictions?

In favor, 1,060; opposed, 564; necessary to carry, 1,084.

4. In addition to such legislation should Congress enact legislation bringing under the law of unfair competition the cutting of the seller's declared price which results in misappropriating or injuring good-will attaching to articles identified as to their origin?

In favor, 875; opposed, 765; necessary to carry, 1,094.

5. Instead of such legislation, should Congress enact legislation bringing under the law of unfair competition the cutting of the seller's declared price which results in misappropriating or injuring good-will attached to articles identified as to their origin?

In favor, 223; opposed, 1,247; necessary to carry, 981.

United States Chamber of Commerce on Rapid Growth of Installment Selling.

The rapid growth of installment selling which has now reached a peak of \$5,000,000,000 annually, is reflected in a preliminary survey made by the Department of Domestic Distribution of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, the results of which were announced on March 15. The department estimates that 17% of the entire amount of consumer goods sold at retail are disposed of in this manner and the trend is still upward. It finds, however, that information concerning the extent and character of the practice is too meagre to justify a conclusion as to whether it is an economic menace or a legitimate credit development. The department calls attention to the survey of the Farmer's Loan & Trust Co., which estimates that \$3,293,411,878 worth of automobiles, washing machines, vacuum cleaners, phonographs, furniture, pianos, jewelry and radio apparatus are sold on the installment plan. This survey was the subject of an item in our issue of Feb. 27, page 1112. The General Motors Acceptance Corporation's operations for its seven years of existence totaled \$509,250,454, with a loss ratio for 1925 of only .12%, declares the department, which says it is found that, outside of the trades in which it is an established practice installment selling shows an increase in the clothing and radio trades and that in others, hardware and paints and varnish, its introduction has been strongly resisted. "Where such large sums are involved as the credits represented by \$5,000,000,000 annually," says the report of the Domestic Distribution Department, "it was inevitable that some form of financial aid would be evolved, and it is found now in the organization of large numbers of so-called finance companies or commercial credit companies which were organized first as an outgrowth of the immense increase in the production of automobiles. At a meeting in December 1924 three hundred companies, representing 90% of all automobile financing, were organized as the National Association of Finance Companies." No accurate statistics as to the number of such companies are available because the increase has been too rapid. Many are purely local or are used only in the sale of one particular device, and they appear and disappear with great frequency. The report continues:

It is asserted further, that the credit companies perform a service for the banks in the supervision and collection of small sums which, heretofore, there has been no means of discounting in the United States, although, for example, in France it is possible to negotiate loans on accounts even so small as one dollar.

A principal objection to installment sales has been based upon the added cost to the consumer of merchandise bought in that way. This, however, involves the question of turnover so far as the business of the retail merchant is concerned and it is maintained by those who follow the practice that the price is not necessarily increased if the accounts are good and this form of selling is not overdone.

More or less prejudice has been created against the practice because of the methods adopted by a good many of the early installment houses. Further experience with the practice has shown that when confined to articles of considerable unit value and of more than temporary usefulness, it is not an improper amplification of the credit idea and enables thousands of people to benefit by the ownership of articles which if procurable only by an immediate single payment they never could have hoped to possess. For example, the apparent family income which justifies the ownership of a vacuum cleaner has declined until the minimum seems to be regarded as from \$2,000 to \$2,500 a year.

When applied to the purchase of really useful articles, the installment plan is almost in the nature of a savings device and not necessarily an encouragement of improvidence, as maintained by most economists until within the past few years.

As the least desirable form of installment selling we have the small establishments where there is an apparent willingness that customers shall fall in their payments in order that the merchandise may be repossessed and resold as new by concerns conducting that kind of business. At the other extreme is the large reputable department store in which only legitimate sales are contemplated, with a frequently manifested desire to accommodate their patrons in every manner possible. Between these are all degrees of collection methods from weekly to monthly visits at the homes of customers to voluntary calls or payments by mail by customers of reputable firms.

It must be obvious that any distributor who adopts the installment plan for the sale of selected articles of merchandise should not burden his ordinary cash customers with the prices charged under the installment plan. There should be a material difference in price between the two classes of merchandise since the expense attending the sale of cash merchandise is considerably less than that attending the sale of merchandise on the installment plan.

Dr. Anderson, of Chase National Bank, on Effects of Immigration Policy on Labor Situation—Restrictions Tend to Higher Wages.

Before the National Metal Trades Association at the Hotel Astor, this city, on March 9, Benjamin M. Anderson Jr., Ph. D., Economist of the Chase National Bank of the City of New York, spoke on the "Effects of Our Immigration Policy on the Labor Situation." He noted that with labor supply held down by our immigration restrictions, wages are necessarily higher than they would otherwise have been. This is desirable, but it involves changes of business policy and readjustments of several kinds.

(1) We must economize labor, using land and capital with comparative lavishness, and using labor only for the most important uses. Our strength will be even more than ever in mass production where machines turn out many thousands or millions of units of a given pattern. Production calling for a great deal of hand labor we shall increasingly surrender to Europe.

(2) There has been taking place a shifting of industries from the northern half of the Atlantic seaboard, and especially from New England, to other parts of the country, notably the South, where wages are lower, while there has been taking place a counter-movement of population from areas of the United States, where wages are low, to the industrial centres, where they are high. This will tend toward a leveling up of wages in the interior of the country, especially in the South, with possibly a leveling down of wages in the northern half of the Atlantic seaboard, especially in New England.

(3) The situation creates an increased inducement to American capital to seek foreign investment.

Dr. Anderson said in part:

One of the difficult and novel problems which confronts American business is the inelasticity and shortage in our labor supply which grows out of our new immigration policy. In pre-war days expanding business was usually a signal for an increased flow of labor to this country, while periods of business inactivity usually witnessed a sharp falling off in the rate of immigration, and even a considerable back flow to Europe of transient labor. Our present restrictions on immigration make a very different situation. The mere shortage of labor is one thing. The inelasticity of the labor supply is a different thing. Each aspect calls for changes in business policy, while the shortage of labor is requiring, and will continue to require, readjustments among our industries, and a shifting of population and industries among different sections of the country.

In a large way, it may be said that the rate of wages depends upon the proportion between the labor supply on the one hand and the natural resources and capital with which labor works on the other hand. When land and capital are scarce and dear and men are abundant, men become cheap. When men are scarce and land and capital are abundant, wages tend to be high. Wages in the United States would have been very much higher than they were in the ten years preceding the war if we had adopted in 1904 the immigration policy which we now have. Even if prices should go back to pre-war levels, wages would not go back to pre-war levels while our present immigration policy continues.

I think that all humane men must welcome the improvement in the position of American labor which this involves. High-priced labor, however, is not necessarily high-cost labor. American labor is highly efficient, partly by virtue of education, intelligence and native ability, and partly by virtue of the fact that it is used in conjunction with a large volume of land and capital, and so has much greater opportunity to turn out a large product per individual. Where high wages grow out of high output per man, they are economically desirable and may be expected to continue. High wages accompanied by slovenly work, reduced output and progressive inefficiency are an economic monstrosity and cannot be maintained. Wages depend on productivity.

High wages are to be welcomed because they mean for a very large body of our people better conditions of life and better opportunities. But it is necessary for us to take stock as to the significance of this for our indus-

trial situation, in the interest of labor, no less than in the interest of business management and capital.

The first significant change in business policy that is required is that we must economize labor much more than we were obliged to do in the pre-war period. With capital and land relatively abundant and labor relatively scarce, we must use land and capital with comparative lavishness and reserve labor for the most important uses. The strength of American industry as compared with European industry has always been in the field of mass production where machines turn out many thousands or even millions of units from a given model. Europe, with more abundant labor, could surpass us in producing more specialized things where a great deal of hand labor was required, where the machine did less and the man did more, where goods were produced to individual order, and where only a few units of goods were produced from a given pattern or model. Bicycle factories in Europe, for example, often produce bicycles to individual order, making special adjustments to the peculiarities of the individual user. With the intensified scarcity of labor in the United States, as compared with Europe, we shall have to shift still further towards mass production and to surrender still further to Europe those lines of industry which call for a great deal of hand work.

In the second place, we have been observing a very considerable shifting within the United States as between different parts of the country. It has been the northern half of the Atlantic seaboard which has received, of course, the great flow of immigration, and with the checking of that flow, it has been the northern half of the Atlantic seaboard where the rise in wages has been most rapid. Industry, consequently, has been shifting from the Atlantic seaboard to other parts of the country. In cotton textiles, notably, there has been a very decided shift from New England, where wages are high, to the South, where wages are still much lower. Labor, moreover, has been shifting from the South to the North, and from the country to the industrial centres. A contributing factor is the higher general level of freight rates which tends to encourage in any case the development of local manufacturing centres close to the source of raw materials in various parts of the country.

A third result of the situation has been an increased inducement to American capital to seek foreign investment. Since European labor cannot come to the United States to work with our relatively more abundant capital, there has been increased advantage for American capital to go outside the country to work with the cheaper labor. The improvement of Europe's credit would have led to a very substantial outflow of American capital to Europe in any case, but our present immigration policy has undoubtedly done a good deal to intensify this. Abundant natural resources in the United States, however, even in combination with high-priced labor, still offer great inducements for the employment of American capital. American labor need not fear that the outflow of capital will jeopard its position except in those industries where restrictive labor practices impair efficiency and reduce output.

Bank Consolidations Necessary, Says Girard National Bank of Philadelphia.

In its "Economic Review," dated March 15, the Girard National Bank of Philadelphia refers to banks consolidations as a natural and necessary development incident to corporate growth. The bank is itself to enter into a combination with the Philadelphia National Bank, and it points out that the consolidation will serve to bring Philadelphia into line with the other larger cities in which "powerful financial institutions . . . are adding greatly to the prestige and business success of the cities in which they are located." We quote herewith what the bank has to say:

Bank Consolidations Necessary.

All through this country and throughout the world, consolidations of financial institutions to create larger units are taking place. This is a natural development. It rests upon necessity. Larger and more varied, and expanding requirements of domestic and international business demand of banks, not only increasing services, but also loans and credits running often into big figures. Therefore, the real need for great banks, completely rounded out and equipped for every service.

In the evolution of things, smaller units are steadily giving way to co-ordinated aggregations, better fitted to perform with economy and advantage. Corporations have taken place of individuals under drive of economic laws, and partners have become stockholders with numbers vastly increased. Corporate growth has proceeded with the development of the country. It has been natural, healthy and constructive.

Every line of industrial business, transportation and other activity, whether in production, distribution or service, has progressed enormously through the last quarter of a century through agency of corporate ownership and direction. The end is not yet. There will be still great accomplishments in ways to promote the welfare, comfort and happiness, and spiritual, as well as material, progress of mankind.

Financial institutions, and the vital functions and productive services which they have come to perform, constitute now a most important constructive factor in the affairs of this country and the world. They have grown and expanded to meet new demands upon them. Thus in banking it has been as in other lines of activity. But as consolidation moves forward in other directions, reaching to larger things, so must financial facilities keep pace; otherwise there would be restriction upon industry, production, employment, trade and consumption. Wealth of this country is now bigger at four times what it was a quarter of a century ago. Bank clearings are five times greater. Deposits have increased sevenfold. Farm value has expanded four times, the value of factory products in like proportion, and exports have almost tripled. There are now nearly 30,000 chartered national and State banks and trust companies in the United States. They have in their business approximately \$7,000,000,000 of working capital, with \$60,000,000,000 total resources and above \$50,000,000,000 deposits. Life insurance assets of the country now exceed \$9,000,000,000, those of building and loan associations more than half that much.

Great Banks of the World.

Philadelphia, the third city in the United States, now turns out of mills, factories and workshops in a year products worth above \$2,000,000,000. It is a chief seaport of the country. Naturally tributary to it is a highly developed populous territory. Much of the financial business of the rest of the country can be done here, as well, if not better, than elsewhere. Where, to assure best results, financial transactions need to be conducted very confidentially, as in advance preparation for large domestic and foreign settlements, there are recognized advantages in working through Phila-

delphia. Pennsylvania pays one-eighth of the corporate and personal income taxes of the country—more than any other State except New York.

These make some of the reasons why greater banking facilities are needed here. It is important and valuable, not only to this city, but to the country at large, that every kind of banking service should be available here, backed by capital and resources enabling the biggest financial accommodations for business which may be necessary. Elsewhere in the country there have grown up financial institutions greater in the extent of such capacity, and the current development of banking is for still larger units.

Two chief banks of New York are about to consolidate as the Chase National Bank which, with \$79,000,000 of working capital and about \$900,000,000 of deposits, will rank second in the country, exceeded only by the National City Bank of New York. Even it, with \$1,300,000,000 of resources, is smaller than any of the five great joint-stock banks of Great Britain, the largest of which has above \$2,000,000,000. During and since the war, a much larger number of British banks have been consolidated into a few greatly larger institutions, and the tendency now is to reach out for control of banks throughout the British Empire, Barclay's Bank having just taken in the National Bank of South Africa, Ltd.

Elsewhere than in New York, there are many powerful financial institutions in this country, which are adding greatly to the prestige and business success of the cities in which they are located, as well as to the development of the country as a whole. In Chicago there are three banks with capital funds of \$33,000,000 to \$47,000,000, with deposits ranging from \$250,000,000 up to \$425,000,000. Boston, Pittsburgh, Cleveland Buffalo and San Francisco all have banks with larger capital and deposits than any heretofore in Philadelphia.

To correct this disproportion and to give Philadelphia every advantage and opportunity which complete banking facilities, coupled with big capital and great resources afford, arrangements have been concluded whereby the Girard National Bank and the Philadelphia National Bank will be consolidated as the Philadelphia-Girard National Bank.

Both banks have notable heritages, preserved and augmented during years of successful conduct. The Girard National Bank, first as a State and then as a national institution, has been in continuous business since 1832; similarly the Philadelphia National Bank since 1803. The consolidation was approved by the Comptroller of the Currency Feb. 24 and will be passed upon by the stockholders of each bank March 25. It is anticipated that the merger will be put into effect about April 1. The consolidated bank will start with approximately \$27,600,000 of capital in its business with deposits of about \$200,000,000, and resources of some \$250,000,000. Thus there will be in Philadelphia an institution fully capable of meeting every banking requirement of big as well as small business as now conducted.

Annual Convention of New York State Bankers Association to Be Held in Quebec, June 21-23.

The New York State Bankers Association is completing plans for its annual convention which is to be held at the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, Canada, on June 21, 22 and 23. At the banquet to be held on Tuesday evening, June 22, the principal speaker will be United States Senator James W. Wadsworth. Through arrangements with the New York Central and the Canadian Pacific Railway a special train will leave New York for Quebec at 4.40 p. m. Friday, June 18, arriving at Quebec at 7.30 a. m. Saturday, June 19, in time for breakfast at the Chateau Frontenac. The arrangements for this special train are in the hands of "Al" E. Brainard, Assistant General Passenger Agent, New York Central, 466 Lexington Avenue, New York City. Through the courtesy of the Canadian Passenger Association co-operating with the Passenger Department of the Trunk Line Association of the United States, a fare of one and one-half to Quebec and return, has been granted to the members of the association and dependent members of their families attending the convention on the "Identification Certificate Plan." A trip up the Saguenay has been arranged following the close of the convention on June 23. Edward J. Gallien, of 128 Broadway, is Secretary of the association.

Annual National Safe Deposit Convention to Be Held in New York City, May 7-8.

The National Safe Deposit Convention will be held at the Hotel Roosevelt, New York City, Friday and Saturday, May 7-8, 1926. Addresses will be made at the various sessions by experienced bankers and safe deposit managers. Mark Graves, member of the New York State Tax Commission will speak at the Friday morning session on the subject: "Reciprocity Between the States in Inheritance Tax Legislation and Procedure"; and George V. McLaughlin, Police Commissioner of the City of New York, and former Superintendent of Banks, will address the Banquet; as will another notable after dinner speaker.

At the opening session on May 7 the general topic will be "The Safe Deposit Business and Some Laws Affecting It." The Chairman will be Harry F. Pratt, Union Trust Co., Cleveland, Ohio; at the morning session, May 8, Ernest L. Anderson, R. I. Hospital Trust Co., Providence, R. I. will preside, and the general topic will be "The Public Service Aspect of the Safe Deposit Business"; James A. Sweeney, of the Paterson Savings Institution, Paterson, N. J., will be the Chairman at the afternoon session, May 8, at which the general topic will be "The Safe Deposit Business Viewed from Inside—Questions of Management and Operation." ■

Thursday, May 6, has been reserved for meetings of The National Safe Deposit Advisory Council and of Committees.

The Convention will be held under the auspices of the New York State Safe Deposit Association, of which Louis V. Ennis is President, W. J. Barrows of 25 Broad Street, New York, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements.

ITEMS ABOUT BANKS, TRUST COMPANIES, & C.

Three New York Stock Exchange memberships were reported posted for transfer this week, that of Sylvester Post to Sidney M. Sternbach, that of Howard K. Burras, deceased, to Gustav Epstein, and that of Howard H. Pell to J. Carson Moore. The consideration in the case of the first two was stated to be \$150,000 each and for the last-mentioned \$145,000. The last preceding sale was for \$145,000.

The stockholders of the Chase National Bank and of the Mechanics & Metals National Bank approved on March 18 the consolidation of both institutions under the name of The Chase National Bank of the City of New York. It is announced that all of the proxies which were voted, representing a substantially larger proportion of the total shares than the required two-thirds vote, favored the consolidation. As has already been indicated in these columns, the agreement was entered into by the respective boards of directors a month ago. It has now been ratified at separate meetings of the respective stockholders and the plans for carrying out its terms adopted. The Mechanics & Metals meeting authorized a stockholders committee with full power to act in effecting these plans. The physical consolidation will take effect on April 12 1926. The consolidated bank will have capital, surplus and undivided profits amounting to \$79,000,000. The combined resources of the two institutions, as of Dec. 31 1925, totaled \$1,051,465,420 28. This includes resources of the present Chase National Bank amounting to \$638,050,230 60, resources of the Chase Securities Corporation amounting to \$25,521,601 23, and resources of the Mechanics & Metals National Bank amounting to \$387,893,588 45.

Albert H. Wiggin, now Chairman of the Board of Directors and President of the Chase National Bank, will be Chairman of the Board of Directors of the consolidated bank; Gates W. McGarrah, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Mechanics & Metals National Bank, will be Chairman of the Executive Committee, and John McHugh, President of the Mechanics & Metals National Bank, will be President of the consolidated institution.

In the Chase Securities Corporation Albert H. Wiggin will continue as Chairman of the Board of Directors, Edward R. Tinker as Chairman of the Executive Committee, and Halstead Freeman as President.

It has been determined that the new and enlarged board of directors of the combined institution will include banking, manufacturing, commercial, transportation and mercantile executives representing a wide range of business interests and experience. The directors, with their corporate affiliations, will be:

Henry W. Cannon.	Alfred P. Sloan Jr., President, General Motors Corporation.
Albert H. Wiggin, Chairman of the Board.	Elisha Walker, President, Blair & Co., Inc.
John J. Mitchell, President, Illinois Merchants Trust Co., Chicago, Ill.	Malcolm G. Chace.
Guy E. Tripp, Chairman Board of Directors, Westinghouse Electric & Mfg. Co.	Thomas N. McCarter, President, Public Service Corporation of N. J.
James N. Hill.	Robert L. Clarkon, Vice-Chairman of the Board.
Daniel C. Jackling, President, Utah Copper Co.	Amos L. Beaty, Chairman Board of Directors, the Texas Co.
Charles M. Schwab, Chairman Board of Directors, Bethlehem Steel Corp.	William H. Woodin, President American Car & Foundry Co.; President, American Locomotive Co.
Samuel H. Miller, Vice-President.	William P. Holly.
Edward R. Tinker, Chairman of the Executive Committee, Chase Securities Corporation.	Gates W. McGarrah, Chairman of the Executive Committee.
Edward T. Nichols, Vice-President, Great Northern Railway Co.	John McHugh, President.
Newcomb Carlton, President, Western Union Telegraph Co.	William E. S. Griswold, W. & J. Sloane.
Frederick H. Ecker, Vice-President, Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.	Henry O. Havemeyer, President Brooklyn Eastern District Terminal.
Eugene V. R. Thayer, Vice-President, E. Atkins & Co., Inc.	William A. Jamison, Arbuckle Bros. L. F. Loree, President, the Delaware & Hudson Co.
Carl J. Schmidlapp, Vice-President.	Theodore Pratt, New York.
Gerhard M. Dahl, Chairman Board of Directors, Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit Corp.	Robert C. Pruyn, President, National Commercial Bank & Trust Co., Albany, N. Y.
Reeve Schley, Vice-President.	Samuel F. Pryor, Chairman Executive Committee, Remington Arms Co., Inc.
H. Wendell Endicott.	Ferdinand W. Roebing Jr., Treasurer, J. A. Roebing's Sons Co.
Jeremiah Milbank.	
Henry Ollesheimer, Vice-President.	
Arthur G. Hoffman, Vice-President, The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co., Inc.	
F. Edson White, President, Armour & Co.	

The present principal offices of both banks will be retained at 57 Broadway and 20 Nassau St. The former will be the main office of the consolidated institution and the latter will become the Mechanics & Metals branch of the consolidated Chase National Bank. The present branch office service and facilities in New York City and Brooklyn of both banks will be continued as follows:

Metropolitan Branch, Fourth Ave. at 23d St.
 Shoe & Leather Branch, 320 Broadway.
 Maiden Lane Branch, 75 Maiden Lane.
 Prince Street Branch, 565 Broadway.
 Seventh Avenue Branch, Seventh Ave. at 36th St.
 Forty-first Street Branch, Madison Ave. at 41st St.
 Hamilton Trust Branch, 191 Montague St., Brooklyn.
 Park Avenue Branch, Park Ave. at 60th St.
 Produce Exchange Branch, 25 Broadway.
 Columbus Avenue Branch, Columbus Ave. at 93d St.
 Fifty-seventh Street Branch, 143 West 57th St.
 Harlem Branch, Third Ave. at 116th St.
 Harlem Market Branch, 2011 First Ave.
 Eighty-sixth Street Branch, Broadway at 86th St.
 Manhattanville Office, 422 West 125th St.
 Stuyvesant Square Branch, Second Ave. at 14th St.
 Fifth Avenue Branch, 204 Fifth Ave.
 Seventy-second Street Branch, Broadway at 72d St.
 Mechanics & Metals Branch, 20 Nassau St.
 Worth Street Branch, Broadway at Worth St.

The present foreign branches of the Chase will be continued as follows:

Havana Branch, Havana, Cuba.
 Cristobal Branch, Canal Zone.
 Panama City Branch, Republic of Panama.

The policies of the founders of both institutions to conserve and to increase capital by rendering it useful will be maintained and developed in the consolidated Chase National Bank with a view to serving in a larger measure than ever before the present and future demands of commerce and industry upon banking facilities here and abroad.

The stockholders of the present Chase National Bank and Chase Securities Corporation have authorized the increase in the capital stock of the Bank and Corporation from 200,000 to 400,000 shares. 100,000 of the additional shares of each institution will be issued to the shareholders of the Mechanics & Metals National Bank in the form of Bankers Trust Company receipts representing an equal number of shares in the Chase National Bank and the Chase Securities Corporation. The other 100,000 of the additional shares will be offered pro rata to the present holders of Bankers Trust Company receipts for shares of the two Chase institutions on the basis of \$105 for a share of the Bank and a share of the Securities Corporation, \$100 of which will be received by the Bank and \$5 of which will be received by the Securities Corporation. Thus Chase stockholders have the right to subscribe for one new share of the Chase National Bank and one new share of the Chase Securities Corporation for every two shares of each of said corporation standing in their name at 3 p. m. March 23 1926.

For the purpose of carrying out the agreement in so far as the stockholders of the Mechanics & Metals National Bank are concerned the meeting of these stockholders on March 18 authorized the appointment of a committee with full power and authority to carry out the agreement in their behalf. Under this plan stockholders in the Mechanics & Metals National Bank will deposit their shares with the stockholders' committee which is authorized to administer the exchange of securities and the consolidation of assets provided for in the terms of the consolidation agreement. Since it was founded in 1877 the capital of the Chase National Bank has been increased from \$300,000 to \$20,000,000, its deposits from \$14,738 20 to \$564,608,785, its official staff from 3 to 71 with 28 directors, and its employees from 4 to 1,681. At the present time the shareholders of the Chase National Bank and Chase Securities Corporation number 4,289, the average holding being 47 shares.

The Mechanics & Metals National Bank, one of the oldest institutions in New York City, has increased its capital since it was founded in 1810 from \$1,500,000 to \$10,000,000. From one of the four banks operating when it was chartered as the Mechanics Bank of the City of New York it has grown to an institution of wide service and outstanding prestige with 12 branches in New York City.

Previous items regarding the merger appeared in these columns Feb. 13, page 845; Feb. 20, page 966, and March 6, page 1265.

At the Annual Meeting of the United States Mortgage & Trust Company of New York, on Mar. 18th, the retiring directors were re-elected.

James J. Storrow, a member of the banking firm of Lee, Higginson & Company, died in New York, at the Hotel

Plaza, on Mar. 13, after a long illness. About two months ago, Mr. Storrow went to North Carolina hoping to recuperate; he was on his way home to Boston several weeks ago, when his illness took a serious turn as a result of an injury to his spine, and it was decided to consult New York specialists. His body was taken to Boston on Mar. 14, and the funeral was held there on Mar. 16. Mr. Storrow was 62 years of age. He was a native of Boston, and was prominent in its civic and industrial life. He was active in the Liberty Loan and Red Cross Drives, and during the war when the coal shortage in New England became acute, he pledged his personal credit for shipments of coal and subsequently shipped and distributed at his personal risk more than 1,000,000 tons of coal, a gross business exceeding \$10,000,000. He was elected to the Boston City Council and served four years, being President of it for the final year. He served as Chairman of the Boston Chamber of Commerce in 1908, 1909, 1912 and in 1913. Before he entered the firm of Lee, Higginson & Co., Mr. Storrow was for eleven years a member of the law firm of Fish, Richardson & Storrow, which handled many of the legal affairs of Lee, Higginson & Company. Mr. Storrow joined the banking firm as a partner in 1900. Since the death of Maj. Henry L. Higginson he had been senior member of the firm. Mr. Storrow had also since 1916 been Chairman of the Nash Motors Company, and he was a director of the U. S. Smelting and Refining Company, U. S. Mining Company, William Underwood Company and the Railway and Light Securities Company. From 1910 to 1915 he was Chairman of the executive committee of the General Motors Company.

The million dollar suit against the Continental Bank of New York, John F. Frederichs and F. H. Hornby, has been dismissed by Justice Lewis in the Supreme Court, Kings County. Clarence C. Perpall sued the defendants claiming that they had entered into a conspiracy to prevent him from doing business and had compelled certain firms and persons to discharge him from their employ and to cease employing him and also that they had circulated libels and slanders of and concerning the plaintiff. He claimed he had been damaged in the sum of \$1,000,000. The case came up before Justice Lewis last Friday and the plaintiff asked to postpone the trial. Myron L. Lesser, the Bank's attorney, insisted on an immediate trial with the result that when the case was reached and the plaintiff was not ready the Court ordered the action dismissed.

Under the name of the Inter State Trust Company, it is proposed to establish a new trust institution in this city with a capital stock of \$2,000,000. The incorporators are: Geo. S. Silzer, Isaac Alpern, Ralph Wolf, John W. Burrows, Samuel J. Bloomingdale, A. C. Fetterolf, James A. Kenny and E. P. Thomas.

The Central National Bank of Broadway and 40th St., New York City, announces the appointment of Osmond W. Cook, as an Assistant Cashier of the bank. Mr. Cook was formerly with the Grace National Bank and with the Guaranty Trust Company. Reference to the opening of the Central National Bank was made in our issue of Jan. 30, page 567.

At a meeting on March 4, the stockholders of the Public National Bank of New York ratified plans to increase the capital stock from \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000, in accordance with a recommendation of the directors in January. Shareholders will receive \$500,000 as a stock dividend and the right to subscribe to an additional \$500,000 par value of stock at \$200 per share, both of which are payable March 31 1926 to stockholders of record March 10 1926.

The special meeting of the stockholders of the Bank of America of New York City, called to act on the question of increasing the capital stock from \$6,500,000 to \$8,000,000 has been postponed until May 25.

Two Vice-Presidents of the Manufacturers Trust Company of this city died during the past week. On March 13 Vice-President George Irving Skinner, and formerly New York State Superintendent of Banks, died at his home in Brooklyn of heart disease following an attack of influenza. He was 69 years of age. Mr. Skinner was appointed State Superintendent of Banks by Governor Whitman on July 1 1917 and he held this post until early in 1920. He had been identified with the State Banking Department for 22 years and for 15 years was Deputy Superintendent. In June 1924 he was appointed confidential assistant of President Jona-

of the Manufacturers Trust Company with the title of Vice-President. Mr. Skinner had also been director of the Land Bank of the State Bank of New York. Vice-President Frank L. Norris of the Manufacturers Trust Company, and formerly President of the Gotham National Bank, died in this city on March 14. Death was ascribed to heart disease and a severe cold. He was 63 years of age.

The directors of the Morris Plan Company of New York announce the discontinuance of the industrial banking business by the Associated Banking Corporation. Beginning March 12 the Morris Plan Company, with the approval of the State Banking Department, continues the service at the same location, 463 Seventh Ave., New York, as a branch office of the company.

The American Union Bank of New York announces the opening of its new banking quarters in the American Union Bank Building at Eighth Avenue and 37th Street, on Mar. 15.

It was announced on Mar. 6 that the Fordham National Bank of New York, purchased the property in which the bank is located, at Fordham Road and Jerome Avenues. Prior to this, it had held the adjoining property with a view to making both properties its permanent quarters. The purchased property will be remodeled, the plans calling for the erection of a ten-story office building. Reference to the opening of this institution was made in our issue of Jan. 23, page 439. Senator Royal S. Copeland is President of the bank. In addition to Senator Copeland the officers of the institution include Joseph P. Ryan and E. Nelson Sims, Vice-Presidents; Percy N. Moore, Cashier and Luther McFarland, Assistant Cashier.

Plans to increase the capital stock from \$200,000 to \$300,000 were approved on Mar. 11 by the stockholders of the Bank of Washington Heights of New York. The surplus will be increased from \$600,000 to \$1,000,000. The new stock will be offered at \$500 a share to the stockholders. Reference to the plans to increase the capital was made in our issue of Mar. 6, page 1266.

Plans to increase the capital stock of the Long Beach Trust Company of Long Beach, N. Y., from \$100,000 to \$300,000, have been approved by the State Department of Banking, and the new capital became effective Mar. 4. It was authorized by the stockholders on Feb. 9. The additional stock (par \$100) was deposited of at \$150 and bidding \$175.

The State Department of Banking has issued an authorization certificate to the Erasmus State Bank of Brooklyn, N. Y., and the bank commenced business on March 8th with a capital of \$200,000 and a surplus of \$70,000. The institution is located at Rogers & Church Avenues. Its organization was completed March 5. Frederick B. Norris is President, and Horace Howe, who has been associated with the Kensington Bank and formerly Cashier of the Gotham National Bank at 1819 Broadway has been elected Second Vice-President and Cashier. James A. Langdon is First Vice-President and Joseph Perlitch is Third Vice-President. The directors are: Fred. B. Norris, Albert E. Castle, James A. Langdon, Ernest F. Distler, George V. Fink, Martin J. Shields, John A. Sievers, William Sievers, Joseph Dondero, Abraham Ender, George D. Bancroft, Magistrate Francis McCloskey, and Dr. John H. E. Sand. The stock was disposed of at \$135 per 100 share.

It was announced on March 8 that a new bank to be known as the Citizens Bank of Brooklyn, N. Y., is being organized. The movement is headed by Frederick J. Heidenreich, President of the Guaranteed Title & Mortgage Co. The new bank will be located at 80 Jamaica Ave. The institution will commence business with a capital and surplus of \$300,000, of which \$200,000 will represent capital and \$100,000 surplus, the selling price of the stock being fixed at \$150 per \$100 share.

Following the issuance of an authorization certificate by the State Banking Department, the Mamaroneck Trust Co. of Mamaroneck, N. Y., began business on March 1. The institution has a capital of \$100,000 and a surplus of \$100,000—its stock (par \$100) having been placed at \$200 per share. The officers of the new company are William R. Bull, President; Rea A. Murdock, Vice-President and General Manager; Lawrence S. Greenbaum, Vice-President; Frank A. Benson, Secretary; George H. Coffin, Treasurer,

and Hamilton McInnes, Counsel. The following are the directors:

Robert Acampora, President Acampora Brothers, builders, Mamaroneck, L. Harold Bayly, President Mamaroneck Lumber & Supply Co., Mamaroneck.
C. Ludwig Baumann, President C. Ludwig Baumann & Co., Brooklyn.
Frank A. Benson, General Sales Manager, Armour & Co.
William R. Bull, President.
J. Castiglione, builder, Mamaroneck.
Selleck E. Coles, house moving, Mamaroneck.
Charles E. Cornell, real estate, Mamaroneck.
T. F. Flandreau Jr., Vice-President and Manager Banking Department, Westchester Title & Trust Co., White Plains.
Lawrence S. Greenbaum, Greenbaum, Wolff & Ernst, attorneys, New York City.
J. B. Morris, Morris Plan Co., New York City.
Rea A. Murdock, Vice-President and General Manager, formerly President First National Bank, Port Henry, N. Y.
S. McCandless, retired, Mamaroneck.
Hamilton McInnes, attorney, New York City.
J. H. McLoughlin, real estate, Mamaroneck.
John F. O'Reilly, O'Reilly & Dahn, real estate, New York City.
William A. Palmer, retired, Mamaroneck.
S. S. Prince, Asiel & Co., member New York Stock Exchange, New York City.
Mitchell Sheffer, merchant, Mamaroneck.
Frank J. Sinnott, Ennis & Sinnott, real estate, New York City.
J. Crawford Stevens, President Westchester Title & Trust Co., White Plains.
J. C. Stone, Asiel & Co., member New York Stock Exchange, New York City.
Arthur L. Torrence, hay and grain, Mamaroneck.
John S. Watson, real estate, Larchmont.
W. L. Wessels, bank advertising, New York City.
D. M. Williams, Vice-President First National Bank & Trust Co., Port Chester.

The new trust company will render complete banking and trust services.

The Comptroller of the Currency announces that the Community-South Side National Bank of Buffalo, N. Y., has changed its name to the Community National Bank of Buffalo.

The Exeter Banking Co. of Exeter, N. H., has been authorized by the State Board of Trust Co. incorporation to increase its capital stock from \$75,000 to \$100,000. On Jan. 12 1926 the stockholders of the bank authorized the increase, which will become effective April 1. Par value of the new shares will be as that of the old, i. e. \$100 per share. Stockholders as of the close of business Jan. 12 1926 will be permitted to subscribe for new stock at \$120 per share on the basis of one new share for each three shares of stock then held.

The death was announced in New Haven on March 15 of James S. Hemingway, Vice-President and a director of the Second National Bank of that city and Secretary-Treasurer of the New Haven Savings Bank. Mr. Hemingway, who was in his 65th year, died of heart disease from which he had suffered for some time. In addition to his banking activities, he was a director of the New Haven Gas Light Co., the Security Insurance Co. of that city and of the Central New England Railway Co.

The Comptroller of Currency approved on March 11 an application to organize the Port Newark National Bank of Newark, N. J. The new institution plans to commence business with a capital of \$200,000, and surplus of \$50,000. Graham B. McGregor will be President; Wm. D. Goldsmith and Warren Armitage have been named as Vice-Presidents. It is expected that the bank will begin business in temporary quarters about June 1. The stock, par \$100, is being placed at \$135 per share; of the premium, \$20,000 will be applied toward equipment and reserve.

A certificate of organization has been issued by the New Jersey State Banking Department to the Guardian Trust Co. of New Jersey, which will locate in Newark. Michael Hollander, Chairman of the Board, makes the following announcement:

Under its original charter, the Guardian Trust Co. of New Jersey was capitalized at \$500,000 with \$250,000 surplus. By unanimous vote, the stockholders approved an amendment to the charter increasing the capital to \$5,000,000 and the surplus to \$2,500,000, and providing an equipment and reserve fund of \$500,000. Original stockholders waived their subscription rights to the additional shares of capital stock, so that the Guardian Trust Co. is now able to offer the same for public subscription at \$160 per share—\$100 to capital, \$50 to surplus, and \$10 to the equipment and reserve fund. Subscription books will close on Thursday, April 1 1926.

Mr. Hollander also states that the new trust company will conduct the business of banking on the broadest scale, and will engage in all functions which may be properly performed by a trust company. Its permanent home will be at 828-830 Broad Street, Newark. Grover C. Trumbull, Vice-President of the New York Trust Co., has been elected Vice-President and member of the board of directors of the

new company. James Rattray, Assistant Vice-President of the Guaranty Co. of New York since 1920 and for several years prior to that time associated with the Guaranty Trust Co., has resigned to become a director and Vice-President of the new Guardian Trust Co. of New Jersey. He has also been elected President and a director of the Guardian Securities Co., a subsidiary investment company. Mr. Rattray has served the Guaranty Trust Co. and Guaranty Co. in various executive capacities. He was at one time in charge of the Income Tax Department, later was appointed an Assistant Manager of the Bond Department, and when the Guaranty Co. was organized in 1920 he was made an Assistant Vice-President. In recent years he has devoted much of his time to investment research and advisory work, in which connection he has also given attention to questions of taxation in relation to investment.

The Comptroller of the Currency announces, effective March 3, a change in the name of the Bergen National Bank of Jersey City, N. J., to "Journal Square National Bank of Jersey City." Reference to the proposed change in the title was made in our issue of Jan. 30, page 569. The proposal was ratified by the stockholders on March 1.

The Board of Directors of the Franklin Trust Co. of Philadelphia on March 17 declared a semi-annual dividend of 7%, payable on April 1, to stockholders of record March 18. This is an increase of 1% in the semi-annual rate, and places the stock on a 14% basis per annum. The board also directed that on April 1 \$250,000 be transferred to surplus account. This will then show the company to have: capital, \$1,500,000; surplus, \$2,500,000; total, \$4,000,000.

C. Addison Harris, Jr., President of the Franklin Trust Co., in announcing the above increase in the dividend rate and surplus account, stated that the past six months have been the most profitable in the company's history.

Stockholders of both the Fourth Street National Bank and the Franklin National Bank, Philadelphia, on Thursday, March 18, ratified the proposed consolidation of the institutions under the title of the Franklin-Fourth Street National Bank, according to a press dispatch from Philadelphia appearing in the "Wall Street Journal" of that date. Reference to the proposed union of these institutions was made in our issues of Jan. 16, Jan. 30 and Feb. 20, pages 313, 569 and 969, respectively.

The Pennsylvania State Bureau of Corporations at Harrisburg on March 16 granted a charter to the Mitten Men & Management Bank & Trust Co. of Philadelphia, an institution organized as a successor to the defunct Producers' & Consumers' Bank of that city—the labor bank which failed on May 4 last with liabilities of nearly \$2,500,000. Application for a charter for the new institution followed the granting of permission by the Court of Common Pleas No. 2 to Albert M. Greenfield, the receiver for the failed bank, to sell the assets to Thomas E. Mitten, Chairman of the Executive Committee of Mitten Management, Inc., and Chairman of the board of directors of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Co., for \$928,000. Some time ago an offer by Mitten Men & Management to provide \$1,000,000 to reorganize the failed bank was submitted to Mr. Greenfield. Details of the reorganization plan (under which both depositors and stockholders will participate) were agreed upon by Mr. Mitten and Mr. Greenfield on Feb. 1. The plan was set out in the Philadelphia "Ledger" of Feb. 2 as follows:

Details of the plan under which Men and Management of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Co. will reorganize the defunct Producers' & Consumers' Bank were agreed to yesterday (Feb. 1) by Thomas E. Mitten, President of Mitten Management, Inc., and Albert M. Greenfield, receiver for the bank. The plan will be submitted by Mr. Greenfield to Court of Common Pleas No. 2 for approval before the end of the week.

In announcing the reorganization details Mr. Greenfield said his only interest is to procure as much as possible for the persons who lost their money in the crash of the bank, and that he is convinced the Mitten plan offers the greatest hope of salvage that could possibly be expected. He said he has received a copy of the resolution of the Central Labor Union withholding its approval of any plan of reorganization that included the participation of Mr. Mitten, but that he could not conscientiously enter into any consideration of labor questions.

Mr. Greenfield announced that Mr. Mitten has agreed to put up a fund immediately upon approval of the plan by the court for those depositors of the bank who wish to withdraw the proportion of the deposits to which they would be entitled if the affairs of the bank were to be liquidated. Under the Mitten plan, Mr. Greenfield declared, these depositors will receive 60 cents on the dollar, whereas they would get not more than 55 cents if ordinary liquidation were to take place.

Upon judicial liquidation of the plan, Mr. Mitten has agreed to undertake the incorporation of a trust company to have a capital of \$800,000, divided into 16,000 shares of \$50 par value each. These shares will be subscribed and paid for at \$62.50 per share in order to provide an initial surplus of \$200,000.

All assets of the Producers' & Consumers' will be purchased by the new trust company for a sum equal to 60% of the total deposits, plus all unpaid administration expenses and other unpaid obligations of the receiver, the total of which is not to exceed \$950,000.

The depositors of the Producers' & Consumers' Bank will have their choice under the plan of taking either their distributive share under the receivership or to have placed to their credit in the new trust company a sum equal to 60% of the face amount of their deposits in the defunct bank.

The present stockholders of the Producers' & Consumers' will be allowed to subscribe to the new trust company's stock at \$62.50 a share.

The depositors of the old bank who become depositors in the new trust company will receive the first net profits earned until they aggregate 40% of the face amount of their deposits in the defunct bank. The stockholders of the bank will come next until they shall have received an amount equal to the par value of their Producers' & Consumers' holdings.

Under the plan Mr. Mitten has agreed to provide a fund whereby stockholders of the Producers' & Consumers' may borrow at 6% interest, amounts sufficient to enable them to subscribe and pay for the proportion of stock to which they are entitled.

Decision as to whether depositors or stockholders will participate in the formation of the new trust company will be required within 60 days after confirmation of the plan by the court. If the plan is approved transfer of the assets of the old bank will be made before May 15.

Mr. Greenfield said that Mr. Mitten yesterday (Feb. 1) gave him as receiver a check for \$100,000 as a deposit on account to show his good faith.

The new Mitten Men & Management Bank & Trust Co. is capitalized at \$800,000, consisting of 16,000 shares of the par value of \$50 a share. In the application for a charter the purpose of the organization was given as "the insurance of owners of real estate, mortgages and others interested in real estate from loss by reason of defective titles, liens and incumbrances." The directors are: T. E. Mitten, A. A. Mitten, C. J. Joyce, W. K. Myers and A. A. Chapman, all of Philadelphia and all high officials of Mitten Management, Inc. Mr. Chapman, it is understood, has been chosen Treasurer of the new bank. Our last reference to the affairs of the Producers' & Consumers' Bank appeared in the "Chronicle" of Jan. 2, page 53.

Oscar H. Irwin, President of the First National Bank of Huntingdon, Pa., died on March 9. Mr. Irwin was born in Huntingdon 52 years ago. He entered the banking business shortly after his graduation from high school.

Announcement was made on March 8 of the election of William R. Webb as Secretary of the Baltimore Trust Co., Baltimore, to succeed the late William Hambleton, whose death was recorded in our pages recently. Mr. Webb entered the employ of the National Exchange Bank 23 years ago as a runner and gradually was promoted until he became Cashier. Upon the merger of his institution with the Atlantic Trust Co. and subsequently upon the consolidation of the Atlantic Trust Co. with the Baltimore Trust Co., Mr. Webb continued as Cashier, and now relinquishes the position to become Secretary. His successor as Cashier, it is understood, has not as yet been chosen. In addition to his duties with the Baltimore Trust Co. Mr. Webb is Manager of the Baltimore Clearing House.

The Indianapolis "News" of March 12 stated that a charter had been granted the Knox-Harrison Bank & Trust Co. of Vincennes, Ind.—an institution representing a consolidation of the Knox Bank & Trust Co. and the Harrison Bank & Trust Co. of Vincennes. Steps looking to plans for the merger of these institutions, it was stated, had been under consideration for nearly two years. According to the "News" the new institution will have resources in excess of \$1,000,000. Tyler L. Andrews, former head of the Knox Bank & Trust Co., will be President, with Leroy Badollett, former President of the Harrison Bank & Trust Co. as Vice-President, while James M. Jordan will be Secretary of the new bank.

The application to organize the Halsted Exchange National Bank of Chicago, Ill., with capital of \$200,000 was approved by the Comptroller of the Currency on Feb. 13. The bank will start with a surplus of \$40,000, the stock being placed at \$120 per share. Daniel M. Healy will be President of the institution, which will begin business about May 15.

Frank H. Peterson, President of the Union State Bank of Minneapolis, died on March 11 after a brief illness. Death was due to heart disease. Mr. Peterson was born in Marine, Minn., in 1857 and was one of the pioneer merchants of Minneapolis. About fifteen years ago he became President of the Union State Bank and held the position continuously until his death.

Failure of two other small Missouri banks, namely the Bank of Jameson at Jameson, the Farmers' Bank of Jameson, in addition to that of the Farmers' Exchange Bank of

Gallatin (noted in the "Chronicle" of March 13, page 1412), were reported in the following special press dispatch from Gallatin on March 9 to the St. Louis "Globe-Democrat." The dispatch read:

The Bank of Jameson, at Jameson, eight miles north of here, closed its doors this afternoon, leaving Jameson with no bank and the third financial institution to fail in this county in five days.

The Farmers' Bank at Jameson closed its doors last Saturday. The financial crash comes as the aftermath of the closing of the Farmers' Exchange Bank at Gallatin, a \$1,000,000 institution, and whose banking ramifications extended to all parts of the county.

The Bank of Jameson failure makes the tenth bank to fail in Daviess County in the last three years.

The Bank of Jameson had a capital and surplus of \$25,000 and approximately \$100,000 in deposits.

Thomas B. Carroll, the former Executive Vice-President and Cashier of the failed People's Savings Bank of Jackson, Tenn., entered a plea of "guilty" to a charge of fraudulent breach of trust in the Circuit Court at Jackson on Jan. 4, following which he was sentenced by Judge John E. Richardson to serve three years in the State Penitentiary at Nashville, according to a press dispatch from Jackson on that date printed in the Memphis "Appeal" of Jan. 5. Another indictment against Carroll, charging embezzlement and larceny was nolle prossed. John M. Carroll, son of the former Executive Vice-President, and the former Assistant Cashier of the bank, was cleared of charges of aiding and abetting his father in the fraudulent breach of trust. Carroll began serving his sentence, it is understood, on Jan. 6. Carroll and his son were previously tried on charges of embezzlement and fraudulent breach of trust and being an accessory, respectively, but the trial was terminated (Oct. 2 last) when the jury failed to agree on a verdict and were discharged by Judge Richardson.

The late Federal Judge J. W. Ross of Jackson was also named as a defendant in the indictments growing out of the failure of the People's Savings Bank. He met his death in an automobile accident the day after the indictments were returned by the Grand Jury (July 9). The People's Bank was closed on June 5 1925 with an estimated shortage of \$381,000. Reference was made to the bank's affairs in the "Chronicle" of July 25 last, pages 423 and 424, and in the "Chronicle" of Oct. 24, page 2002.

According to a press dispatch from Montgomery, Ala., on March 13, printed in the Birmingham "Age-Herald" of the following day, formal announcement was made on that day (March 13) by A. M. Baldwin, President of the First National Bank of Montgomery, that plans had been worked out looking towards the union of the Exchange National Bank of Montgomery with his institution and that the consolidation would be consummated when stockholders of the former had ratified the agreement. Since those interested in the First National had acquired a majority of the stock of the Exchange National Bank, it was stated, the ratification would simply be a formality. According to Mr. Baldwin, it was stated, the resources of the enlarged First National Bank would be \$18,000,000. The dispatch further stated that James J. Campbell, Cashier of the Exchange National Bank, had been elected a Vice-President of the Alabama Bank & Trust Co. of Montgomery and would assume his new duties when the merger of the Exchange National Bank with the First National Bank became effective. Mr. Campbell had been Cashier of the Exchange National Bank since 1910, it was said.

The officers and directors of the Security State Bank and Security Savings Bank of San Jose, Cal., announce the completion of their new banking rooms at First and Fernando streets. These quarters were occupied March 8. Complete banking and safe deposit facilities have been provided.

A special dispatch from Navasota, Texas, to the Houston "Post-Dispatch" reported that the Farmers' State Guaranty Bank of Navasota had been closed on Feb. 13 and that John T. Evans, the President of the institution and R. L. Renicke, its Cashier, had been arrested for alleged embezzlement of the bank's funds and subsequently (Feb. 15) released in bonds of \$7,500 each by Justice C. C. Francklow, following a preliminary hearing. The dispatch went on to say:

Affairs of the institution are in the hands of H. D. Wallace and J. H. Quota, State Bank Examiners.

Complaints filed against the two men charge Evans with a shortage of about \$100,000 and Renicke with a shortage of between \$8,000 and \$10,000. Evans faces only one charge, Renicke two.

On March 10 the Liberty Bank of San Francisco completed the purchase of the Siskiyou County Savings Bank and the First Savings Bank of Siskiyou County, of Yreka, Calif.

(affiliated institutions), according to a press dispatch from that place on March 10, which appeared in the San Francisco "Chronicle" of the following day. The deal, it was said, had been pending for three years. It was stated that the transfer of the banks to the San Francisco institution would be completed shortly. Fred E. Wadsworth, President of the affiliated banks, announced that there would be no change in the banks' personnel. The purchase price of the stock, it was said, has not been made public.

Advices received this week at the New York office of Barclays Bank, Ltd., stated that Barclays Bank, S. A. I., the Italian subsidiary of the Barclays organization, will open a branch in Genoa in the near future. The location of the new branch will be at 1 Piazza Competto, Genoa. Present plans indicate that it will be ready for business in April. The opening of this branch follows by about a year the establishment of Barclays Bank, S. A. I., with headquarters in Rome.

The annual report of the National Provincial Bank, Ltd. (head office London), was submitted to the proprietors of the institution at their annual general meeting on Jan. 28 and makes a satisfactory showing. The statement covers the twelve months ended Dec. 31 1925 and as of that date shows advances to customers and other accounts of £133,617,259; investments of £42,115,503; bills discounted of £35,880,917 and coin, Bank of England and currency notes in the United Kingdom and balances with the Bank of England; balances with and cheques in course of collection on other banks, etc., etc.; money at call and short notice, of £56,547,530. On the liabilities side of the statement the bank's paid-up capital is given as £9,479,416, with a reserve fund of like amount, and the total deposits of the institution at £252,737,817. During the year 16 new branches and agencies were opened, increasing the total number of the bank's offices to 1,132. In submitting the report to the shareholders, Sir Felix Schuster, the Chairman, announced that the dividend rate had been restored to the pre-war level of 18% per annum, "as had been our consistent hope once we had a reserve fund equal to our capital."

Banque Populaire Suisse, which was founded in 1869 as a co-operative society, has now 53 branches spread throughout Switzerland and shows a satisfactory expansion for the last year. The capital of the bank at the end of 1925 amounted to nearly Fr. 94.8 million (swiss). The reserves mentioned in the balance totaled Fr. 25 million and the membership on Dec. 31 last was 77,570. The deposits and current accounts rose as follows: Creditors by Fr. 23.5 million to Fr. 197.7 million, savings and deposits by Fr. 30 million to Fr. 273.6 million, bonds by 31.1 million to Fr. 285.8 million. The deposits were invested chiefly in the bills of exchange with Fr. 123.9 million (1924 Fr. 81.2 million), in securities with Fr. 28 million (Fr. 21.1 million), in customers' liabilities with 444.8 million (Fr. 436.7 million), in loans with Fr. 44.7 million (Fr. 48.6 million), in credits on mortgages with Fr. 178.3 million (Fr. 165 million). It is pointed out that the proceeds of the bills of exchange amounted to Fr. 7.2 million, of the securities to 2.3 million (Fr. 1.7 million), of the loans and advances to Fr. 36.8 million (Fr. 34.6 million). On the other hand, the expenses for the deposits and current accounts have absorbed Fr. 30.2 million (Fr. 25 million). After making amortizations on the bank buildings and reserves for alterations of together Fr. 860,000, and after making an allocation of Fr. 90,000 for charitable purposes and an adequate transfer to the reserves, the net profit amounted to Fr. 6.3 million, thus allowing to pay again a dividend of 6%.

THE WEEK ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Heavy realizing and liquidation sales have depressed the stock market the present week, and, in sharp contrast with last week's brisk upward movement the general list with few exceptions has sharply declined, many new low records for the year having been established. Motor shares have been almost continuously under pressure, industrial stocks and specialties have also tumbled. The vigorous upward swing that characterized the movements of the market for more than a week received a sharp setback during the two-hour session on Saturday, many prominent issues receding from 1 to 10 points on realizing and liquidation. The market was weak from the start, the selling becoming more emphatic as the day advanced. Motor shares were under pressure from the beginning and railroad issues, especially Atlantic Coast Line, Chesapeake & Ohio and Nickel Plate went down with a rush. Trading fell off somewhat on Monday and price movements developed considerable irregularity during the forenoon. The outstanding feature of the day was the sensational break of Atlantic Coast Line and Sea-

board Air Line, the former declining 10 points from its former high, and Seaboard Line dropped to 33¼, but recovered to 36 in the last-hour rally. In the rebound toward the close of the day United States Steel common moved briskly forward and closed with a net gain of 1¼ points. General Petroleum was the strong feature in the oil group and bounded forward nearly five points to 65, at its high for the day. The market forged steadily upward on Tuesday, and many standard stocks advanced from 1 to 3 points above Monday's closing levels. On the other hand, a concerted attack was directed against the specialties and food stocks and several issues in these groups sold down to new low records for the year. The announcement made after mid-session that the stock deposited under the Nickel Plate merger would be released had a depressing effect on the general list and as a result, the market closed somewhat lower. The weak feature was Ward Baking "B," which was in supply on a large scale and dropped off 6 points to a new low of 49½. The trend of prices was again downward on Wednesday, many stocks showing pronounced weakness throughout the day. The widest movement occurred in the railroad group, Atlantic Coast Line dropping nearly 11 points, to 202, though it rallied 3 points in the late trading.

Sharp declines were recorded by such well-known market leaders as General Electric, Fleischmann, Allied Chemical, Postum Cereal and Central Leather. Heavy liquidation again marked the trading on Thursday, the selling waves coming at frequent intervals and forcing many stocks downward from 1 to 10 points. One of the weakest stocks of the day was American Can, which slipped back nearly 16 points, to 287½. The increase in the Chesapeake & Ohio dividend from \$4 to \$8 per share, announced after the close of business on Wednesday, stimulated interest in many issues during the early hours of trading and the tone improved, but around mid-session vast quantities of stocks were thrown on the market and the trend was again downward. The market was again weak on Friday. Motor shares were again under pressure, Hudson Motors breaking badly following the publication of its statement for the quarter ending Feb. 28, followed by sharp declines in General Motors, Jordan, du Pont, Nash, Studebaker and Dodge. American Can was sold in large blocks and broke to new low ground for the present movement, at 282½. Weakness also developed in General Electric, which slipped back 2½ points to 312½. Chesapeake & Ohio moved against the trend and improved 1¼ points to 132½. The final tone was weak.

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

Week Ended Mar. 19.	Stocks, Number of Shares.	Railroad, &c. Bonds.	State, Municipal & Foreign Bonds.	United States Bonds.
Saturday	1,012,130	\$3,763,000	\$1,191,500	\$659.6
Monday	1,532,650	7,389,000	1,670,000	1,225,500
Tuesday	1,428,530	5,407,500	2,144,000	1,028,600
Wednesday	1,489,022	7,251,000	2,144,000	714,500
Thursday	2,122,474	6,045,000	1,950,000	723,800
Friday	2,122,300	6,064,000	1,862,000	975,000
Total	9,707,106	\$35,919,500	\$10,961,500	\$5,327,050

Sales at New York Stock Exchange.	Week Ended Mar. 19		Jan. 1 to Mar. 19.	
	1926.	1925.	1926.	1925.
Stocks—No. shares	9,707,106	9,824,570	107,686,952	100,978,749
Bonds				
Government bonds	\$5,327,050	\$9,513,900	\$66,105,300	\$99,684,050
State & foreign bonds	10,961,500	12,460,500	134,827,850	144,215,200
Railroad & misc. bonds	35,919,500	52,585,500	510,569,550	677,214,500
Total bonds	\$52,208,050	\$74,565,900	\$711,502,700	\$921,113,750

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE EXCHANGES.

Week Ended Mar. 19 1926.	Boston.		Philadelphia.		Baltimore.	
	Shares.	Bond Sales.	Shares.	Bond Sales.	Shares.	Bond Sales.
Saturday	17,599	\$10,000	21,627	\$9,000	1,443	\$14,200
Monday	27,265	14,000	34,607	29,200	1,510	37,700
Tuesday	21,393	13,000	21,365	20,200	3,206	25,000
Wednesday	22,207	17,000	21,788	34,300	2,530	20,500
Thursday	25,715	11,000	50,967	19,000	1,475	54,900
Friday	14,827	12,000	26,659	40,000	2,029	27,000
Total	139,006	\$82,000	176,413	\$151,700	12,193	\$179,300
Prev. week revised	143,707	\$92,250	213,353	\$164,100	23,290	\$52,000

THE CURB MARKET.

Trading in the Curb Market this week was very quiet, and prices under renewed selling pressure moved to lower levels. Except for a slight upward movement in Tuesday's market, the trend was uniformly downward. Baking shares were most active, though changes were small. Continental Baking, class A, after early improvement from 109½ to 111¼, dropped to 103. General Baking, class A, broke

from 66¾ to 60½ and finished to-day at 60½. The class B stock fell from 20¾ to 16½ and closed to-day at 16¾, while the preferred stock lost almost four points to 93½. Auburn Automobile com. declined from 63¾ to 58¼. Electric Refrigeration was down from 66¾ to 63¼, the close to-day being at 64. Glen Alden Coal declined from 158 to 151¼ and sold to-day at 152. Sears, Roebuck & Co. new stock weakened from 52 to 48¾ and sold finally at 48¾. Servel Corporation was off from 25½ to 20¾, recovering finally to 21¾. Public utilities were weak. American Gas & Electric common sold down from 78 to 72½ and closed to-day at 73. American Power & Light common was off from 59½ to 53½, the final figure to-day being 53¼. Commonwealth Power lost two points to 32. Electric Bond & Share Securities fell from 69½ to 64¼ and ends the week at 65. Electric Investors dropped from 48½ to 42. Northern States Power sold down from 111½ to 106½ and at 106½ finally. United Light & Power, class A, declined from 87½ to 78, the final transaction to-day being at 78¼. In the oil group, Continental Oil eased off from 22½ to 20¾. Humble Oil & Refining, after early loss from 89½ to 85¾, recovered to 89 and reacted finally to 87. Vacuum Oil broke from 103¼ to 97 and closed to-day at 99. Gulf Oil lost over two points to 83½.

A complete record of Curb Market transactions for the week will be found on page 1595.

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE NEW YORK CURB MARKET.

Week Ended Mar. 19	STOCKS (No. Shares).			BONDS (Par Value).	
	Ind. & Mts.	Oil.	Mining.	Domestic.	For'n Govt.
Saturday	164,340	82,430	18,230	\$483,000	\$107,000
Monday	216,790	109,030	49,280	1,007,000	201,000
Tuesday	216,050	103,250	31,700	1,011,000	147,000
Wednesday	174,930	119,070	31,000	1,064,000	196,000
Thursday	184,560	138,170	52,270	910,000	165,000
Friday	188,250	110,340	295,000	1,034,000	148,000
Total	1,144,920	662,290	477,480	\$5,509,000	\$964,000

COURSE OF BANK CLEARINGS.

Bank clearings the present week will again show a satisfactory increase as compared with the corresponding week last year. 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, March 20) bank exchanges for all the cities of the United States from which it is possible to obtain weekly returns will aggregate 7.4% more than in the corresponding week last year. The total stands at \$10,928,051,887, against \$10,174,248,619 for the same week in 1925. At this centre there is an increase for the five days of 7.4%. Our comparative summary for the week is as follows:

Clearings—Returns by Telegraph. Week Ended March 20.	1926.		1925.		Per Cent.
	1926.	1925.	1926.	1925.	
New York	\$5,216,000,000	\$4,895,801,010			+6.5
Chicago	556,964,843	588,267,730			-5.3
Philadelphia	554,000,000	489,000,000			+13.3
Boston	439,000,000	398,000,000			+10.3
Kansas City	121,144,175	123,136,696			-1.6
St. Louis	141,100,000	135,500,000			+4.2
San Francisco	172,960,000	151,482,000			+14.2
Los Angeles	161,441,000	147,100,000			+9.7
Pittsburgh	153,811,980	150,762,230			+2.0
Detroit	157,256,742	145,062,502			+8.4
Cleveland	102,841,226	100,482,835			+2.3
Baltimore	102,796,834	88,865,650			+15.7
New Orleans	50,549,241	64,427,989			-31.4
Thirteen cities, 5 days	\$7,929,866,041	\$7,477,888,642			+6.0
Other cities, 5 days	1,176,843,865	1,082,439,785			+8.7
Total all cities, 5 days	\$9,106,709,906	\$8,560,328,427			+6.4
All cities, 1 day	1,821,341,981	1,613,920,192			+12.3
Total all cities for week	\$10,928,051,887	\$10,174,248,619			+7.4

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 March 13. For that week there is an increase of 5.8%, the 1926 aggregate of the clearings being \$9,941,158,609 and the 1925 aggregate \$9,396,582,491. Outside of New York City the increase is only 1.0%, the bank exchanges at this centre recording a gain of 9.5%. 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 9.4% and in the Philadelphia Reserve district by 0.3%. The Cleveland Reserve district shows a gain of 2.9% and the Atlanta Reserve district (chiefly

by reason of the increases at Florida points) of no less than 17.1%, but the Richmond Reserve district falls 1.7% behind. The Chicago Reserve district records a falling off of 5.1%, the St. Louis Reserve district of 2.7% and the Minneapolis Reserve district of 8.9%. The Kansas City Reserve district falls behind 8.1% and the Dallas Reserve Reserve district 4.8%. The San Francisco Reserve district enjoys a gain of 10.9%.

In the following we furnish a summary by Federal Reserve districts:

SUMMARY OF BANK CLEARINGS.

Table with columns: Week Ended March 13., 1926., 1925., Inc. or Dec., 1924., 1923. Rows include Federal Reserve Districts (1st Boston to 12th San Francisco), Grand total (129 cities), and Canada (29 cities).

We now add our detailed statement, showing last week's figures for each city separately, for the four years:

Large table with columns: Clearings at—, Week Ending March 13., 1926., 1925., Inc. or Dec., 1924., 1923. Rows are organized by Federal Reserve Districts (First to Sixth) and include various cities within each district.

Table with columns: Clearings at—, Week Ending March 13., 1926., 1925., Inc. or Dec., 1924., 1923. Rows include Seventh Federal Reserve District (Michigan to Springfield), Eighth Federal Reserve District (Indiana to Quincy), Ninth Federal Reserve District (Minnesota to Helena), Tenth Federal Reserve District (Nebraska to Pueblo), and Eleventh Federal Reserve District (Texas to Louisiana).

Table with columns: Clearings at—, Week Ending March 11., 1926., 1925., Inc. or Dec., 1924., 1923. Rows include Twelfth Federal Reserve District (Washington to Utah) and Grand total (129 cities).

a No longer report clearings. b Do not respond to requests for figures. c Week ended March 10. d Week ended March 11. e Week ended March 12. * Estimated

THE ENGLISH GOLD AND SILVER MARKETS.

We reprint the following from the weekly circular of Samuel Montagu & Co. of London, written under date of Mar. 3 1926:

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against notes on the 24th ultimo amounted to £143,186,170 as compared with £143,344,435 on the previous Wednesday.

About £400,000 of South African gold was available this week. Of this £300,000 was almost equally shared by India and the Continent, and the balance (£100,000) was acquired by the Bank of England.

The steamer which left Durban for Bombay on March 1st took about £898,000 in bar gold and sovereigns.

The following movements of gold to and from the Bank of England have been announced since our last issue:

Table with columns for Received and Withdrawn for various dates: Feb. 25, Feb. 26, Feb. 27, Mar. 1, Mar. 2, Mar. 3.

The £1,800,000 received on the 26th ult. was announced to be sovereigns released on account of Crown Agents for the Colonies on account of the Note Issue of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in Hongkong. The destinations of the £840,000 sovereigns withdrawn were announced as follows: £750,000 'Set aside on account of the South African Reserve Bank,' £40,000 to Straits Settlements, £28,000 to Singapore and £22,000 to India.

The Southern Rhodesian gold output for Jan. 1926 amounted to 48,967 ounces, as compared with 49,307 ounces for Dec. 1925 and 48,159 ounces for Jan. 1925.

The financial and industrial conditions of the Indian Empire—assisted by favorable monsoons—continue to be highly satisfactory. Sir Basil Blackett in introducing the Indian Budget at Delhi stated that State indebtedness had been reduced, no external loan had been required for the last three years, and Government securities were on the up-grade.

We understand that the demand in Holland is so keen for gold pieces of Fl. 10 (destined mostly for Germany where these coins are smelted and used for industrial purposes) that the Netherlands Bank, in order to check exports, has decided not to issue more than Fl. 250 in one day to each applicant for gold coin.

United Kingdom imports and exports of gold during the week ending the 24th ult. were:

Table showing Imports and Exports of Gold for various countries including British South Africa, Germany, Netherlands, France, Bombay via Other Ports, Straits Settlements, Ceylon, and Other countries.

SILVER.

Again the market has been inert, so much so that from the 26th ult. until yesterday, the quotations remained unaltered. The Indian Bazaars have taken but little interest. Most of the business has been on China account, the Continent being inactive.

United Kingdom imports and exports of silver during the week ending the 24th ultimo were:

Table showing Imports and Exports of Silver for various countries including Netherlands, Belgium, United States of America, Mexico, Anglo-Egyptian Soudan, and Other countries.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

Table showing currency returns for India (Notes in circulation, Silver coin and bullion in and out of India, Gold coin and bullion in and out of India) for Feb. 7, Feb. 15, Feb. 22.

No silver coinage was reported during the week ending the 22nd ult. The stock in Shanghai on the 27th ultimo consisted of about 52,700,000 ounces in sycee, 69,900,000 dollars, and 3,520 silver bars, as compared with about 50,700,000 ounces in sycee, 69,000,000 dollars, and 3,780 silver bars on the 20th ultimo.

Statistics for the month of February last are appended: —Bar Silver, Per Oz. Std.— Bar Gold, Cash, 2 Mos. Per Oz. Fine.

Table showing silver and gold quotations for various dates from Feb. 25 to Mar. 3.

The silver quotations to-day for cash and two months delivery are respectively 5-16d. and 1/2d. below 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. showing various securities like Silver, Gold, Consols, British, French Rentes, and French War Loan.

The price of silver in New York on the same days has been: Silver in N. Y., per oz. (cts.): Foreign 65 3/4 65 3/4 65 3/4 66 65 3/4 65 3/4

Commercial and Miscellaneous News

Breadstuffs figures brought from page 1658.—The statements below are prepared by us from figures collected by the New York Produce Exchange. The receipts at Western lake and river ports for the week ending last Saturday and since Aug. 1 for each of the last three years have been:

Large table showing Receipts at various ports for Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, and Rye for Total wk., Same wk., and Since Aug. 1 for years 1925, 1924, and 1923.

Total receipts of flour and grain at the seaboard ports for the week ended Saturday, March 13, 1926, follow:

Table showing Receipts at various ports for Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, and Rye for New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, Galveston, Montreal, St. John, N.B., and Boston.

* Receipts do not include grain passing through New Orleans for foreign ports on through bills of lading.

The exports from the several seaboard ports for the week ending Saturday, March 13 1926, are shown in the annexed statement:

Table showing Exports from various ports for Wheat, Corn, Flour, Oats, Rye, and Barley for New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, and St. John, N. B.

The destination of these exports for the week and since July 1 1925 is as below:

Table showing Exports for Week and Since July 1 for Flour, Wheat, and Corn, broken down by destination (United Kingdom, Continent, So. & Cent. Amer., West Indies, Brit. No. Am. Cols., Other countries).

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

Table showing Applications to Organize Received for various banks like The First National Bank of Pismo Beach, Calif., The Second Glasgow National Bank, Glasgow, Mont., and The First National Bank of Riverside, N. J.

Table with columns for date, company name, and capital amount. Includes entries for The American National Bank of Glendale, Brotherhood National Bank of San Francisco, and The Mechanics National Bank of Bayonne.

APPLICATIONS TO ORGANIZE APPROVED.

Table with columns for date, company name, and capital amount. Includes entries for The Port Newark National Bank of Newark, The Park Ridge National Bank, and The First National Bank in Dearborn.

CHARTERS ISSUED.

Table with columns for date, company name, and capital amount. Includes entries for The First National Bank of Roscoe, Texas, and The Melrose National Bank of New York.

VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATIONS.

Table with columns for date, company name, and capital amount. Includes entries for The First National Bank of Oriskany Falls, N. Y., The First National Bank of Butler, Okla., and The Citizens National Bank of Hot Springs, Ark.

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:

Table listing various stocks and bonds with columns for shares, price per share, and total value. Includes items like 100 Pallades Realty & Amusement Co., 814 Kanola Oil & Ref. Co., and 100 Standard Supply & Equipment Co.

By Barnes & Lofland, Philadelphia:

Table listing various stocks and bonds with columns for shares, price per share, and total value. Includes items like 5 Olney Bank & Trust Co., 20 Phila. Bourse, and 25 Union National Bank.

By Wise, Hobbs, & Arnold, Boston:

Table listing various stocks and bonds with columns for shares, price per share, and total value. Includes items like 33 Old Colony Trust Co., 3 Great Falls Manufacturing Co., and 7 Saco Lowell Shops.

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

Table listing various stocks with columns for shares, price per share, and total value. Includes items like 5 First National Bank, 1 Second National Bank, and 9 National Shawmut Bank.

By A. J. Wright & Co., Buffalo:

Table listing various stocks with columns for shares, price per share, and total value. Includes items like 1,000 Northeast Power, 2,000 Tough-Oaks Burnside, and 25 Buff. Niag. & Eastern Power.

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:

Large table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, and Books Closed. Days Inclusive. It lists dividends for various companies including Railroads (Steam), Public Utilities, and others.

Weekly Return of the Federal Reserve Board.

The following is the return issued by the Federal Reserve Board Thursday afternoon, Mar. 18, 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 MAR. 17, 1926.

Main financial table with columns for various dates from Mar. 17 1926 to Mar. 18 1925. Rows include RESOURCES (Gold, Reserves, Securities) and LIABILITIES (Deposits, Total Liabilities), with detailed sub-rows for each category.

NOTE.—Beginning with the statement of Oct. 7 1925 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 MAR. 17, 1926.

Table showing weekly statement of resources and liabilities for each of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks (Boston, New York, Phila., Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Dallas, San Fran.) and a Total column. Rows include RESOURCES and LIABILITIES for each bank.

Bankers' Gazette.

Wall Street, Friday Night, March 19 1926.

Railroad and Miscellaneous Stocks.—The review of the Stock Market is given this week on page 1567.

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 Mar. 19, Sales for Week, Range for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. Includes sections for Railroads, Industrial & Miscell, and various stock listings.

* No par value.

New York City Banks and Trust Companies.

All prices dollars per share.

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

* Banks marked (*) are State banks (f) New stock. (2) Ex-dividend Ex-rights

New York City Realty and Surety Companies.

All prices dollars per share.

Table listing realty and surety companies with columns for Bid, Ask, and other financial details.

Quotations for U. S. Treas. Cfts. of Indebtedness, &c.

Table showing bond quotations with columns: Maturity, Int. Rate, Bid, Asked, and specific bond details.

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. The transactions in registered bonds are given in a footnote at the end of the tabulation.

Table titled 'Daily Record of U. S. Bond Prices' showing transaction data for various Liberty Loan bonds and Treasury certificates.

Note.—The above table includes only sales of coupon bonds. Transactions in registered bonds are:

Small table listing registered bond transactions with columns for maturity and price.

Foreign Exchange.—Sterling exchange was dull but steady on a light volume of trading. In the Continental exchanges the feature of the week was a break in Belgian francs of 50 points as a result of the withdrawal of Government support and a hitch in the Belgian loan negotiations. The remainder of the market was irregular but quiet.

To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for sterling exchange were 4.82 1/2 @ 4.82 9-16 for sixty days, 4.85 3/4 @ 4.85 13-16 for cheques, and 4.86 1/2 @ 4.86 3-16 for cables. Commercial on banks, sight 4.85 1/2 @ 4.85 11-16, sixty days 4.82 @ 4.82 1-16, ninety days 4.81 1/2 @ 4.81 5-16, and documents for payment (sixty days) 4.82 1/2 @ 4.82 5-16. Cotton for payment, 4.85 1/2 @ 4.85 11-16, and grain for payment, 4.85 @ 4.85 11-16.

To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for Paris bankers' francs were 3.46 1/2 @ 3.50 1/2 for long and 3.51 @ 3.55 for short. German bankers' marks are not yet quoted for long and short bills. Amsterdam bankers' guilders were 39.61 1/2 @ 39.62 1/2 for long and 39.97 1/2 @ 39.98 1/2 for short. Exchange at Paris on London, 136.63 francs; week's range, 133.95 francs high and 136.62 francs low.

The range for foreign exchange for the week follows: Sterling Actual—Sixty Days. High for the week 4.82 19-32, Low for the week 4.82 7-16. Cheques. Cables. High for the week 4.85 27-32, Low for the week 4.85 11-16. 4.86 7-32, 4.86 1-16.

Paris Bankers' Francs—High for the week 3.56 1/2, Low for the week 3.46. Cables. 3.62, 3.63, 3.53. Germany Bankers' Marks—High for the week 23.81, Low for the week 23.81. Amsterdam Bankers' Guilders—High for the week 39.62 1/2, Low for the week 39.59. Cables. 40.06 1/2, 40.08 1/2, 40.05.

Domestic Exchange.—Chicago, par. St. Louis, 15 @ 25c. per \$1,000 discount. Boston, par. San Francisco, par. Montreal, \$7.1875 per \$1,000 discount. Cincinnati, par.

The Curb Market.—The review of the Curb Market is given this week on page 1568.

A complete record of Curb Market transactions for the week will be found on page 1595.

CURRENT NOTICES.

- A. B. Leach & Co., Inc., have opened a San Francisco office under the direction of Ross Thompson, formerly associated with the bond department of the Bank of Italy.
—The White-Phillips Co., Davenport, Iowa, announce the opening of a Chicago office under the management of H. C. Mulch at 137 S. La Salle St.
—Eastman, Dillon & Co. announce that they are opening a Chicago office under the charge of Mr. Harry Kleist at 105 South La Salle Street.
—Eastman, Dillon & Co. now have branches at Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Washington, Reading, Albany and other towns.
—The Equitable Trust Co. has been appointed Transfer Agent for stock of the E. W. Bliss Co. (Delaware).
—Farr & Co. have issued an analysis of Continental Can Co. common stock.

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

OCCUPYING SIX PAGES

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

Table with columns for dates (Saturday to Friday), share prices (\$ per share), and stock names (e.g., Ann Arbor, Buffalo Rochester & Pitts., etc.). Includes sub-headers for 'HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.' and 'STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE'. Also includes 'PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1 1926' and 'PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1925'.

* Bid and asked prices. x Ex-dividend. d Ex-rights.

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

Table with columns for dates (Saturday through Friday), stock names, and prices. Includes sub-sections for 'HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.' and 'PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1 1926'. Lists various stocks like Western Pacific, American International, and many others.

* Bid and asked prices no sales on this day Ex rights Ex dividend

For sales 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, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) and corresponding stock prices per share.

STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing various stocks with columns for Shares, Indus. & Miscell. (Con.) Par, and other stock details.

PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1 1926

Table with columns for Lowest and Highest prices per share for various stocks.

PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1925.

Table with columns for Lowest and Highest prices per share for various stocks from the previous year.

* Bid and asked prices, no sale, on this day. z Ex-dividend. a Ex-rights.

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

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, PER CENT. (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday); Sales for the Week; STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE (Indus. & Miscell. (Con.) Par); PER SHARE (Range Since Jan. 1 1926, On basis of 100-share lots, Lowest, Highest); PER SHARE (Range for Previous Year 1925, Lowest, Highest). Rows list various stocks like General Motors, Standard Oil, etc.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. x Ex-dividend. a Ex-new right. n No par. d New stock issued on basis of 3 shares for each share of old stock.

New York Stock Record—Continued—Page 5

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

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for dates (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) and stock prices per share. Includes sub-headers for 'per share' and 'Sales for the Week'.

Table listing various stocks under 'NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE' with columns for 'PER SHARE' (Lowest, Highest) and 'PER SHARE' (Lowest, Highest) for the year 1925. Includes stock names like 'Indus. & Miscell. (Con.) Par', 'Motion Picture', etc.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. x Ex-dividend a Ex-rights b After payment of 90% stock dividend

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

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday); Sales for the Week; STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE (Indus. & Miscell. (Con.) Per); PER SHARE Range Since Jan 1 1926 (Lowest, Highest); PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1925 (Lowest, Highest). Rows include various stock listings such as Shell Transport & Trading, Standard Oil, and many others.

* Bid and asked prices no sales on this day. * Ex-dividend. a Ex-right.

Main table containing bond listings with columns for Bond Name, Price, Week's Range, Range Since, and various other details. Includes sections for 'N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE' and 'BONDS'.

a Due Jan. b Due July. c Due Oct. s Option sale.

Main table containing bond listings for N.Y. Stock Exchange, including columns for Bond Description, Interest Period, Price (Friday, March 19), Week's Range or Last Sale, Range Since Jan. 1, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Due Jan. d Due May e Due June. h Due July. k Due Aug. p Due Nov. s Option sale

Table with columns: BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week ended March 19, Interest Period, Price Friday, March 19, Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1. Includes entries like Central Steel 1st g f 8s, Ch G L & Coke 1st g f 5s, Chicago Rys 1st 5s, etc.

Table with columns: BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week ended March 19, Interest Period, Price Friday, March 19, Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1. Includes entries like Kings County Lighting 5s, 1st & ref 6 1/2s, Kinney (G R) & Co 7 1/2% notes, etc.

4 Due May. # Option sale.

New York Bond Record—Concluded—Page 6

Table of New York Bond Record with columns for Bonds, Price, Week's Range, Range Year, and various bond descriptions like Pressed Steel Car 5s, Prod & Ref 4 1/2s, etc.

Quotations of Sundry Securities

All bond prices are "and interest" except where marked "f"

Table of Quotations of Sundry Securities including Standard Oil Stocks, Railroad Equipments, Tobacco Stocks, Rubber Stocks, Sugar Stocks, and Indus. & Miscellaneous.

a D 13 Jan. d Due April. p Due Dec. s Option sale.

* Per share. † No par value. b Basis. c Purchaser also pays accrued dividend. f New stock. / Last sale. k Nominal. n Ex-dividend. v Ex-rights. o Ex-stock dividend. s Sale price. r Canadian quotation

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday); STOCKS BOSTON STOCK EXCHANGE (Railroads, Miscellaneous); Range Since Jan. 1 1926. (Lowest, Highest); PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1925. (Lowest, Highest). Rows list various stocks like Boston Elevated, Boston & Albany, etc.

* Bid and asked prices; n sales on this day. Ex-rights. d Ex-dividend and rights. z Ex-dividend. b Ex-stock dividend a Assessment paid. Price on ne basis.

Outside Stock Exchanges

Boston Bond Record.—Transactions in bonds at Boston Stock Exchange Mar. 13 to Mar. 19, both inclusive:

Table with columns: Bonds, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Atl G & W ISS L 5s., Chic Jct Ry & U S Y 5s '45, etc.

Philadelphia Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Mar. 13 to Mar. 19, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Abbotts Al Dairy pref., Alliance Insurance, Amer Elec Pow Co pf., etc.

* No par value. z Ex-dividend.

Baltimore Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Baltimore Stock Exchange Mar. 13 to Mar. 19, both inclusive, compiled from official lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Armstrong-Cator 8% pf 100, Amer Wholesale pref., Arundel Corp new stock, etc.

Table with columns: Stocks (Concluded), Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Mt V-Woodb'y Mills, New Amsterdam Gas Co., Penna Water & Power, etc.

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Balt Elec stpd 5s., Bernheimer-Leader 7s. 1943, City & Suburban 1st 5s '22, etc.

* No par value.

Chicago Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Chicago Stock Exchange Mar. 13 to Mar. 19, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes entries like Adams Royalty Co, com., All America Radio cl A, Am Pub Util Serv, pref., etc.

Table of stock prices for various companies including Penn Gas & Elec, Pick (Albert) & Co, Pines Winterfront, etc. Columns include 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 stock prices for various companies including Hussman Refr., Huttig S. D. com, Hydr Press Brick, etc. Columns include Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

* No par value. z Ex dividend and ex stock.

Pittsburgh Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Pittsburgh Stock Exchange Mar. 13 to Mar. 19, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock prices for various companies including Am Vitriol Prod, Am Wind Glass Mach, Am Wind Glass Co, etc. Columns include Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

* No par value. Note.—Sold last week and not reported: 100 Houston Gulf Gas at 7 7/8; 10 Pittsburgh Trust Co. at 220; \$7,000 Pittsburgh Brewing 6s, 1949, at 96.

St. Louis Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at St. Louis Stock Exchange Mar. 13 to Mar. 19, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock prices for various companies including First National Bank, Nat'l Bank of Comm, Franklin Bank, etc. Columns include Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Cincinnati Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Cincinnati Stock Exchange Mar. 13 to Mar. 19, both inclusive, compiled from official lists:

Table of stock prices for various companies including Am Laund Mach, Amer Rolling Mill, American Products, etc. Columns include Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Banks—

Table of bank stock prices including Cincinnati & Sub Tel, Cincinnati Gas & Elec, etc. Columns include Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Tractions—

Table of traction stock prices including Cin & Ham Trac, Cincinnati Street Ry, etc. Columns include Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

New York Curb Market.—Below is a record of the transactions in the New York Curb Market from Mar. 13 to Mar. 19, both inclusive, as compiled from the official lists.

As noted in our issue of July 2 1921, the New York Curb Market Association on June 27 1921 transferred its activities from the Broad Street curb to its new building on Trinity Place, and the Association is now issuing an official sheet which forms the basis of the compilations below.

Table of stock prices for various companies including Amer Investment "B", Baer, Sternberg & Cohen, Best Clymer Co, etc. Columns include Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Stocks (Concluded) Par.	Friday Last Sale Price.		Week's Range of Prices. Low. High.		Sales for Week. Shares.		Range Since Jan. 1. Low. High.		Mining Stocks. Par.	Friday Last Sale Price.		Week's Range of Prices. Low. High.		Sales for Week. Shares.		Range since Jan. 1. Low. High.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
	Tampa Electric Co. 100			295	307	110	292	Jan		330	Feb	Arizona Globe Copper 1	14c	14c	5,000	11c	Jan	21c	Feb	Beaver Consolidated 10			70c	70c	400	45c	Jan	90c	Feb	Bingham Mines Co. 1			50 1/2	51 3/4	200	49	Mar	53 1/2	Mar	Calaveras Copper 1			2 1/2	2 1/2	400	2 1/2	Mar	4	Jan	Calumet & Jerome Copp. 1			10c	10c	4,000	10c	Jan	16c	Feb	Carnegie Metals 10	18 1/2	18 1/2	19 1/2	1,400	18 1/2	Jan	21 1/2	Feb	Consol Copper Mines 1			1 1/2	2	2,400	1 1/2	Jan	2 1/2	Jan	Consol M & Sm of Can 25	208	209	70	180	Mar	222	Mar	Consol Nevada-Utah Cop. 3			6c	6c	1,000	6c	Mar	6c	Mar	Cortez Silver Mines Co. 1	7c	7c	7c	200	6c	Jan	8c	Mar	Cresson Cons Gold M & M. 1	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	700	2 1/2	Jan	2 1/2	Jan	Divide Extension 1			3c	3c	5,000	3c	Feb	5c	Feb	Dolores Esperanza Corp. 2	60c	60c	60c	400	55c	Jan	84c	Jan	Engineer Gold Mines Ltd. 5	14	14 1/2	14 1/2	3,700	12	Jan	7c	Jan	Eucrea Crosscut 1			5c	6c	18,000	6c	Jan	10c	Jan	First Tenney Zinc Gold Min. 1	8c	8c	8c	1,000	5c	Feb	8c	Jan	Forty-nine Mining Co. 1			8c	8c	1,000	5c	Feb	8c	Jan	Golden Centre Mines 5			1 1/2	1 1/2	1,800	1 1/2	Mar	2 1/2	Jan	Goldfield Consol Mines 1			5c	5c	1,000	4c	Feb	7c	Feb	Goldfield Florence 1	10c	9c	11c	12,000	9c	Jan	18c	Feb	Hawthorne Mines, Inc. 1	20c	24c	13,000	16c	Feb	32c	Feb	Heda Mining 25c			18	18 1/2	1,700	15 1/2	Jan	19 1/2	Mar	Hollinger Consol G M 5	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	400	17 1/2	Jan	19 1/2	Feb	Jerome Verde Develop. 50c	1	80c	1 1/2	3,000	80c	Mar	1 1/2	Feb	Kay Copper Co. 1	1 1/2	1 1/2	2	9,100	1 1/2	Jan	2 1/2	Mar	Kerr Lake 1	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	700	1	Jan	1 1/2	Feb	Mass Valley Mines 5			2	2 1/2	1,100	1 1/2	Jan	2 1/2	Feb	National Tin Corp. 50c	6c	6c	6c	14,000	5c	Feb	7c	Jan	New Cornelia Copper 10c			195 1/2	200	410	19 1/2	Mar	21 1/2	Feb	Newmont Mining Corp. 10	52	52	52	100	46 1/2	Jan	57 1/2	Feb	Nipissing Mines 5	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4	1,800	5 1/4	Mar	7 1/4	Jan	Noranda Mines Ltd. 9	13	13	13 1/2	1,200	12 1/2	Mar	13 1/2	Jan	Ohio Copper 1	59c	59c	59c	6,100	47c	Mar	75c	Jan	Parmac-Porcupine Min. 1	28c	28c	30c	3,000	25c	Jan	25c	Feb	Plymouth Lead Mines 1	25c	17c	25c	23,000	8c	Jan	25c	Mar	Premier Gold Min. Ltd. 1	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	1,000	2 1/2	Jan	2 1/2	Mar	Red Warrior Mining 1	22c	22c	23c	4,000	20c	Jan	35c	Feb	South Amer Gold & Plat. 1	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	1,000	3 1/4	Feb	5 1/4	Feb	Spearhead Gold Mining 1			4c	4c	4,500	2c	Feb	5c	Feb	Standard Silver-Lead 1	12c	12c	12c	1,000	7c	Jan	12c	Jan	Teck Hughes 1	3	2 1/2	2 1/4	10,700	2 1/4	Jan	3 1/4	Jan	Tonopah Belmont Devel. 1	3	3 1/4	3 1/4	300	2 1/4	Jan	3 1/4	Jan	Tonopah Extension 1	75c	75c	90c	15,600	52c	Feb	1 1/4	Jan	Tonopah Mining 1	6	6	6 1/2	600	5	Jan	7 1/2	Feb	Tri-Bullion Smelt & Dev. 10c			5c	5c	1,000	5c	Jan	9c	Feb	United Verde Exten. 50c	27 1/2	27 1/2	30	4,400	27	Jan	33	Feb	Utah Apex 5	9 1/2	8 1/2	9 1/2	7,000	6 1/2	Feb	11 1/2	Feb	Utah Metal & Tunnel 1			1 1/2	2	1,200	1 1/2	Feb	2 1/2	Mar	Wenden Copper Mining 1	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	600	2 1/2	Mar	3 1/2	Jan	West End Extension Min 1			4c	4c	1,000	3c	Nov

Table with columns: Bonds, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes various bond listings like Phila Electric 5 1/2%, Rhine-Westphal El P 7 5/8, etc.

* No par value. & Correction. l Listed on the Stock Exchange this week, where additional transactions will be found. o New stock. s Coupon sale. e Ex-cash and stock dividends. w When issued. z Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights. z Ex-stock div.

CURRENT NOTICES.

George B. Robinson & Co., 67 Wall St., New York, are distributing a circular containing an analysis of the securities of Montgomery, Ward & Co. The company's achievements during the past year, its financial structure and statistical data on such similar enterprises as: Sears Roebuck, Woolworth and Kresge are some of the more important features which are considered in detail.

Announcement has been made of the incorporation of John S. Mitchell & Co. to underwrite and deal in investment bonds with offices in the Security Building, 510 South Spring Street, Los Angeles. John S. Mitchell President of the company, was secretary and sales manager of the California Securities Co. from the time of its organization until his recent resignation.

The First National Co. of Detroit, Chicago, announce that Ralph D. Hollowell, formerly of the General Motors Acceptance Corp., has become associated with them in their bond sales department.

Chatham Phenix National Bank & Trust Co. has been appointed Fiscal Agent for the payment of principal and interest of \$1,420,000 First Mortgage 7% Sinking Fund Gold bonds due Jan. 1 1951; and \$1,280,000 Second Mortgage 7% Sinking Fund Gold bonds due Jan. 1 1951, of Mobile Bay Bridge Co.

Charles Swift, Banford B. Langill and Louis C. Henke announce the formation of a co-partnership for the transaction of a general brokerage business in listed and unlisted stocks, bonds and investment securities of Swift, Langill & Henke, 137 S. La Salle St., Chicago.

Irving Bank-Columbia Trust Co., at its Columbia Office, 60 Broadway, New York, is now prepared to deliver definitive First & Refunding Mortgage 5% Gold Bonds, Series due 1955, of the Minnesota Power & Light Co., in exchange for the outstanding temporaries.

Lyon, Walcott & Co. announce that Lowndes Walthour, formerly Assistant to the President of the United States Mortgage & Title Guaranty Co. of New Jersey, has become associated with them in the retail sales department of their New York office.

W. W. Townsend, formerly of J. G. White & Co., has formed an investment firm under the name of W. W. Townsend & Co., Inc., with offices at 7 Wall Street, New York. The new firm will transact a general investment business.

National Bank of Commerce in New York, Trustee of American Type Founders Company 15-Year 6% Sinking Fund Gold Debentures dated Oct. 1 1925, is prepared to deliver definitive bonds in exchange for the temporary bonds, at its office, 31 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y.

David K. Kling, formerly with Martin & Co. of Philadelphia, trading as Kling & Co., announces the opening of offices, in the Packard Building, Philadelphia, for the purpose of transacting a general investment business.

R. E. Prochnow & Co., Inc., Chicago, announce the opening of a Bond Trading Department under the direction of W. Y. Coe and E. A. Stephan, with a direct private wire to Newborg & Co., New York City.

Lilley, Blizzard & Co., Philadelphia, have issued for free distribution a booklet containing the most recent quotations on more than 2,000 various issues of public utility and industrial bonds.

Increase in Postal Savings Deposits in February.

Preliminary reports from postmasters show an increase of approximately \$905,800 in postal savings deposits for February, it was announced by Postmaster General New on March 17. Many postmasters who have recently reported losses in deposits from month to month, especially in some of the larger commercial centres, show moderate gains for February, indicating profitable employment of wage-earners as well as a reaction from liberal expenditures of the preceding holiday months.

STATEMENT OF POSTAL SAVINGS BUSINESS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1926 AS COMPARED WITH THE MONTH OF JANUARY 1926.

Summary table showing Balance on deposit Jan. 31, Increase during February, and Balance on deposit Feb. 28.

Large table with columns: Post Office, Depositors' Balance, Incr. (+), Decr. (-). Lists numerous post offices and their corresponding deposit changes.

* January balances.

Gap, W. Va., was begun on Sept. 14, and electric operation was extended to Princeton on Oct. 1. The new shops for the repair of electric locomotives at Mullens were sufficiently completed by the end of the year to permit all repairs to electric locomotives to be made there.

The mechanical parts of all electric locomotives were completed by the American Locomotive Co. and shipped to the works of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co. at Pittsburgh to have the electric equipment installed.

Coal trains of 6,000 tons are now hauled from Elmore over Clarks Gap Hill with one 3-unit electric road locomotive and one 3-unit electric pusher. The trains are filled out at Clarks Gap Yard to 9,000 tons and hauled from there to Princeton by the electric road locomotive alone.

Capital Account.—Capital account was charged during the year with expenditures amounting to \$8,606,949.

Lease.—During the year a lease of the company's property to the Norfolk & Western Railway Co. was agreed upon, subject to the approval of the I.-S. C. Commission.

TRAFFIC STATISTICS FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Average mileage, Tons (revenue) carried, Passengers carried, Rate per pass. per mile, Oper. revenue per mile.

INCOME ACCOUNT YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Freight revenues, Passenger, mail & express, Other transportation, Railway oper. revenue, Maint. of way & struc., etc.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Net railway oper. rev., Taxes, Uncollectible railway rev.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Railway oper. income, Rent of tracks, &c., Dividend income, Hire of equipment (net), Other income.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Gross income, Int. on funded debt, &c., Disc. on bonds & notes, Rent of tracks, &c., Tax on bond int. & misc.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Net income, Preferred dividends, Common dividends, Balance, surplus.

BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Assets (Property invest, Inv. in affil. cos., etc.), Liabilities (Common stock, Preferred stock, etc.), Total.

* Includes investment in road and equipment: Cost of road, \$98,409,761; equipment, \$34,011,336.—V. 121, p. 2872.

Gulf, Mobile & Northern RR. Co.

(Ninth Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1925.)

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Oper. revenue—freight, Passenger, Mail, express, &c., Incidental revenue.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Total oper. revenue, Operating expenses (Maint. of way & struc., etc.), Total oper. expenses.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Net operating income, Rent from equip't, &c., Miscellaneous, Inc. from unf. sec. & acc'ts, Inc. from funded secur.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Gross income, Rent for leased roads, Interest on funded debt, Interest on unfund. debt, Misc. income charges, Maint. of inv. organ., Preferred dividends.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Balance, surplus, Note.—The operations of the Meridian & Memphis Ry. were taken over by the company under an operating contract as of Jan. 1 1923, and such

revenues and expenses are included in the income account for 1923, 1924 and 1925. They year 1922 has been restated for comparison purposes.

Profit and loss account for the year ended Dec. 31 1925 shows: Credits—Balance Dec. 31 1924, \$3,970,447; balance from income account Dec. 31 1925, \$1,298,050; unrefundable overcharges, \$3,060; donations, \$8,640; other miscellaneous items, \$711; total credits, \$5,280,908.

Public Service Corporation of New Jersey. (17th Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1925.)

The remarks of President Thomas N. McCarter will be found at length on subsequent pages, together with the income accounts and balance sheets of the company and its subsidiaries, and numerous interesting statistical tables covering a number of years.

PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Assets (Real estate, Secs. of subsid'y, etc.), Liabilities (Common stock, Preferred stock, etc.), Total (each side).

Simms Petroleum Company.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1925.)

The report of the directors, signed by Chairman Thos. W. Streeter and President Ed T. Moore, together with income account and balance sheet for the year 1925, will be found under "Reports and Documents" on subsequent pages.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Calendar Years (Production (barrels), Production revenue, Operating expenses, Development expense), Net profit from oper., Tank car earnings, int., &c., Gross income, Rentals, franch., taxes, interest, &c., Labor & prod. drill. cost, Prov. for Fed. taxes, Miscellaneous, Depreciation, Depletion, Dividend paid.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Balance, surplus, Capital & earned surplus.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Assets (Property, tanks, pipe lines, etc.), Liabilities (Cap. stk., Equip. trust cts., etc.), Total.

* After depreciation and depletion, amounting to \$9,173,257, y after deducting \$37,081 reserve for doubtful notes and accounts.

Note.—Simms Oil Co. had contingent liabilities of \$270,920 at Dec. 31 1925 on account of deferred payments for sundry active leases to be made when as oil is produced.—V. 121, p. 2417.

Macks Trucks, Inc. (and Subsidiaries).

[Formerly International Motor Truck Corporation.]

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1925.)

The remarks of President A. J. Brosseau, together with the income account and comparative balance sheet as at Dec. 31 1925, will be found under "Reports and Documents" on a subsequent page. The report also contains a statement of earnings and balance sheet as of Dec. 31 1925 of Mack Trucks Real Estate, Inc., and subsidiaries, and of Mack Acceptance Corporation.

RESULTS FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Sales, Net profit, Federal tax reserve, Depreciation, First pref. divs. (7%), Second pref. divs. (7%), Common dividends, Com. stock div. (5%), Balance, surplus.

—V. 122, p. 759, 359.

The Borden Company and All Subsidiaries.

(7th Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1925.)

The remarks of President Arthur W. Milburn, together with the income account and balance sheet, will be found under "Reports and Documents" on subsequent pages of this issue. President Milburn, in his remarks, calls attention to the fact that sales for the year were the largest in the history of the company, exceeding the peak war and post-war years.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31.

Table with 4 columns: 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Rows include Gross sales, Net oper. profit, Interest, Federal tax, Net income, Dividends, and Balance surplus.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31.

Table with 4 columns: 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Rows include Assets (Cash, Receivables, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

a Property, plant and equipment (including Madison Avenue office building, \$48,049,218; less mortgage on aforesaid building of \$1,905,000; reserve for depreciation, \$11,784,822.—V. 122, p. 217.

American International Corporation.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1925.)

The report of President Matthew C. Brush, together with the income account and balance sheet for 1925, will be found on subsequent pages under "Reports and Documents."

CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT—YEARS ENDED DEC. 31.

Table with 4 columns: 1925, 1924, 1923, x1922. Rows include Operating profit, Interest, Dividends, Profit on sales of securities, and Net earnings.

Table with 4 columns: 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Rows include Gross surplus, Special prov. for sec., Disc. on p.f. stk. red., and Profit & loss, surplus.

a Surplus resulting from reduction of capital stock less revaluation of investments and deficit at beginning of year. x All the stock of G. Amsinck & Co., Inc., Allied Machinery Co. of America, Carter, Macy & Co., Inc., International Steel Corp., Rosin & Turpentine Export Co., and Balsa Refrigerator Corp. being owned by the corporation, the accounts of these companies were included in the consolidated statements for the year 1922. During 1923, however, corporation sold its interests in Carter, Macy & Co., Inc., receiving in payment therefor \$650,000 in cash and \$200,000 7% pref. stock in Carter, Macy & Co., Inc., the new corporation organized by the purchasers. During 1923 Rosin & Turpentine Export Co. was liquidated, its assets having been sold. The holdings in Balsa Refrigerator Corp. were also written off the books in 1923 as being of problematical value. These steps were taken in pursuance of a policy, the object of which was to withdraw the corporation from 100% ownership of companies transacting a trading business and concentrate its resources in assets of a more profitable and liquid character.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31.

Table with 4 columns: 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Rows include Assets (Fixed assets, Cash, Loans, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

y All the outstanding preferred stock was retired during the year; the actual retirement was effected at a discount from the option price (\$70 per share), resulting, in all, in a credit to surplus of \$313,436. z Represented by 490,000 shares of no par value. Note.—There were contingent liabilities aggregating \$507,334 on account of credit participations.—V. 122, p. 484.

Columbian Carbon Co. (and Subsidiaries).

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1925.)

The remarks of President F. F. Curtze, covering operations for the year 1925, together with comparative income account and balance sheet will be found under "Reports and Documents" on subsequent pages.—V. 121, p. 2278.

Famous Players-Lasky Corporation, New York City.

(Annual Report—Fiscal Year Ended Dec. 26 1925.)

The statement for the late fiscal year is given in full under "Reports and Documents" on a subsequent page.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with 4 columns: 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Rows include Operating profit, Less prov. for Fed. taxes, Oper. profit for year, and Total surplus.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET.

Table with 4 columns: Dec. 26 '25, Dec. 27 '24. Rows include Assets (Land, buildings, Cash, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

Note.—(a) Contingent mortgage liability of subsidiary companies on properties sold, \$735,500; (b) contingent liability on investment notes discounted, \$900,000; (c) guaranty of advances secured by film, \$157,625; total, \$1,793,125.

x Land, buildings, leases and equipment after depreciation (incl. equities in sub. cos. subject to mortgages thereon of \$19,817,537 (\$12,817,000 in 1924), being obligations of sub. cos. after giving effect to increase in land values arising through independent appraisals of \$7,438,174. y Representing 235,931 shares of no par value.—V. 122, p. 890, 617.

Chrysler Corporation.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1925.)

The remarks of President W. P. Chrysler, together with the income account and balance sheet as of Dec. 31 1925, will be found under "Reports and Documents" on a subsequent page.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with 4 columns: 1925, 1924, x1924. Rows include Gross profit from sales of auto. & parts, Interest and brokerage, Total income, and Net income for year.

Table with 4 columns: 1925, 1924, x1924. Rows include Dividend paid and declared on pref. stock, Amt. of class A stk. issued in excess of the principal amt. of conv. s. f. debts, and Provision for special contingencies.

Surplus, Dec. 31—\$13,867,768y\$33,741,571x Predecessor company (Maxwell Motor Corp.). y Represented by (a) Class B stock (no par value) paid in or contributed capital, including sale of Class B stock, \$33,734,789; (b) surplus resulting from activities of the corporation between June 1 1921 and Dec. 31 1924, \$6,782; total, \$33,741,571.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31.

Table with 4 columns: 1925, x1924, 1925, x1924. Rows include Assets (Land, bldgs., Good-will, etc.) and Liabilities (Invested capital, Class B stock, etc.).

z Comprises appropriated surplus of \$2,090,000 on account of repurchase of Maxwell Motor Corp. class A stock and \$11,777,768 unappropriated surplus. a Land, buildings, machinery and equipment after deducting \$9,112,368 reserve for depreciation.—V. 122, p. 1460, 97.

Earnings 12 Months Ended Nov. 30.

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1924, 1925. Rows include Gross earnings, Operating expenses, Net (available for interest, Fed. taxes, &c.), Annual interest on entire funded debt, Management, Capitalization Outstanding, 1st mtge. gold bonds, do 5% series B, Cumulative preferred stock, Common stock.

Bell Telephone Co. of Penn.—Balance Sheet, Dec. 31.—

Table with 4 columns: Assets, 1925, 1924, Liabilities, 1925, 1924. Rows include Teleph. plant & equipment, Invest. securities, Adv. to systems corporations, Miscell. invest., Cash & deposits, Bills receivable, Acc'ts receivable, Market securities, Mat. & supplies, Accr. inc. not due, Sink fund assets, Prepayments, Unamort. debt, disc. & exp., Other def. debits.

Note.—The Bell Telephone Co. of Pennsylvania was, as of Dec. 31 1925, guarantor for principal and interest in respect of Lehigh Telephone Co. first and ref. mtge. 5% gold bonds, Series A, due July 1 1949. Face value outstanding Dec. 31 1925, \$2,695,900.

Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit Corp.—\$1 Common Div.

The directors on March 15 declared a quarterly dividend of \$1 per share on the common stock, payable April 15 to holders of record April 1. Initial dividend action was taken on the common stock on Dec. 21 last when a dividend of \$2 per share for the period from the company's reorganization to Sept. 30 1925 and a dividend of \$1 per share for the quarterly period from Oct. 1 1925 to Dec. 31 1925 were declared.—V. 122, p. 478.

Canadian Light & Power Co.—Offer to Bondholders.

All holders of the present outstanding 5% 40-year 1st mtge. sinking fund bonds must on or before April 1 1926 deliver their bonds to the Royal Trust Co., Montreal, and shall thereafter be entitled to receive the new bonds and fully paid shares of common stock on the following basis: For every \$100 bonds the holders are entitled to receive (a) \$60 of new bonds of the same issue bearing interest as and from Jan. 1 1926 and (b) \$40 in fully paid shares of common stock.

Carolina Power & Light Co.—Bonds Offered.—W. C. Langley & Co., Bonbright & Co., Inc., New York, and Old Colony Corp., Boston, are offering at 97 3/4 and int., to yield 5.15%, \$18,000,000 1st & ref. mtge. gold bonds, 5% series of 1956.

Dated as of April 1 1926; due April 1 1956. Interest payable A. & O. at the office or agency of the company in N. Y. City. Red. at any time, all or part, on at least 30 days' notice at 105 up to and incl. Apr. 1 1936, at 1/4% less each succeeding year up to and incl. Apr. 1 1954, and thereafter at 100, plus accrued int. in each case. Denom. c* \$1,000 and \$500, and r* \$1,000 and \$5,000, and authorized multiples thereof. Company agrees to pay interest without deduction for any Federal income tax not in excess of 2% and to refund the Penn. 4-mills tax on timely application. Irving Bank-Columbia Trust Co., New York, trustee.

Data from Letter of B. S. Jerman, President of Company.

Company.—Is to be organized by merger and consolidation of Carolina Power & Light Co., Yadkin River Power Co., Asheville Power & Light Co., Pigeon River Power Co. and Carolina Power Co. The constituent companies furnish directly or indirectly, electric power and light service in 130 communities in North Carolina, and South Carolina, including Raleigh, Asheville, Goldsboro, Henderson, Oxford, Sanford and Rockingham, N. C., and Cheraw, Florence, Marion and Darlington, S. C., and also supply the street railway and gas service in Raleigh and Asheville and gas service in Durham. Total population served estimated 329,000.

Purpose of Issue.—The proceeds from the sale of these bonds will provide for the retirement of \$3,480,500 Carolina Power & Light Co. 1st mtge. 5% bonds due Aug. 1 1938, \$4,800,000 Carolina Power & Light Co. 1st & ref. mtge. gold bonds, 6% series of 1953, \$1,220,000 Asheville Power & Light Co. 1st mtge. 5% gold bonds due April 1 1942, \$899,400 North Carolina Electrical Power Co. 1st & ref. mtge. 5% gold bonds due Oct. 1 1940, as well as other indebtedness, and will provide funds for further capital expenditures at other corporate purposes.

Security.—Secured by a first mortgage on substantially all of the physical property owned by Carolina Power & Light Co., Asheville Power & Light Co., Pigeon River Power Co. and Carolina Power Co. at the effective date of the merger and consolidation, and will also be secured by a direct mortgage on the physical property of the Yadkin River Power Co., subject to the 1st (closed) mtge. 5% gold bonds due April 1 1941 of said company.

Consolidated Earnings Calendar Years.

Table with 5 columns: 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925. Rows include Gross income, Net income after exps. and taxes, Int. on bonds, Balance, Net income as shown above for the year ended Dec. 31 1925 is over 2 1/2 times the total annual interest requirements of \$1,275,000.

of 35,565 kilowatts and an additional 34,000 kilowatts is purchased under contract from other companies. Of this 123,565 kilowatts aggregate available power supply 57% is hydro-electric. The electric transmission system includes 1,880 miles of high-tension transmission lines and 1,197 miles of distributing system. The gas works, located in Raleigh, Durham and Asheville, are modern in construction and have an aggregate daily generating capacity of 2,070,000 cubic feet and an aggregate holder capacity of 740,000 cubic feet. The street railway systems in Raleigh and Asheville comprise approximately 32 miles of track.

Construction.—In order to meet the increasing demand for electric power and light thus created in the territory served, the construction of 2 new hydro-electric plants is contemplated, one on the Yadkin River near Norwood, about 25 miles above the Blewett Falls development, the other on the Pigeon River, to be known as the Waterville plant, near the Tennessee State line, about 35 miles northwest of Asheville. The Norwood station as planned will have an initial installation of 63,000 kilowatts and will be designed for an ultimate generating capacity of 85,000 kilowatts, while the Waterville plant, as planned, will have an initial installation of 50,000 kilowatts and will be designed for an ultimate generating capacity of 75,000 kilowatts. These will be among the largest and most modern plants in the South.

Supervision.—Company (consolidated company), from the standpoint of its electric power and light business, will be the largest and most important subsidiary of National Power & Light Co. The operations of National Power & Light Co. and its subsidiaries are supervised (under the direction and control of the respective boards of directors) by the Electric Bond & Share Co.—V. 122, p. 1453.

Chicago, Aurora & Elgin RR.—New President, &c.—

Britton I. Budd, President of the Chicago Rapid Transit Co., has been elected President of the Chicago, Aurora & Elgin RR. This move is in line with the recent acquisition of controlling interest in the road by Samuel Insull and associates. Mr. Insull has been elected Chairman of the board. (See also "Chicago, Aurora & Elgin Corp." in V. 122, p. 1308)—V. 122, p. 1168.

Chicago Railways.—Protective Committee.—

The protective committee (below) has issued the following notice: The 1st mtge. bonds of which \$62,785,000 are outstanding, mature Feb. 1 1927, which is also the date of the expiration of the company's franchise in Chicago.

Notwithstanding the favorable relation between the amount of 1st mtge. bonds and the acknowledged value of the property, and the favorable relation of the annual interest charge on the bonds to the company's earnings available for the payment of such interest, the present credit position of the company is such that an ordinary refunding operation appears to be impossible.

Under these circumstances, the committee, representatives of substantial amounts of 1st mtge. bonds, have agreed to act as a bondholders' protective committee, a medium through which the holders of the bonds may co-operate to protect their interests by the enforcement of their security and to take action toward a restoration of the credit of the street railway lines in Chicago, in order that the cost of extensions and new equipment may be financed, and proper and adequate service given to the people of Chicago.

The holders of 1st mtge. bonds are urged to co-operate by immediately depositing their bonds under the control of the committee, sending them to the depository or one of the sub-depositaries, which will issue in return a transferable certificate of deposit.

Committee.—Albert W. Harris (Chairman); C. W. Beall (V.-Pres. Harris, Forbes & Co., New York); B. A. Eckhart (Pres. B. A. Eckhart Milling Co., Chicago); Henry W. George (Treas. Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., New York); F. H. Rawson (Chairman Union Trust Co., Chicago, with Chester Corey, Sec., 115 West Monroe St., Chicago).

Depository.—Harris Trust & Savings Bank, Chicago. Sub-depositaries National Bank of Commerce, New York; the First National Bank, Boston, and Girard Trust Co., Philadelphia.—V. 122, p. 2145, 2141.

Cincinnati & Dayton Traction Co.—Sale.—

All properties of the company, including lines from College Hill to Dayton and the Hamilton city lines, were sold for \$519,400 March 8 by George P. Sohngen, receiver, to the reorganization managers. Compare reorganization plan in V. 122, p. 608, 1308.

Cincinnati & Hamilton Traction Co.—Sale Approved.

The stockholders on March 4 approved the offer of the Cincinnati Street Ry. for the property, which includes the Millcreek Valley street car lines from the Zoo to Lockland and Glendale and the interurban line from Glendale to Hamilton. The company will receive \$1,000,000 stock of the Cincinnati Street Ry. in payment for the properties.

The committees representing the preferred and common stockholders have recommended a division of this stock in the ratio of 4 to 1, \$800,000 to go to the preferred stockholders and \$200,000 to the common stockholders. There are outstanding \$1,100,000 common and \$1,100,000 preferred. When the distribution is effected, the Cincinnati & Hamilton company will be liquidated.—V. 121, p. 1347.

City Water Co. of Chattanooga, Tenn.—Bonds Offered.—

W. C. Langley & Co., Halsey, Stuart & Co., Inc., and P. W. Chapman & Co., Inc., are offering at 96 and int., to yield over 5 1/4%, \$316,000 1st mtge. 5% gold bonds, series B of 1924, due Dec. 1 1954. Principal and interest guaranteed by American Water Works & Electric Co., Inc.

Issuance.—Subject to authorization of the Tennessee Railroad & Public Utilities Commission.

Company.—Has been serving the city of Chattanooga, Tenn., and surrounding territory since 1868. The record of the company's services has been one of continual steady growth and prosperity. At the present time the company supplies water for domestic and public use without compensation to a population of over 100,000, which includes several suburbs of Chattanooga, some of which extend into the State of Georgia.

Earnings 12 Months Ended Nov. 30.

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1924, 1925. Rows include Gross earnings, Operating expenses, Net (available for interest, Federal taxes, &c.), Annual interest on entire funded debt, Control.—Company is controlled through ownership of its entire common stock by American Water Works & Electric Co., Inc., Capitalization Outstanding (Upon Completion of Present Financing), 1st mtge. gold bonds, do 5% series B, Cumulative preferred stock, Common stock.

Cities Service Co.—Common Stock Offered.—

Pearsons-Taft Co., Chicago, Henry L. Doherty & Co., New York, Newburger-Henderson & Loeb, Phila., Russell-Colvin Co., San Francisco, De Fremery & Co. and Shingle, Brown & Co., San Francisco, are offering at \$42 per share 250,000 common stock (par \$20), each share having one-fifth of a vote. This offering will not increase the amount of outstanding common stock except as represented by conversions of its outstanding convertible debentures.

Transfer agents, Henry L. Doherty & Co., New York; Huntington National Bank, Columbus, Ohio; Interurban Trust Co., Denver, Colo.; Old Colony Trust Co., Boston, Mass.; Commerce Trust Co., Kansas City, Mo.; registrars: Guaranty Trust Co., New York; Commercial National Bank, Columbus, Ohio; First National Bank, Denver, Colo.; State Street Trust Co., Boston, Mass.; New England National Bank, Kansas City, Mo.

Data From Letter of Henry L. Doherty, President of the Company.

Company.—Owns directly or through subsidiaries a majority of the common stock of each of more than 60 public utilities comprising a large and successful system of electric light and power, manufactured and natural gas, heat, water, ice and street railway companies, and of more than 40 companies representing an important system of oil production, transporta-

Vt. Company is to construct and will own a modern hydro-electric plant which will have a capacity of approximately 7,000 h. p. and will own or control approximately 1,029 acres of land, of which 980 acres will be owned in fee, the balance being held under perpetual easements.

Montpelier & Barre Light & Power Co. has an annual output of approximately 29,000,000 k. w. h. (which has been increasing at the rate of about 10% per annum), of which approximately 5,000,000 k. w. h. is generated by steam and 7,000,000 k. w. h. purchased, the balance being generated by its own hydro-electric plants.

The Molly's Falls development will provide an average of approximately 6,000,000 k. w. h. annually, the major portion of which will replace higher cost steam generated power.

It is proposed to transmit the current from the Green Mountain Power Co., Inc., station to the distributing plant at Montpelier over a 16-mile 33,000-volt transmission line. This development will make possible substantial savings.

Lease.—The properties of the Green Mountain Power Co., Inc., will be leased to the Montpelier & Barre Light & Power Co. for 99 years, the lessee agreeing to pay an annual rental equal to twice the interest charges on all bonds from time to time outstanding under this mortgage, and in addition to pay taxes, maintenance and replacement charges necessary to keep the property in good working condition.

Security.—Secured by a direct first mortgage on all property of Green Mountain Power Co., Inc., owned at the time of issuance of the bonds of thereafter acquired, except that after-acquired property may be subject to other liens. The 99-year lease will be subject to the lien of the mortgage.

Company.—Is a Massachusetts corporation doing business in Vermont, supplying electricity for light, heat and power in the cities of Montpelier and Barre, and in the towns of Waterbury, Willamstown, Waitsfield, Washington, Marshfield, Calais, Plainfield, Cabot, East Montpelier, Northfield, Middlesex, Moorstown, Berlin, Warren, Duxbury, Fayston, Barre, Worcester and Orange, comprising practically all of Washington County, Vermont.

Equity.—The value of the securities junior to the funded debt of the Montpelier & Barre Light & Power Co. and the Green Mountain Power Co., Inc., based on present market quotations, is in excess of \$2,100,000.

Earnings.—Net earnings of the Montpelier & Barre Light & Power Co. for the 12 months ended Dec. 31 1925 available for interest amounted to \$450,783, or over 2.50 times the present annual interest requirement of \$177,300 on the funded debt of the two companies outstanding in hands of the public, including this issue.

Purpose.—Proceeds of this bond issue, together with those of the sale of approximately 4,000 shares of no par value capital stock to be taken by Montpelier & Barre Light & Power Co. at \$75 per share, will be used for the construction of dam, reservoir, pipe lines, transmission line, and a modern hydro-electric plant at Molly's Falls, to have a capacity of approximately 7,000 h. p., and in the purchase of the necessary lands and water rights.

Capitalization Outstanding (After This Financing). Table with columns for security type and amount. Includes Montpelier & Barre Light & Power Co. and Green Mtn. Power Co., Inc. securities.

Earnings (Montpelier & Barre Light & Power Co.) Years Ended Dec. 31. Table with columns for 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925. Rows include Gross earnings, Operating expenses and taxes, Balance available for interest.

Management.—Montpelier & Barre Light & Power Co. has been under the management of Charles H. Tenney & Co. since organization in Nov. 1912.

Hackensack (N. J.) Water Co.—New President.—Nicholas S. Hill, Jr., has been elected President, succeeding Robert W. de Forest, who becomes Chairman of the board.—V. 121, p. 3003.

Hudson River & Eastern Traction Co. A recent dispatch from Ossining, N. Y., stated that negotiations for the purchase of the above company, which owns the street railway lines in Ossining, by the owners of an automobile bus company have been opened.

Huntington (W. Va.) Water Corp.—Bonds Offered.—W. C. Langley & Co., Halsey, Stuart & Co., Inc., and P. W. Chapman & Co., Inc., are offering at 94 and int., to yield about 5.40%, \$290,000 1st mtg. 5% gold bonds, series B of 1924, due March 1 1954.

Corporation was incorporated in 1917, acquiring the properties of The Huntington Water Co. and The Guyandotte Water Works Co., which had served the cities of Huntington and Guyandotte (now a part of Huntington) in West Virginia since 1886 and 1888, respectively.

Earnings 12 Months Ended Nov. 30. Table with columns for 1924, 1925. Rows include Gross earnings, Operating expenses, maintenance & taxes.

Net (available for interest, Federal taxes, &c.)—\$174,053 \$248,874 Annual interest on entire funded debt (including this issue)—\$92,500

Capitalization Outstanding (Upon Completion of Present Financing). Table with columns for security type and amount. Includes 1st mtg. gold bonds, 7% preferred stock, Common stock.

Purpose.—To partially reimburse the corporation for additions, improvements and extensions to its properties.—V. 120, p. 1089.

Illinois Bell Telephone Co.—Purchase.—The I.-S. C. Commission on March 3 approved the acquisition by the company of the properties of the Home Telephone Co. of Cairo. By a contract made Dec. 8 1921, the Illinois company agrees to purchase all of the properties of the Home company for \$175,000 plus the cost of net additions to property made after June 30 1921.

International Power Co., Ltd.—Preferred Stock Sold.—G. E. Barrett & Co., Inc., New York, and Royal Securities Corp., Ltd., Montreal, have sold at 98½ and div., to yield about 7.11%, \$4,000,000 1st preferred stock (par \$100) cumulative dividends, \$7 per share per annum.

Company.—Has been incorporated and organized under the laws of the Dominion of Canada to acquire as a holding or operating company directly or through subsidiaries, equities in or control of power or public utility undertakings.

Company has acquired all the securities of the Venezuela Power Co., Ltd., and a majority of the stock of the San Salvador Electric Light Co., the Newfoundland Light & Power Co., Ltd., Bolivian Power Co., Ltd., and 81% of the outstanding 5% 1st mtg. bonds and a controlling interest in the common stock of the Demerara Electric Co., Ltd.

Combined Earnings of the Properties Controlled by the Company. Table with columns for 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925. Rows include Gross earnings, Oper. & maint. charges, Net avail. for int. and res, Interest charges on underlying securities, etc.

Balance available for preferred dividends and reserves—\$486,685 x One month in part estimated. Listing.—It is expected that application will be made to list the common stock on the Montreal and Toronto Stock Exchanges.

Kentucky Light & Power Co.—Sale.—See Kentucky Utilities Co. below.—V. 122, p. 883.

Kentucky Utilities Co.—Acquisitions.—The sale and transfer by the Paducah Electric Co. of all its properties to the Kentucky Utilities Co. as of Feb. 26, and the acquisition by the latter company of all physical property, franchises and business of the Kentucky Light & Power Co. as of March 1, were announced recently by Lewis B. Herrington, Vice-President of the Kentucky Utilities Co.

The Paducah Electric Co. has called in all its bonds and sold and transferred all its property to the Kentucky Utilities Co. Vice-President Herrington said. "Deeds covering the transfer of physical properties at Paducah were executed Feb. 26." "The Kentucky Utilities Co. has acquired all physical properties, franchises and the business of the Kentucky Light & Power Co., operating at Dawson Springs, Princeton, Fulton and Hickman. Electric service is supplied to Fulton, Princeton and Dawson Springs.

Consolidated Income Account for Calendar Years. Table with columns for 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Rows include Operating revenues, Oper. exp., incl. taxes, Rent for leased lines, Net earnings, Miscellaneous income, Gross income, Interest charges, Preferred dividends, Common dividends, Balance, surplus, Profit and loss, surplus.

Consolidated Balance Sheet December 31. Table with columns for 1925, 1924. Rows include Assets (Fixed capital, Cash, Notes receivable, etc.), Liabilities (6% preferred stock, 7% junior pref. stk., etc.), Total (each side).

Lone Star Gas Co.—Offer to Stockholders.—The stockholders have been offered the right to exchange each share of present stock of \$25 par for 1-2-3 shares of stock of \$25 par of the Lone Star Gas Corp., a newly formed Delaware corporation which will take over the assets of Lone Star Gas Co. of Texas provided 80% of the stock is deposited with the Pittsburgh Trust Co. by April 1.

The new corporation has an authorized capital stock of \$30,000,000, of which \$22,500,000 will be used in exchange for the \$13,500,000 stock of the old company. The remainder will either be sold to stockholders or used to acquire new properties in the future.—V. 122 p. 1026.

Massachusetts Gas Companies.—Notes Called.—All of the outstanding \$5,000,000 5% 3-year promissory gold coupon notes, dated April 15 1924 have been called for payment April 15 at par and int. at the Old Colony Trust Co. 17 Court St., Boston Mass. Part of the proceeds of the recent issue of \$18,000,000 20-year sinking fund 5½% gold bonds (sold last December see V. 121, p. 2875) will be used for the redemption of the notes.—V. 121, p. 3004.

Montana Power Co.—Annual Report.—Consolidated Income Account for Calendar Years. Table with columns for 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Rows include Gross earnings, Oper. expenses and taxes, Net earnings, Income from inv., Interest received, Net income, Interest charges, Federal income taxes, Invest. written off, Depreciation, Preferred divs. (7%), Common dividends.

Balance, surplus—\$693,126 \$240,979 \$521,582 \$270,184 xExcept Federal taxes. yIncluded in operating expenses and taxes for 1922.

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31. Table with columns for 1925, 1924. Rows include Assets (Property acct., Sec. of other eos., Mater. & supplies, etc.), Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, 1st & Ref. M. bds., etc.), Total (each side).

Tot. (each side) 103343,992 103803,538 x Being the value of the rights, franchise, real estate, buildings, plants and equipment.—V. 122, p. 1170, 213.

Minnesota Power & Light Co.—Definite Bds. Ready.—The Irving Bank-Columbia Trust Co. 60 Broadway N. Y. City is now prepared to deliver definite 1st & ref. mtgs. 5% gold bonds due 1955 in exchange for outstanding temporary bonds. See offering in V. 121 p. 3131.

Montpelier & Barre Lt. & Pr. Co.—Development, &c.—See Green Mountain Power Co., Inc., above.—V. 122, p. 213.

Municipal Service Co.—Bonds Offered.—E. H. Rollins & Sons, Baker, Young & Co., Blyth, Wither & Co., H. M. Bylesby & Co., Inc., Howe, Snow & Bertles, Inc., and Eastman, Dillon & Co. are offering at 96 and int., to yield about 6.30%, \$5,500,000 30-year 6% sinking fund collateral trust gold bonds, series A.

Dated Feb. 1 1926; due Feb. 1 1956. Red. on the first day of any month, on 30 days' notice, all of part, at 105 and int., reducing 1/4 of 1% for each year elapsed from Jan. 31 1936 to maturity. Interest payable F. & A. in New York or Philadelphia, without deduction for any normal Federal income tax not exceeding 2% which the company or the trustee may be required or permitted to pay at the source. Denom. \$1,000 and \$500*. Penn. Co. for Ins. on Lives & Granting Annuities, Phila., trustee. Personal property tax of Conn., Penn. and Calif., not exceeding 4 mills per annum, Maryland not exceeding 4 1/2 mills per annum and of the District of Columbia not exceeding 5 mills per annum and for the Mass. income tax on int. not exceeding 6% of such interest per annum, refunded.

Data From Letter of A. E. Fitkin, President of the Company. Company.—Incorporated in Maine. Owns, controls or will acquire local operating public utility companies, serving with electric light and power, gas, ice or steam 187 communities in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia and Georgia as follows: Edison Light & Power Co., York Railways Co., Glen Rock Electric Lt. & Power Co., Citizens Light & Power Co., Citizens Traction Co., Bainbridge Ice Co., Titusville Light & Power Co., Chester Valley Electric Co., Youngstown & Suburban Ry., Valdosta Lighting Co., Ware County Light & Power Co. and Keystone Public Service Corp., and will acquire all the common stock of Eastern Shore Gas & Electric Co. Through these operating companies, 64,790 customers are served, of which 61,514 are electrical, 2,547 gas, and 429 steam service. Company also operates profitable street railway systems in cities in Pennsylvania, and an interurban railway in Ohio. The companies serve an aggregate population of about 1,000,000.

The electric systems of company have a total installed capacity of 56,888 h.p. and 433 miles of transmission lines. The gas properties include generating plants with a daily capacity of 720,000 cu. ft. The ice plants have a daily capacity of 337 tons. The street railway properties consist of 279 equivalent miles of single track. During the year ended Dec. 31 1925 there were generated 134,565,662 k.w.h. of electric energy, and 55,867,000 cu. ft. of gas.

Capitalization Outstanding (After Giving Effect to Present Financing). Collateral trust 5% bonds, due March 1 1942 \$4,527,000 3-year 6% collateral trust gold bonds, series A, due Feb. 1 1956 (this issue) 5,500,000 Preferred stock 3,108,100 Common stock (no par value) 99% owned by National Public Service Co. 73,500shs.

The subsidiary companies will have outstanding in the hands of the public \$19,904,500 of bonds; \$1,150,000 of notes; \$2,338,510 of preferred stock, and \$206,250 of common stock.

Security.—Secured by a direct first lien upon the entire common stock of Keystone Public Service Corp. and all stock of York Railways Co. owned. Further secured by a direct lien on the bonds and stocks of other subsidiary companies pledged and deposited under the collateral trust 5% bond agreement of the company, subject to the lien thereof. Additional bonds may be issued under conservative restrictions as set forth in the trust indenture.

Sinking Fund.—Trust indenture will provide for equal semi-annual payments for interest and sinking fund of \$202,500 to the trustee, beginning Feb. 1 1927 and semi-annually thereafter. The balance remaining after the payment of interest on outstanding bonds of this issue must be used for the purpose of sinking fund for the retirement of bonds, which, it is estimated, will retire this entire issue on or before maturity. Additional issues of bonds with a maturity of five years or more will have a sinking fund sufficient to retire the entire issue on or before maturity.

Consolidated Statement Upon Completion of This Financing (12 Months Ended Dec. 31 1925).

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Rows include Gross earnings of subsidiaries, operating expenses, taxes, prior charges, provision for depreciation, and surplus earnings for minority stocks.

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Rows include Balance for Municipal Service Co. charges, interest on collateral trust bonds, and interest on 30-year 6% collateral trust gold bonds.

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Rows include Balance for dividends, surplus, &c., and balance of consolidated earnings available for interest on total funded debt.

Purpose.—Proceeds from the sale of these bonds, together with other moneys raised by and in connection with this financing will be used in part to retire certain outstanding obligations and to the extent of not less than \$1,423,900 for capital additions in respect of which no stock or obligations may be issued.

Ownership & Management.—Company is controlled through stock ownership by National Public Service Corp. The management of company and its subsidiaries is under the supervision of the General Engineering & Management Corp.—V. 120, p. 2944.

New Bedford & Onset Street Ry.—Annual Report.—

Table with 5 columns: Description, 1925, 1924, 1923, and 1922. Rows include Gross earnings from oper, operating expenses, net earnings, miscellaneous inc. (int.), net income, interest charges, taxes, div. pay, balance, deficit, P. and L. surplus, Dec. 31, and balance, surplus.

Niagara St. Catharines & Toronto Ry.—Fares.—

In a judgment issued March 8 the Dominion Railway Board at Ottawa, Canada, granted the application of the company for authority to increase its fares upon what is known as the local lines in the towns of Merriton and Thorold and the village of Port Dalhousie to the same basis as those provided for in the city of St. Catharines.—V. 120, p. 958.

Niagara Falls Power Co. & Subs.—Annual Report.—

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Rows include Operating revenue, operating expenses, retirement expense, operating taxes, operating income, non-operating income (net), gross income, interest on funded debt, U. S. and Canadian income taxes & misc. items, net income, preferred dividends, common dividends, and balance, surplus.

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31 1925.

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Rows include Assets (Fixed capital, sinking fund, misc. investments, cash, cash dep. to pay, cash dep. to pay (per contra), notes receivable, marketable secur., dividends rec., acer. int. rec., materials & supp., prepayments, subs. to cap. stk., unamort. bd. dis. & expense, misc. def. debits) and Liabilities (7% pref. stock, common stock, capital stk. subse., Can. Niag. Pow. stock, prem. on sale of pref. stock, funded debt, mtgcs. on real est., accounts payable, notes payable, int. matures (per contra), divs. unpaid (per contra), pref. divs. pay., taxes accrued, interest accrued, rental accrued, res. for retir. of cap., &c., surplus).

Total \$86,594,235 84,852,796. x Represented by 720,856 outstanding shares of common stock (of no par value) with a declared value of \$25 per share. y 250 shares of Canadian Niagara Power Co., Ltd., stock owned by others; Niagara Falls Power Co. owns 299,75 shares.—V. 122, p. 612.

Niagara Lockport & Ontario Power Co.—Earnings (Including Subsidiary Companies) for Calendar Years.—

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Rows include Kilowatt hrs. of energy sold, sales of electric energy, cost of energy, oper. expenses, maintenance and repairs, net earnings, other income, gross income, taxes, rentals, &c., interest on funded debt, appropriations to reserves, preferred dividends, common dividends, surplus from operations for period.

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Rows include Assets (Property & plant, investments, spec. deposits with trustees, cash, notes, accts. & acer. int. rec., materials & supp., advs. to right of way agents, &c., prepaid taxes, ins. &c., deferred charges) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, common stock, pref. stk. subse., funded debt, 6% notes (called), cont. of purch., current liabilities, deferred credits, retir. & reserves, profit & loss surp., capital surplus, prem. on pref.).

Total (each side) 42,244,576 35,854,509. x Represented by about 298,925 shares of no par value.—V. 122, p. 884.

North American Co.—Electric Power Output of Subs.—

The electric power output of the company's subsidiaries exclusive of the Mississippi River Power Co. and several minor properties for the 4 weeks ending March 11 1926 was 326,554,000 k.w.h. as compared with 285,280,000 k.w.h. for the corresponding 4 weeks of 1925, an increase of 14.47%. The respective increases over 1925 for the past four weeks have been as follows: 15.09%, 14.17%, 12.74% and for the week ending March 11, 15.90%. The last week shows the largest increase of any week so far this year.—V. 122, p. 1445.

Northern Connecticut Light & Power Co.—Merger.—

See Northern Connecticut Power Co.—V. 121, p. 2752, 2638.

Northern Connecticut Power Co.—Bonds Offered.—

J. G. White & Co., Inc., and E. H. Rollins & Sons are offering at 97 1/2% and int. to yield 5.71%, \$2,100,000 1st mtge. & ref. 5 1/2% gold bonds.

Dated March 1 1926; due March 1 1946. Prin and int. (M. & S.) payable at office of Equitable Trust Co., New York, trustee. Denom. \$500 and \$1,000*. Red. all or part on any int. date at 105 and int. up to and incl. March 1 1936, the premium thereafter decreasing 1/2 of 1% for each year or portion thereof. Company covenants to pay interest without deduction for any normal Federal income tax up to 2%. Company agrees to reimburse the holders of these bonds for the Penn. and Conn. property taxes not exceeding 4 mills, the Maryland tax not exceeding 4 1/2 mills, the District of Columbia tax not exceeding 5 mills or the Mass. income tax not exceeding 6% of the annual interest.

Data From Letter of President Walter P. Schwabe, Hartford, March 15

Company.—A Connecticut corporation. Will be formed by the merger and consolidation of Northern Connecticut Light & Power Co., Connecticut River Co., Thompsonville Water Co. and Stafford Springs Aqueduct Co. By this merger and consolidation, which has been approved by the Connecticut P. U. Commission the new company will become the owner of the group of established and successful public utility properties now owned and operated by the above mentioned companies. These properties are adjacent to each other and can be best operated as a unit. Approximately 68% of the combined net earnings of these properties is derived from the electric light and power business, including the sale of water power, 18% from the waterworks and 14% from the gas business.

Capitalization—Authorized. Outstanding.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include First mortgage and refunding bonds, underlying bonds (closed), preferred stock, common stock, and issuance of additional bonds restricted by the provisions of the mortgage.

b There are also \$65,000 bonds in the sinking fund and \$13,000 to be held by the trustee for the 1st mtge. & ref. bonds. c Shares of no par value. The preferred stock will be entitled to cumulative dividends at the rate of \$6 per annum.

Security.—Direct obligation of the company and secured by a direct first mortgage on all of the fixed properties owned, except that as to the properties acquired from Northern Connecticut Light & Power Co. They will be subject to divisional bonds (closed) outstanding in the amount of \$247,000.

Consolidated Earnings of Constituent Companies for Past Two Years.

Table with 4 columns: Description, 1924, 1925, and 1926. Rows include Gross earnings, oper. exps. & taxes, except Federal taxes, net earnings, present annual interest requirements, balance available for depreciation, Federal income taxes and dividends, maintenance and renewal fund.

Maintenance and Renewal Fund.—Mortgage will provide for the expenditure annually of a sum equal to 12 1/2% of gross operating revenues derived from the operations of the preceding calendar year, for maintenance,

estimated population of 384,000, and similarly furnishes water to the city of Lexington, Ky., with an estimated population of 50,000. Company controls through stock ownership (100% ownership of all common stocks of subsidiaries, except directors' qualifying shares) gas companies located in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, New York, Pennsylvania and Texas. It has recently acquired the common stocks of Waynesboro Gas Co. (Pa.), Conewago Gas Co. (Hanover, Pa.), Chambersburg Gas Co. (Pa.), Sabine Utilities Corp. (a Maryland corporation which owns all of the common stock of Peoples Gas Co., Port Arthur, Texas), Interborough Gas & Fuel Co. (Red Lion, Pa.), and substantially all of the voting stocks of Lexington Water Co. (Ky.).

Capitalization—Bonds and preferred stocks of subsidiaries—Authorized—Outstanding. 15-year 6 1/2% gold debentures—\$1,500,000 1,500,000

z 62,502 additional shares of class A stock have been reserved for conversion of the two issues of the company's convertible 6% gold notes.

Valuation.—Engineers have estimated the value of the physical properties of subsidiaries acquired by the company on or before Dec. 31, 1924, as of said date, and of subsidiaries subsequently acquired as of the respective dates of acquisition, after all depreciation, at \$12,917,000, which amount, after deducting bonds and preferred stocks of subsidiaries, outstanding as above, is equivalent to more than 3 times the principal amount of the notes and debentures outstanding as above.

Purpose.—Proceeds will provide funds to be used in payment of indebtedness incurred in the acquisition of certain stock of Lexington Water Co. (Ky.) and other subsidiaries recently acquired, in the acquisition of additional bonds, stocks or properties and for other corporate purposes.

Consolidated Earnings, 12 Mos. Ended Dec. 31—1925, 1924. Operating revenues—\$2,502,882 \$2,474,488

Balance for notes and debentures—\$736,551 \$638,563 Interest requirements on notes and debentures—201,360 201,360

Balance—\$535,191 \$437,203 x Figures for the company's subsidiaries, irrespective of dates of acquisition, are included for the full periods and adjustments have been made on the basis of the company's capitalization as set forth above.

Management.—The management and operation of the properties is under the supervision of Sanderson & Porter, engineers.

A regular quarterly dividend (No. 3) of 4 3/4% per share on the class A stock, no par value, was payable March 15 to holders of record Feb. 23. Quarterly distributions of like amount were made on this issue on Sept. 15 and Dec. 15 last.

The holders of class A stock had the option to receive, in lieu of the cash dividend, additional class A stock at the rate of one share for each 40 shares held on Feb. 23.—V. 122, p. 884.

Southwestern Gas & Electric Co.—Acquires Plant.—The company has purchased the Washington, Ark., city light and power plant, and will operate an ice manufacturing plant in connection with the electric station. Washington will be the distributing centre for a service that will take in several towns in Arkansas, according to the company's plans.—V. 121, p. 588.

Terre Haute (Ind.) Water Works Corporation.—Bonds Offered.—W. C. Langley & Co., Halsey, Stuart & Co., Inc., and P. W. Chapman & Co., Inc., are offering at 93 and int., to yield over 5.40%, \$240,000 first mtge. 5% gold bonds, Series B of 1924, due Feb. 1 1956. Principal and interest guaranteed by American Water Works & Electric Co., Inc.

Issuance.—Subject to authorization by the Indiana P. S. Commission. Business.—Corporation was recently incorporated as a subsidiary of the American Water Works & Electric Co., Inc., to acquire the properties of Terre Haute Water Works Co., which has served the City of Terre Haute, Ind., and vicinity since 1873. Corporation supplies water for domestic and public use without competition to a population of about 70,000.

Earnings Twelve Months Ended Nov. 30 1925. Gross earnings—\$380,347 Operating expenses, maintenance and taxes—149,301

Net (available for interest, Federal taxes, &c.)—\$221,046 Annual int. on entire funded debt (including this issue)—\$108,000

Purpose.—To reimburse the corporation for expenditures made for additions, improvements and extensions to its property. Capitalization Outstanding (upon Completion of Present Financing).

Union Gas & Electric Co., Cincinnati.—Stock Auth.—The company has been authorized by the Ohio P. U. Commission to issue \$1,063,000 6% preferred stock at not less than 96 to reimburse in part its treasury for capital expenditures aggregating \$1,380,914.—V. 121 p. 1349.

Union Street Ry., New Bedford, Mass.—Annual Report. Calendar Years—1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Gross earnings from oper.—\$1,488,927 \$1,456,767 \$1,629,019 \$1,608,760

United Electric Securities Co.—Tenders.—The company at its office, 31 Nassau St., N. Y. City, will until March 29 receive bids for the sale to it of 33d series collateral trust sinking fund 5% bonds, due Feb. 1 1941, to an amount sufficient to exhaust \$99,336; at a price not exceeding 103 and int.—V. 122, p. 483.

United Light & Power Co.—Exchange of Stock.—Five shares of new class A common stock will be issued for each share of old class A common stock and five shares of new class B common stock will be issued for each share of old class B common stock upon receipt of old certificates at the office of the company, 701 Michigan Trust Bldg., Grand Rapids, Mich.

United Rys. Co. of St. Louis.—To Retire Underlying Bond Issues.—The following bond issues have been called for payment April 1:

(1) Compton Heights Union Depot & Merchants Terminal RR. 1st mtge. gold bonds, extended to Oct. 1 1923, guaranteed by United Rys. Co. of St. Louis. The principal thereof and accrued interest thereon at the rate of 6% per annum from Oct. 1 1923 to April 1 1926, will be paid at Mercantile Trust Co., St. Louis. All interest will cease to accrue on and after April 1 1926. This call for payment of the principal and interest due

on said bonds is made pursuant to order of the District Court of the United States for the Eastern Division of the Eastern Judicial District of Missouri dated Feb. 15 1926.

(2) Cass Avenue & Fair Grounds Ry. 1st mtge. gold bonds, extended to Oct. 1 1923, guaranteed by United Rys. Co. of St. Louis. The principal thereof and accrued interest thereon at the rate of 6% per annum from Oct. 1 1923 to April 1 1926, will be paid at Mercantile Trust Co., St. Louis, or at holder's option, at Bankers Trust Co., New York. All interest will cease to accrue on and after April 1 1926.

(3) Lindell Ry. 1st mtge. gold bonds, extended to Oct. 1 1923, guaranteed by United Rys. Co. of St. Louis. The principal thereof and accrued interest thereon at the rate of 8% per annum from Oct. 1 1923 to April 1 1926, will be paid at Mercantile Trust Co. of St. Louis, or, at holder's option, at Bankers Trust Co., New York. All interest will cease to accrue on and after April 1 1926.

This call for payment of the incipal and interest due on the above bond issues is made pursuant to order of the District Court of the United States for the Eastern Division of the Eastern Judicial District of Missouri dated Feb. 15 1926. Pursuant to said order, Rolla Wells, receiver, will deposit with the trust companies funds for the payment of the interest accrued on the bonds and will deposit with the trust companies all funds received by him for the payment of the principal of the bonds.

All the outstanding receiver's certificates, series B, will also be paid off April 1 at 100 1/2 and int. at First National Bank, St. Louis, and Guaranty Trust Co., New York.—V. 122, p. 1313, 1172.

United Rys. & Electric Co. of Balt.—Valuation.—In an opinion handed down on March 9 by the Maryland P. S. Commission, the properties of the above company were valued at \$77,000,000 as of Jan. 1 1924. The opinion brought to an end a case pending since Dec. 30 1912.

The Commission in its opinion said in part: "We find the physical property overhauls, working capital and going value to have a value of \$70,000,000, and easements \$7,000,000, making the total of \$77,000,000. This is to be compared with the claim of \$106,641,360 made by the company, which includes easements, and \$60,577,150 conceded by the People's Council, which does not include any allowance for easements."

An order was also passed continuing the present rate schedules for two years ending at midnight April 30 1928. This order may be changed by the Commission any time within the two-year period.—V. 122, p. 483.

United Telephone Co.—Acquisition.—The I.-S. C. Commission on March 1 approved the acquisition by the company of certain properties of the Central Kansas Telephone Co. The United company has entered into a tentative agreement to purchase the Minneapolis exchange of the Kansas company for \$13,000. An appraisal made by the chief engineer of the United company finds the reproduction cost net of the properties, less depreciation, to be \$31,856. The estimated value of property to be retired from service, less net salvage, is \$7,590.—V. 119, p. 1519.

West Penn Co.—To Dissolve.—The stockholders on March 16 voted to dissolve the co. No distribution of the assets of the West Penn Co. can take place, according to the law of West Virginia, until after the expiration of 30 days. Meanwhile, however, the West Penn Electric Co. will continue to make exchanges of the West Penn Co. stock for stock of the West Penn Electric Co., pursuant to its outstanding offer. (See American Water Works & Electric Co., Inc., in V. 121, p. 2873 and 1458.)—V. 122, p. 1172.

Western New York Water Co.—Definitive Bonds.—Definitive 1st mtge. 25-year 5 1/2% gold bonds, series A, and 10-year 6% conv. debenture gold bonds with stock purchase warrants attached are ready for exchange for interim receipts at the Seaboard National Bank, 115 Broadway, N. Y. City. (See also offering of bonds in V. 121, p. 2040.)—V. 122, p. 752.

Wichita (Kan.) Water Co.—Bonds Offered.—W. C. Langley & Co., Halsey, Stuart & Co., Inc., and P. W. Chapman & Co., Inc., are offering at 93 and int., to yield over 5.40%, \$350,000 first mortgage 5% gold bonds, Series B of 1924, due Feb. 1 1956. Principal and interest guaranteed by American Water Works & Electric Co., Inc.

Issuance.—Subject to authorization by the Kansas P. S. Commission. Company.—The original plant of the company was built in 1882. Since 1887 it has been one of a group of privately owned water works properties which group is now owned and operated by American Water Works & Electric Co., Inc. Company serves, without competition, the city of Wichita and vicinity with water for public and domestic use. The population served is about 95,000.

Earnings Twelve Months Ended Nov. 30. 1924, 1925. Gross earnings—\$321,516 \$376,256 Operating expenses, maintenance and taxes—169,060 164,775

Net (available for interest, Federal taxes, &c.)—\$152,455 \$211,480 Annual int. on entire funded debt (incl. this issue)—101,500

Purpose.—To partially reimburse the company for additions, improvements and extensions to its properties. Capitalization Outstanding (upon Completion of Present Financing).

First mortgage gold bonds 6% Series A, due 1949—\$1,400,000 do 5% Series B, due 1956 (this issue)—350,000

7% cumulative preferred stock—325,000 Common stock—661,000

* Including stock subscribed for.—V. 119, p. 2181.

Wisconsin Power & Light Co.—Report.—Calendar Years—1925, 1924.

Gross earnings—\$5,217,228 \$4,179,064 Operating expenses—\$3,290,788 2,628,738 Uncollectible bills—3,104 8,240

Taxes—301,937 263,020 Rent for lease of lines and plants—54,539 54,037

Gross income—\$1,556,861 \$1,225,029 Deductions from gross income—96,533 132,215 Interest on funded debt—596,140 560,755

Dividends paid and accrued on preferred stock—339,355 232,206 Dividends on common stock—428,800 173,274

Balance carried to surplus—\$96,033 \$126,579 x Including retirement reserve of \$120,519.

Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Assets—1925, 1924. Fixed capital—19,835,789 17,511,482 Cash—435,994 316,983

Notes, accts., &c., receivable—783,723 540,337 Materials & suppl.—361,851 292,473

Prepayments—49,413 32,810 Subser. to cap. stk.—136,992 109,336

Investments—3,009,981 713,723 Sinking funds—14,526 5,726

Special deposits—164,481 4,481 Unamortized debt—discount & exp.—1,045,479 731,500

Misc. def. debits—252,575 358,377

Liabilities—1925, 1924. 7% cum. pref. stk.—5,534,000 4,201,200 Common stock—5,802,400 3,543,400

Pref. stk. subser.—227,400 134,300 Funded debt—11,907,000 10,710,900

Unmat. liab. under purch. contracts—257,156 28,395 Notes payable—12,750 28,395

Accounts payable—658,874 368,216 Consumers' depos.—76,471 67,920

Misc. current liab.—9,000 7,000 Taxes, int. & misc.—196,494 206,683

Res. for retir., &c.—501,692 526,562 Surplus—907,567 822,652

Total—26,090,804 20,617,228

Company purchased as of July 1 1925 all of the outstanding common stock of Beloit Water, Gas & Electric Co., and in Dec. 1925 purchased the entire outstanding preferred and common stocks of Central Wisconsin Power Co. Company also purchased during 1925 the gas plant and distribution system of the Portage American Gas Co., the local electric distribution systems, and high voltage transmission lines and plants and other property of the Marquette Electric Co., Interurban Electric Co., Princeton Light & Power Co., Mauston Electric Service Co., Montello-Harrisville Electric Light & Power Co., Fall River Electric Co., Orange Light & Power Co., Rose Milling Co., Westford Light, Heat & Power Co., Cazenovia Light & Power Co., Orfordville Light & Power Co., Rio Electric Co.,

mission, and will be sold when opportunity offers. The other 7 have either been laid up or employed on a tramping basis.

Income and Surplus Account for Years Ending Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1925 and 1924. Rows include Operating earnings, Operating expenses, Net loss from operations, Other income, Net profit, and Dividend paid.

Surplus Dec. 31. \$6,011,287 \$6,746,820. x Exclusive of fund held under provision of Merchant Marine Act of 1920. y Loss arising through exchange of capital stock of 39 Broadway Corp. for capital stock of American-Hawaiian S.S. Co. and sales of notes receivable. -V. 120, p. 3068.

American Milling Co.—Reincorporated—Plan Approved.

The stockholders have voted to change the company from a New Jersey to a Delaware corporation. Under the plan, the common stockholders will receive five new shares of the Delaware Company for each four shares of common stock now held.

Table with columns for 1925, 1924, 1923, and 1922. Rows include Profits after Fed. taxes, Approp. for red. pf. stk., Prof. divs. (7%), and Common cash dividends.

Balance, surplus. \$145,444 \$298,170 x\$417,984 \$130,386. x During 1924 the company paid a stock dividend of 50% (\$525,000) on the Common stock. -V. 121, p. 2879.

American Piano Co. (and Subs.)—Report.—

Table with columns for 1925, 1924, and 1923. Rows include Net sales, Cost of sales, Net income, Preferred dividends, and Common dividends.

Balance, surplus. \$800,194 \$640,541 \$1,361,212. x After deducting intercompany sales of \$3,582,478. y Including intercompany sales.

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1925 and 1924. Rows include Assets (Real estate, Cash, Notes receivable, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

-V. 121, p. 2041.

American Sugar Refining Co.—Remodeling Refinery.—

An official announcement says: The company is proceeding with the complete remodeling of its refinery in Brooklyn, according to basic plans prepared by the company's engineers.

The project comprises the design and construction of a new raw sugar wharf and warehouse 500 feet long and 25,000 tons capacity to replace existing piers and warehouses.

American Surety Co.—Increases Dividend Rate.—

The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of 4%, payable March 31 to holders of record March 20. In the three previous quarters, an extra dividend of 1% was paid in addition to a regular quarterly dividend of 3%. -V. 122, p. 1173.

American Tobacco Co.—Annual Report.—

Table with columns for 1925, 1924, 1923, and 1922. Rows include Sales (incl. cos. whose stock is owned), Net earnings, Divs., and Total net income.

Balance, surplus. 2,967,015 5,420,212 3,175,462 4,920,740. Previous surplus. 28,266,081 22,845,869 19,670,407 14,749,667.

Profit & loss surplus. 31,233,096 28,266,081 22,845,869 19,670,407. x After deducting all charges and expenses of management, taxes (including provision for Federal income taxes), &c. -V. 121, p. 3006.

American Woolen Co.—New Directors.—

C. F. Ayer of Boston and W. L. S. Brayton of Fall River, Mass., have been elected directors to fill the vacancies caused by the resignation of F. R. Edington and the death of W. M. Wood. -V. 122, p. 1448.

Arkwright (Cotton Cloth) Mills, Fall River, Mass.—

Table with columns for 1925, 1924, 1923, and 1922. Rows include Sales (incl. cos. whose stock is owned), Net earnings, Divs., and Total net income.

Balance, surplus. 2,967,015 5,420,212 3,175,462 4,920,740. Previous surplus. 28,266,081 22,845,869 19,670,407 14,749,667.

-V. 118, p. 667.

Armour & Co. of Delaware.—Balance Sheet.—

See Armour & Co. of Illinois under "Financial Reports" above. -V. 122, p. 484.

Asbestos Corp., Ltd.—To Pay Pref. Div. in July.—

Pres. W. G. Ross, in a letter to the shareholders, says: "The corporation started operations on the last day of February, when the undertaking and the assets of the Asbestos Corp. of Canada, Ltd., were transferred. The new company's fiscal year ends Dec. 31. While there is no stipulation as to whether dividends should be paid quarterly, half-quarterly or yearly, it is the intention of the directors, unless something unforeseen happens, to start paying dividends on the preferred stock by a payment of a dividend of 1 1/4% on July 15 to shareholders of record July 2."

Holders of interim certificates of the general mortgage bonds are entitled to interest at the rate of 6% from Jan. 1, 1923.

"Bondholders of the old Asbestos Corp. of Canada, Ltd., exchanging their 5% bonds for the 6% 1st & ref. mtge. bonds will be entitled to the 6% coupon due July 1, providing their bonds are exchanged before that date. "As there are a few holders of fractional shares of bonds of the old Asbestos Corp. of Canada, Ltd., entitled to exchange their scrip in multiples of complete shares of \$100 of bonds for share certificates or bonds on which the following amounts of dividends or interest had accrued as at Jan. 1, 1923, viz., common stock 39%, preferred stock 59 1/2% and bonds 67 1/2%, if holders of these fractions will communicate with the Royal Trust Co., Montreal, that company will endeavor, as far as possible, to arrange for the consolidation of these fractions into complete units."

Initial Preferred Dividend.—

The directors have declared an initial quarterly dividend of 1 1/4% on the non-cumul. 7% pref. stock, payable July 15 to holders of record July 2. -V. 122, p. 484.

Asbestos Corporation of Canada, Ltd.—

The date of exchanging the securities of the corporation (old company) for securities of Asbestos Corp., Ltd. (new company), has been extended from March 15 to April 1. -V. 122, p. 886.

Associated Laundries of America, Inc.—20 Laundries in Up-State Merger.—

As the first step in a nation-wide system of power laundries, to be known as The Associated Laundries of America, Inc., details have been completed for the consolidation of 20 such properties up-State. These properties serve a population of 1,250,000 in New York and are located at Buffalo, Syracuse, Utica, Binghamton, Cortland, Corning, and Elmira. Among the laundries thus combined are the Leahy, Westcott, Star, Ideal, Well-Done, and American Linen Supply Co., all of Utica; Davis & Sweeney Laundry of Binghamton; Yale, Palace, Perfection, Empire and Syracuse, all of Syracuse; Mohn & Hunter, New Way, and New Modern, all of Buffalo.

Directors of the consolidated company include: H. Hamilton Barnes, Charles C. Bosche, Edward J. Garono, Harvey A. Harrison, Kenneth MacDonald, A. J. Sells and Edward J. Smith, Buffalo, N. Y.; Stephen K. Bresee, Charles H. Parmelee, Edward J. Richardson, Edwin C. Scott, Willard W. Seymour, Benjamin E. Shove and Walter R. Stone, Syracuse, N. Y.; G. Albert Niles, Richard U. Sherman and William C. Westcott, Utica, N. Y. C. H. Parmelee of Syracuse is President.

Associated Oil Co.—No Income Tax on Exchange.—

Holders of stock who elect to exchange for common and preferred stock of the Fluid Water Associated Oil Co. instead of accepting the cash option of \$58.50 per share, will not be required to pay an income tax on any profits involved in the exchange, in the view of the company's lawyers.

Pres. Paul Shoup has written to stockholders that "counsel advises that no income tax will be collected on stock exchanged for securities of the new company, provided the new company acquires 51% of the outstanding stock of the Associated, which is already reasonably well assured. The saving to many stockholders compared with cash payment will thus be very considerable." -V. 122, p. 1459.

Autocar Co., Ardmore, Pa.—Meeting Adjourned.—

The special stockholders' meeting for the purpose of voting on a new financing plan has been adjourned until March 26. A meeting of the stockholders will also be held on March 20 to consider an agreement of merger and consolidation with the Carauto Co., which agreement has been entered into by the directors of the respective companies. This is part of the reorganization plan. -V. 122, p. 1459.

Barnet Leather Co., Inc.—New Director.—

Frank R. Ireland has been elected a director. -V. 122, p. 1459.

Beacon Oil Co., Boston.—Acquisition.—

See Colonial Filling Stations, Inc., below. -V. 122, p. 754.

Bearings Co. of America.—Pref. Stock Offered.—

Stokes & Co., Baltimore, are offering at 100 and div. (carrying 1/2 share of common stock as a bonus) \$1,750,000 7% 1st pref. (a. & d.) cum. sinking fund stock.

Dividends payable Q-J. Red., all or part, on any div. date at 110 and divs. Free from present Penna. personal property tax. Transfer agent, Girard Trust Co., Philadelphia. Registrar, Penna. Co. for Insurances on Lives & Granting Annuities, Philadelphia.

Data from Letter of Frank M. Germane, President, and J. L. Straub, Vice-President of the Corporation.

Company.—Has been organized in Delaware to acquire the entire assets and business of the Bearings Co. of America (New Jersey). This business was established in 1898 and the company is to-day the most important manufacturer in the United States of thrust ball bearings, angular contact ball bearings and ball retainers. The business has grown from an original investment of about \$7,500 to its present net worth of \$2,700,000, largely through reinvestment of earnings.

The plants are located at Lancaster, Pa., and consist of 18 buildings, all of modern design and construction, occupying approximately 6 acres, with 3 acres reserved for future developments. The directors believe that the business can be materially increased with a small proportionate capital outlay. Among the large users of the company's products in automotive lines are: The Autocar Co., The Buick Motor Car Co., Dodge Brothers, Inc., Packard Motor Car Co., Lincoln Motor Co., Hudson Motor Car Co.

Capitalization.—

Table with columns for Authorized, Outstanding, and 7% cum. s. f., 1st pref. stock (par \$100).

Authorized. \$1,750,000. Outstanding. \$1,750,000. 7% cum. s. f., 1st pref. stock (par \$100) 675,000. 8% cum. 2d pref. stock (par \$100) 675,000. Common stock (no par value) 100,000 100,000 shs.

*This stock has been sold and the proceeds paid into treasury of co. at par. Earnings.—Earnings have shown a steady and substantial growth and since the business was started in 1898 the company, with the exception of 1921, has operated each year at a profit. During 1921 the company experienced a loss after depreciation of approximately \$36,000, due to the universal readjustment throughout the business world to meet post-war conditions. Net earnings, after depreciation and all other charges and Federal income taxes, at current rate, for the years ended Dec. 31, have been as follows:

Table with columns for 1922, 1923, 1924, and 1925. Rows include \$222,996, \$236,316, \$223,432, and \$472,094.

During the past 4 years the company has charged to depreciation a total of \$248,183, or an average per annum of \$62,045. Cash dividends have been paid without interruption since 1910.

Sinking Fund.—Company commencing Jan. 1 1927 will provide a sinking fund for the retirement of the 1st pref. stock in the amount of 20% of the net annual earnings of the company after 1st pref. dividends.

Purpose.—Through the issue of its stock the company will effect the acquisition of the Bearings Co. of America (N. J.).

Directors.—Charles J. McIlvain, Frank M. Germane (Pres.), Edward E. Marshall (Sec. & Treas.), N. Henry Gellert, J. L. Straub (V.-Pres.), James Carstairs, Alexander Sellers (V.-Pres.), Francis M. Brooke.

Balance Sheet as of Dec. 31 1925 (After Present Financing).

Table with columns for Assets and Liabilities. Rows include Cash, Acc'ts receivable, Inventories, Securities owned, Land, buildings and equipment, Prepaid expense, Goodwill, patents, &c., and Total.

x Represented by 100,000 shares of common stock.

which says the management of company had been unsatisfactory. Those named as proxies to solicit votes are: J. William Clark (Pres. Clark Thread Co.); Julius S. Rippel, (V.-Pres. Merchants & Manufacturers National Bank); Warren U. Sillocks (of Sillocks-Miller Co.); Ralph E. Lum and Charles W. Holton.—V. 122, p. 755.

Chicago Junction Rys. & Union Stock Yards.—

Balance Sheet Dec. 31. Table with columns for 1925 and 1924, and rows for Assets (Investment, Interest, Cash) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, Bonds, etc.).

Chicago Pneumatic Tool Co.—Annual Report.—

Calendar Years—1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Table showing Net profits, Miscellaneous income, Total income, Interest charges, Balance, Profit & loss, surplus, etc.

Colonial Filling Stations, Inc.—Capital Decreased.—

The corporation has filed a notice with the Massachusetts Commissioner of Corporations that coincident with the sale and transfer of the properties and assets of the corporation, subject to liabilities, to Beacon Oil Co., it has canceled 19,000 shares of capital stock, reducing the capital from \$2,000,000 par \$100, to \$1,000, consisting of 10 shares.

Colorado Fuel & Iron Co.—Annual Report.—

Income Account for Calendar Years. Table with columns for 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Rows include Production (Tons) for Iron ore, Pig iron, Coal, etc., and various financial metrics like Gross earnings, Net earnings, etc.

Columbia Steel Corp.—Annual Report.—

[Including Carbon County Railway Co.] Table with columns for 1925 and 1924. Rows include Gross profit on sales, Selling & general expenses, Net operating profit, Other income, Gross income, Interest on funded debt, taxes, &c., Preferred dividends, Balance, surplus, Previous surplus, Profit and loss credits, Profit and loss charges, Surplus Dec. 31.

Conley Tank Car Corporation.—Listing.—

The Pittsburgh Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of 5,000 shares (par \$100) 8% cum. pref. stock, of which, 3965 shares have been placed on the list and the balance, 1,035 shares, to be placed on the list upon notice of issuance.—V. 122, p. 1032.

Consolidated Laundries Corp. (Md.)—Acquisitions.—

President Charles B. Kilby announces that the company will acquire the National Family Laundry Service Corp., the Sea Beach Steam Laundry Co., Inc., and the Community Laundries, Inc. This brings the number of laundries in Greater New York and New Jersey controlled by the Consolidated up to 20. See also V. 121, p. 3008.

Continental Motors Corp.—Acquires New Patents.—

President R. W. Judson announced last week that the company has acquired the basic patents on the Burt McCollum or Argyll single sleeve valve engine. The company in its 25 years of gasoline engine building experience has heretofore persistently adhered to the poppet valve type of engine. An important feature to the company in the Argyll engine is that no additional investment in new machinery is needed to put this motor in production. Due to the fewer number of machined parts, it is believed that the motor can be produced at a lower cost than the present type motors being manufactured by the company.—V. 122, p. 1460, 210.

Crex Carpet Co.—Dividend Omitted.—

The directors on Mar. 12 voted to omit the regular quarterly dividend of \$1 per share usually payable about April 15 on the \$3,000,000 capital stock, par \$100. This rate had been paid since Jan. 1925.—V. 121, p. 1455.

Curtiss Aeroplane & Motor Corp.—Government Order.—

The corporation has just received an order from the U. S. Government for 35 pursuit planes and pontoons, totaling over \$600,000. This is in addition to numerous orders from the Government already on the company's books.—V. 122, p. 615.

Detroit Hotel (Co.), Detroit, Mich.—Bonds Offered.—

Lawrence Stern & Co., H. G. Becker & Co. and Union Trust Co. are offering at prices ranging from 100 and int. to 102.73 and int. to yield from 5½% to 6½%, according to maturity, \$3,250,000 1st (closed) mtge. 6½% serial gold bonds, series A.

¶ Dated March 1 1926, due serially 1929-1941. Principal payable at Union Trust Co., Detroit, trustee. Interest payable M. & S. at the office of trustee, Guaranty Trust Co., New York, or Continental & Commercial National Bank, Chicago. Denom. \$1,000 bonds and \$500 c*. Red. at

105 and int. on or before March 1 1934, and thereafter at a reduction of ½ of 1% for each succeeding year until final maturity. Interest payable without deduction for normal Federal income tax not in excess of 2%, and certain State taxes refunded. Exempt from existing personal property tax in Michigan.

Security.—Direct obligation of the company and secured by a closed first mortgage on land, owned in fee, and a 20-story hotel building with its furniture and equipment, to be erected at the northwest corner of Bagley Ave. and Cass Ave., in the downtown business section of Detroit, Mich. The hotel will be a fireproof, steel and concrete structure, and will contain 720 guest rooms and 11 ground floor retail shops. The land, building and furnishings have been independently appraised at \$5,825,000, making this issue less than 56% of the appraised value of the mortgaged property. A surety bond, guaranteeing completion of the building, has been written by the Maryland Casualty Co.

Earnings.—The net annual income from the hotel and retail shops, applicable to the payment of principal and interest, after deduction for operating expenses, taxes, insurance and an allowance for vacancies, is estimated at \$591,366, without reference to any earnings that may be obtained from the hotel restaurant. This figure is more than 2½ times the greatest annual interest charge on this issue.

Ownership.—The principal stockholders of the Detroit Hotel Co. are the Detroit Properties Corp., Fisher & Co., Inc., and Leland Hotels, Inc. The Detroit Properties Corp. is an organization of Detroit business men, the active heads of which are H. A. Stormfelft and Edward A. Loveley. The stock of Leland Hotels, Inc., is owned by the Continental-Leland Corp., which owns and operates a chain of hotels.

Devoe & Reynolds Co., Inc.—Stock to Employees.—

The company announced on Mar. 17 the sale of 5,020 shares of its Class A common stock at \$35 a share to nearly 500 employees. The shares were issued in two allotments, the first on Nov. 6 and the second on Jan. 15, and are to be delivered to the purchasers in Nov. 1927. Of the total number of shares offered, 1,092 were purchased outright and the balance of 3,928 on installments of \$5 down and a minimum of \$2 per share per month, according to Treasurer De Lancy Kountze.—V. 122, p. 1460.

Diamond Crystal Salt Co.—Debentures Offered.—

Otis & Co. and First National Co. of Detroit recently offered at prices to yield from 5% to 6% according to maturity \$850,000 6% serial gold debentures. Dated March 1 1926; due serially March 1 1927 to March 1 1937. Denom. \$1,000 and \$500c*. Red. all or part on any int. date upon 30 days' notice up to and incl. Sept. 1 1932 at 102, and thereafter at 101. If only a portion of a maturity is called such debentures may be chosen by lot by the trustee. Principal and int. M. & S. payable without deduction for Federal income tax up to 2% at office of Detroit Trust Co., Detroit, Mich., trustee.

Company.—Incorp. in Mich. in 1888. Plant located at St. Clair, Mich., covers a ground area of over 600,000 sq. ft. Company is one of the outstanding salt producers, and manufactures their product under the Alberger Process. This process mechanically removes from the salt the natural impurities without the aid of chemicals. In addition to a large wholesale business of table salt the company carries on an extensive business with creameries, bakeries meat packers, dairies, &c. Their products are nationally known as Diamond Crystal and Shaker Salt. The plant has a maximum capacity of about 5,000 barrels of salt per day, with a normal capacity of between 4,000 and 4,500 barrels. The salt is produced from 11 wells, and additional property owned by the company insures practically an inexhaustible supply.

Earnings.—Net earnings after depreciation and provision for Federal income tax for the year ending Dec. 31 1925 were \$359,301 or in excess of 7 times the maximum interest charges of these debentures. Such net earnings for the past 4 years have averaged \$398,762, which is nearly 8 times these interest requirements.

Purpose.—Proceeds will be used to retire present bank indebtedness and provide funds for dividend disbursements, over a two year period, which have heretofore been conserved by the company's policy of building up assets from earnings.

Balance Sheet December 31 1925 (After This Financing). Table with columns for Assets and Liabilities, including Property account, Good-will, Investments & advances, Cash & sec. in sinking fund, Inventories, Notes & accounts receivable, Cash, Other notes receivable, Deferred charges, 7% cum. pref. stock, Common stock, 6% debenture notes, Accounts payable, Accrued pay rolls, local taxes, &c., Accrued divs. on pref. stock, Amount res. in respect of common divs. to be paid in 1926-1927, Prov. for Federal tax, Res. for repairs to wells, Surplus.

Diamond Match Company.—Annual Report.—

Calendar Years—1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Table showing Earnings, all sources; State and city taxes; Repairs and renewals; Deprec'n & amortization; Insur. & timber reserve; Bond interest; Other interest; Reserve for Federal taxes; Dividends paid (8%).

Balance, surplus \$251,892 \$337,598 \$345,112 \$342,269 —V. 121, p. 712.

Dominion Stores, Ltd.—To Open 50 New Stores—Sales.—

The corporation plans to establish 50 new stores this year to satisfy the demands of increased business, according to an announcement made by President Robert Jackson. Sites have been acquired throughout the Dominion for most of these new stores and arrangements perfected to open them as soon as possible.

Gross sales for the first two months of this year were \$2,130,775 as compared with \$1,705,322 for the corresponding period of 1925. This is an increase of 24.9% and compares with an increase of 8% in the number of stores over the same period.—V. 122, p. 1032.

(E. I.) du Pont de Nemours & Co.—New President, &c.—

Lammot du Pont has been elected president and chairman of the executive committee, succeeding Irene du Pont, who has been elected chairman of the board of directors and of the finance committee. Pierre S. du Pont has been elected a member of the finance committee, succeeding Irene du Pont.—V. 122, p. 1032.

Electric Storage Battery Co.—Annual Report.—

[Including Willard Storage Battery Company.] Calendar Years—1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Table showing Sales, less mfg. cost, &c.; Sell. adm., gen., &c., exp.; Profit from sales; Other income; Total net income; Dividends; Balance, surplus; Previous surplus; Total surplus; Sundry adjustments; Employees' pension fund; Taxes paid previous year; Adjust. of patent acct.; Loss on sale of plant.

Profit & loss surplus \$19,191,144 \$20,540,379 \$18,103,661 \$21,957,765 x Adjustment of patents account to the approximate valuation allowed by the U. S. Treasury Dept. for the purpose of Federal taxation. y Patent account written down Dec. 31 1925 to nominal value of \$1.

Note.—Federal income tax for year 1925 is estimated at \$1,050,000.

(J. C.) Penney Bldg. & Realty Corp.—Income Account for Year Ended Dec. 31 1925.—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Rent received, Miscellaneous income, Total income, Gen. exp., amort. of disc. on 1st mtge. serial gold bonds and reserve for Federal taxes, Transferred to surplus.

(J. C.) Penney Co.—Annual Report.—

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Description, and Amount. Includes Sales, Gen. exp., deprec., &c., Reserve for Federal tax, Gross profits, Other income, Total income, Preferred dividends, Class A pref. divs., Common dividends, Balance, surplus, Surplus Jan. 1, Sundry additions, Total surplus, Common stock div., Profit & loss, surplus.

Balance Sheet December 31.

Table with 4 columns: Calendar Years (1925, 1924), Assets, Liabilities, and Amount. Includes Furn. & fixtures, Cash, Merchandise, Govt. secur., &c., Empi. notes rec'd, Stk. subscr. held for employees, Accts. receivable, advances, &c., Inv. in sub. cos., Total, Classified common stock, unclassified common stock.

Pennock Oil Corp.—Report for Calendar Year 1925.—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Gross operating revenue, Operating, administrative & general expenses, Operating profit, Other income, Total income, Depreciation and depletion reserve, Federal tax reserve, Dividends paid, Surplus.

Comparative Balance Sheet.

Table with 4 columns: Calendar Years (Dec. 31 '25, Mar. 31 '25), Assets, Liabilities, and Amount. Includes Property & plant, Cash & collat. ins., Acct's receivable, Inventories of oil & supplies, Securities owned, Insurance fund., Deferred charges, Total, Accounts payable, Acct. int. on notes, Res. for depl., depr. & Federal taxes, Res. for cont'g's, 3-yr. 6% g. notes, Cap. stk. & surp., Total.

* Represented by 150,000 shares of no par value.—V. 121, p. 2531.

Phillips Wire Co.—Time Extended.—

See Safety Cable Co. below.—V. 121, p. 1579.

Piggly Wiggly Western States Co.—Sales.—

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1926-Feb., 1924, Increase, 1926-Mos., 1925, Increase), Description, and Amount. Includes \$1,174,455, \$1,045,950, \$128,501, \$1,174,455, \$1,045,950, \$128,505.

Pittsburgh & Mt. Shasta Corp.—Listing.—

The Pittsburgh Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of 1,000,000 shares (par \$5) capital stock. The company was incorp. Feb. 7 1926 in West Virginia and has offered to acquire through exchange of stock the Pittsburgh Mt. Shasta Gold Mining & Milling Co. and the Rand Hawk Mining Co. On March 1 1926 stockholders of Pittsburgh & Mt. Shasta Gold Mining & Milling Co. were notified that upon surrender of their certificates of stock at Real Estate Savings & Trust Co. of Allegheny, they would receive one share of the capital stock of Pittsburgh & Mt. Shasta Corp. for each 25 shares held. The old certificates will be deposited in trust until dissolution of the company, at which time any remaining assets are to be distributed pro-rata among the old stockholders. On March 12 1926 stockholders of Rand Hawk Mining Co. were notified that upon surrender of their certificates of stock at Real Estate Savings & Trust Co. of Allegheny they would receive one share of the capital stock of Pittsburgh & Mt. Shasta Corp. for each 10 shares held. The old certificates will be deposited in trust until dissolution of the company, at which time any remaining assets are to be distributed pro-rata among the old stockholders.

Pittsburgh & Mt. Shasta Gold Mining & Milling Co.—Exchange of Stock.—

See Pittsburgh & Mt. Shasta Corp.—V. 116, p. 1189.

Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.—Annual Report.—

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Description, and Amount. Includes Profits, Deprec., &c., chgd. off., Res. for Federal taxes, Net earns. for year, Cash dividends, Surplus for year, Sur. beginning of year, Total surplus, General insur. res., Res. for 1924 cash divs., Stock dividends, Miscell. adjust., &c., Total profit & loss, sur., end of year.

* Includes the \$4,369,878 reserve set up Dec. 31 1923 for dividends payable in 1924 and \$2,350 unused portion of 1923 reserve for Federal taxes.—V. 122, p. 623.

Point Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.—Bonds Offered.—

S. W. Straus & Co., Inc. are offering at prices to yield from 5.80% to 6% according to maturity \$425,000 1st mtge. fee 6% serial gold bonds.

Dated Feb. 10 1926; due serially Feb. 10 1928, to Feb. 10 1936. Int. payable F. & A. Denom. \$1,000, \$500 and \$100 c*. Callable at 102½ and Int. Provision has been made for the payment of the Federal income tax up to 2% and the Penn. 4-mills tax.

The Point Building, at the southeast corner of Penn Ave. and Water St., Pittsburgh, is particularly well located for office and light industrial tenancy. The plot is improved with a completed 8-story and basement, reinforced concrete, fireproof industrial building. The building is of modern design and equipment adequately served by passenger and freight elevators. The land owned in fee and the building have been appraised at \$687,320.

The entire property has been leased for a term of 12 years to the Miller Saw-Trimmer Co. at an annual net rental of \$45,000 per annum, which is more than sufficient to meet the greatest combined annual interest and principal requirements on this bond issue.

Postum Cereal Co., Inc.—Proposed Acquisition.—

The stockholders will vote March 26 on increasing the authorized common stock (of no par value) from 1,375,000 shares to 1,475,000 shares. The stockholders will also vote upon a proposed contract approved by the directors of the Postum Cereal Co., Inc., and the stockholders of Iglehart Brothers, which provides for a reorganization of the Iglehart Brothers and a plan for the issuance of 95,000 shares of common stock of Postum Cereal Co., Inc., and the payment of \$595,000 in cash in exchange for all of the voting stock of Iglehart Brothers, Inc., a new corporation.—V. 122, p. 1465.

Prairie Oil & Gas Co.—Acquisition Reported.—

The company is reported to have purchased the Olean Petroleum Co. for a consideration of \$6,000,000. The Olean company is reported to have 140,000 acres in the new Ingalls pool, Payne County, Okla., on which 3 wells have been completed with an initial production of 3,500 barrels daily. The company is also reported to have other acreage in Oklahoma producing 2,000 barrels daily and considerable undeveloped property in both Oklahoma and New Mexico.—V. 121, p. 3141.

Prairie Pipe Line Co.—Earnings.—

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Description, and Amount. Includes Net income, Dividends, Surplus.

Reid Ice Cream Corp.—Balance Sheet.—

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (Dec. 31 '25, Sept. 30 '25, Dec. 31 '25, Sept. 30 '25), Assets, Liabilities, and Amount. Includes Land, bldg., mach., &c., Construction work in progress, Cash, Loans, secured, Marketable secur., Notes & accts. rec., Amt. due on subser, Inventories, Pref. stk. in treas'y, Ice rights, Good-will, Inv. in other cos. & miscellaneous, Dalrymen's League, Co-Op. Ass'n. Inc, Deferred charges, Total, 7% cum. pref. stk., Common stock, Subscr. to com. stk., 5-yr. gold notes, Real est. mtgs. & pur. mny oblig'ns, Accounts payable, Acct. payrolls, int., Local taxes, &c., Interest accrued on 6% notes, Milk funds dep'ts, Federal taxes, Divs. declared, Res. for cont'g's, Surplus.

* Represented by 150,000 shares of no par value. y 25,000 shares of no par value. A comparative income account was published in V. 122, p. 762.—V. 122, p. 1039, 762.

Replogle Steel Co.—Balance Sheet Dec. 31.—

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1925, 1924, 1925, 1924), Assets, Liabilities, and Amount. Includes Prop., plants, &c., Acct's & notes rec., Acct. rec. affil. cos., Adv. to salesmen, Cash with trustee, Inventories, U. S. Govt. secs., Investments, Def'd charges, &c., Capital stock, Equity minority stockholders, Funded debt, Current liabilities, Due to affil. cos., Def'd items in susp, Reserves, Surplus.

* Warren Foundry & Pipe Co. x Earned surplus, \$85,511; capital surplus arising out of acquisition of capital stocks and properties of constituent companies. A comparative income account was published in V. 122, p. 1182.

Reynolds Spring Co.—Annual Report.—

[Including General Leather Co. in 1925 and 1924.]

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Description, and Amount. Includes Net earnings, Deprec. & int., Federal taxes, Net income.

Balance Sheet, December 31.

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1925, 1924, 1925, 1924), Assets, Liabilities, and Amount. Includes Property, land, Bldgs., mach. & eq., Cash, Acct's receivable, Inventories, Unad. claims, Investments, Acct. int. rec., Patents & good-will, Def. debit items, Notes, &c., rec., Sinking fund., 7% pf. cl. A stock, 7% pf. cl. B stock, Common stock, Gen. L. Co. 7% pf, Funded debt, Accts. & notes pay, Accrued accounts, Federal income tax, Deprec. of property, Other reserves, Misc. liabilities.

* Represented by 387,958 shares, no par value.—V. 121, p. 2146.

Rolls-Royce of America, Inc.—Earnings.—

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1925, 1924, 1923), Description, and Amount. Includes Gross profits, Bond interest, Depreciation, Provision of Federal taxes, Net profit, Debit balance Dec. 31, Profit and loss deficit.

Balance Sheet December 31.

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1925, 1924, 1925, 1924), Assets, Liabilities, and Amount. Includes Lt. bldgs., mach. & equipment, Tr. name, designs, good-will, &c., Cash, notes & accts. receiv. (trade), Inventories, Co. bds. in treas'y, Prepd. exp. insur., Deficit, 7% pref. stock, Common stock, Accts. & notes, incl. acer. wages, inc. &c., payable, Pur. money mtge., Sk. fd. 7% bonds.

* Common stock, 35,000 shares of no par value. y Preferred stock dividends unpaid since 1921.

Pres. Henry J. Fuller says in part: A most notable step forward has been the acquisition, as of Jan. 1 1926, of the control of Brewster & Co., Inc., for many years recognized as the leading coach builders in the United States. Company has guaranteed the interest and principal of \$400,000 10-year 7% notes of Brewster & Co., Inc., which have been sold by them, and it

is in return for this guaranty that the majority of the common stock of Brewster & Co., Inc., has been turned over to the company.

Ryan Consolidated Petroleum Corp. & Subs.—Report.

Table with 4 columns: Calendar Years (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Gross income, Total expense, Net profit, and Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec 31.

Safety Cable Co., N. Y.—Time Extended.—

The directors have voted to extend the time in which minority holders of the Phillips Wire Co. common stock may deposit their stock for exchange to March 31.

Savage Arms Corp.—Report.—

Table with 4 columns: Calendar Years (1925, 1924, 1923, 1922), Profit, Preferred dividend, Surplus, and Balance Sheet Dec 31.

Sayers & Scovill Co., Cincinnati.—3 1/2% Extra Div.—

The directors have declared an extra dividend of 3 1/2% on the common stock, in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/4% on the common and of 1 1/2% on the preferred stock.

Scovill Mfg. Co.—Balance Sheet Dec. 31.—

Table with 4 columns: Assets (Land, buildings & machinery, Cash & call loans, etc.), Liabilities (Capital stock, Reserves, 5-yr. 5% notes, etc.), and Surplus.

Seagrave Corporation.—Usual Common Dividend.—

The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of 30 cents per share or 2 1/2% in common stock at the option of the stockholders.

Seiberling Rubber Co.—Gross Sales, Earnings, &c.—

At the regular annual meeting held March 8, President F. A. Seiberling said in part: "Gross sales for 1925 reached \$11,750,000 upon which there was a net earning of \$1,244,968, equivalent to \$6 on every share of our current liabilities."

Ser-vel Corp.—To Recapitalize, &c.—

The company in a letter to stockholders is advising them that the rapid growth of the company's business and the necessity for raising additional working capital make it advisable that a revamping of the capital structure be put into effect.

It is stated in the letter that the new company has made arrangements to issue \$5,000,000 of 5-year 6% convertible notes. The notes dated April 1 1926 will be convertible into capital stock at \$25 a share and are redeemable at 101 1/2% prior to April 1 1927.

In his letter to stockholders, Hamilton G. Scott, Chairman of the board, points out that a majority of the class A stockholders have already agreed upon the plan and more than two-thirds of the B stockholders have assented.

Mr. Scott also points out that Ser-vel recently completed an arrangement whereby it will control the operation of the Electroflux Ser-vel Corp., which has acquired the United States, Cuban and Canadian licenses covering processes for refrigeration of the Platen-Munters Swedish system.

Shippers' Car Line Corp.—Pref. Stock Offered.—

Freeman & Co. and Stroud & Co., Inc. are offering in units of 10 shares of pref. stock and 2 shares of class A stock at \$1.025 per unit 17,000 shares 7% cumulative pref. (a. & d.) stock.

Fully paid and non-assessable. Dividends exempt from normal Federal income tax under present law. Transfer Agent: Fidelity Trust Co., New York. Registrar: Irving Bank-Columbia Trust Co., New York.

Except as voting rights are given to the preferred stock (as above) class B shares alone shall have voting rights but the vote or consent of two-thirds of the issued preferred stock shall be necessary in proceedings to authorize certain classes of security issues or stock having rights and preferences with respect to assets and earnings on a parity with or superior to it.

Data From Letter of R. H. Davenport, President of the Corporation.

Company.—Is engaged in the buying, selling and leasing of tank cars and in the merchant and structural steel lines. Company operates a line of 1,040 steel tank cars and owns a modern 26-acre plant at Milton, Pa.

The American Welding Co. (of Pa.), the assets and business of which have been taken over by the American Welding Co. (of Del.) was the outgrowth of a business established over 25 years ago.

Propose.—This financing has enabled the corporation to acquire all of the property and assets of Shippers' Car Line, Inc. (N. Y.) incorp. in 1918, and all the issued stock of the American Welding Co. (of Del.) and will furnish additional working capital for both companies.

Earnings.—Consolidated net earnings of the two companies for the year 1925, as shown by the accountants' reports, were in excess of twice the dividend requirements on the present issue of 17,000 shares of preferred stock.

Capitalization.— 7% preferred stock (par \$100) 24,000 shs. 17,000 shs. Class A stock (no par value) 50,000 shs. 35,000 shs. Class B stock (no par value) 50,000 shs. 35,000 shs.

Car trust obligations of Shippers' Car Line, Inc., in the amount of \$1,030,000, bearing warrants at 5% and 5 1/2%, and maturing from 1926 to 1935, will be assumed by the new corporation.

Directors.—R. H. Davenport, Pres.; W. C. Dickerman, Wm. M. Hager, W. J. Harris, Ernest L. Nye, Edward B. Robinette, Herbert W. Wolff.

Shippers' Car Line, Inc.—Consolidation.—

See Shippers' Car Line Corp. above.—V. 121, p. 1801.

Silver King Coalition Mines Co.—Usual Dividend.—

The directors have declared the regular quarterly dividend of 25 cents per share, payable April 1 to holders of record March 20. A like amount was paid Jan. 2 last, while on Dec. 24 1925 an extra distribution of 10 cents was made.—V. 122, p. 1183.

(Franklin) Simon & Co., Inc.—Consol. Income Acct.—

Table with 4 columns: Years End. Jan. 31—1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Net sales, Cost, sell., oper., &c., exp., Depreciation, Miscellaneous earnings, Net income, Federal taxes (est.), Preferred dividends, Net income including State franchise taxes.

(L. C.) Smith & Corona Typewriters, Inc.—Initial Dividend Declared on Common Stock.—

An initial dividend of 50 cents per share on the common stock, no par value, and a dividend of 1-6% (for two months) on the preferred stock have been declared, both payable April 1 to holders of record March 20.—V. 122, p. 493.

Earnings Years Ending December 31.

Table with columns for years 1922, 1923, 1924, and 1925. Rows include Net earnings after bond interest but before Fed. taxes, depletion & depreciation, and Net earnings after bond int., Federal taxes, depletion & depreciation.

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31 1925 (After This Financing).

Consolidated Balance Sheet table with Assets (Total investments, Cash, Notes receivable, etc.) and Liabilities (Capital stock, Bond subscriptions, etc.) columns.

Total \$27,636,871 -V. 121, p. 2534.

United States Cold Storage Corp.—Acquisition.

This company has acquired all the stock of the United Cold Storage Co. of Chicago and Kansas City Cold Storage & Warehouse Co. of Kansas City, Mo. The new corporation is capitalized for \$2,649,000.

United States Glass Co.—Annual Report.

Annual Report table for United States Glass Co. showing Calendar Years 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922 with rows for Net income, Res. for depreciation, etc.

Balance, surplus \$131,555 def \$164,197 -V. 121, p. 990.

United Verde Copper Co.—Member of Association.

The Copper & Brass Research Association on March 16 announced the membership of the above company, which has properties located in Yavapai County, Ariz.

Universal Pictures Co., Inc. (& Subs.).—Report.

Report table for Universal Pictures Co. showing Years Ended Nov. 7 '25, Nov. 8 '24, with rows for Total operating income, Cost of sales, etc.

Balance \$1,995,103 Available 180,403

Comparative Balance Sheet.

Comparative Balance Sheet table with columns for Nov. 7 '25, Nov. 8 '24, and rows for Assets (Cash, Accounts receivable, etc.) and Liabilities (1st pref. stock, etc.).

Total \$15,363,977 12,549,401

Vanadium Corp. of America.—Annual Report.

Annual Report table for Vanadium Corp. showing Calendar Years 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922 with rows for Net earnings from oper., Other income, etc.

Profit and loss sur. \$2,313,933 \$1,497,712 \$766,878 \$202,451

Balance Sheet December 31.

Balance Sheet table with Assets (Plant, prop., &c., Cash, etc.) and Liabilities (Capital stock, First mtg. bonds, etc.) columns.

a Mining properties in Penn. and Colorado, plants at Bridgeville, Pa., and Niagara Falls, N. Y.; patents and processes, less reserve for depreciation. b In stock of associated co. wholly owned. c Authorized 500,000 no par value shares; issued and outstanding, 345,034 shares; in escrow with Guaranty Trust Co., New York, pending completion of agreement with former owners of United States Ferro Alloys Corp. properties, 33,333 1-3 shares.

Feb. 1 1926, less treasury stock, 377,137 1-3 shares. e Notes of U. S. Ferro Alloys Corp. paid Feb. 5 1925. d On properties acquired from U. S. Ferro Alloys Corp. (\$161,184 paid Feb. 1, balance called for redemption June 1 1925). -V. 122, p. 495.

Upton Co., Lockport, N. Y.—10 Cent Extra Dividend.

The directors have declared an extra dividend of 10 cents per share and a dividend of 40 cents per share on the common A and B stocks, par \$25, payable April 1 to holders of record March 1.

Walworth Co.—Definitive Bonds Ready.

The American Exchange-Pacific National Bank is prepared to deliver definitive bonds in exchange for interim receipts issued by the First National Bank of Boston for Walworth Co. 1st mtg. sinking fund gold bonds, series A, 6%, due 1945.

Warren Brothers Co. (& Subs.).—Annual Report.

Annual Report table for Warren Brothers Co. showing Calendar Years 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922 with rows for Gross income, Net income, Other income, etc.

Washington Oil Co.—Annual Report.

Annual Report table for Washington Oil Co. showing Calendar Years 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922 with rows for Gross income, Oper. exp., taxes, depr., etc.

Condensed Balance Sheet Dec. 31 table with Assets (Prod. & non. pro. prop., Compressor stations, etc.) and Liabilities (Capital stock, Bills and accounts payable, etc.) columns.

West Virginia Coal & Coke Co.—New President. W. M. Wilshire, now receiver of the Carnegie Coal Co., Pittsburgh, has been elected President and a director of the West Virginia Coal & Coke Co.

Western Grocers, Ltd.—To Readjust Capital Structure.

The stockholders on Feb. 17 approved an adjustment in the capital stock along the following lines: (a) That the present authorized common shares be changed from shares of \$100 par value to shares of no par value.

The directors, in a recent letter to the shareholders, said in part: "The company enjoys a good turnover, is showing a substantial profit and is in a sound position financially. Its liquid position is also exceptionally good." In January 1913, when the company acquired through the Dominion Bond Co. the wholesale grocery business previously carried on by A. Macdonald & Co., there was included in the company's assets \$3,111,722 representing 'good-will and trade marks.'

Westinghouse Air Brake Co.—25-Cent Extra Dividend.—The directors have declared an extra dividend of 25c. a share and the regular quarterly dividend of \$1 50 a share on the outstanding \$39,448,840 capital stock, par \$50, both payable April 30 to holders of record March 31.

Income Account for Calendar Years table with columns for 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922 and rows for Net profits, Federal taxes, Dividends paid, etc.

Balance end of year table with rows for Previous surplus, Sundry credits, Total surplus, Sundry adjustments, Stock dividend, Transf. to sundry res'ves.

Profit & loss, surplus \$13,085,677 \$11,611,087 \$10,360,864 \$15,183,984 -V. 121, p. 3018.

Westmoreland Coal Co.—Dividend of \$1.

The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of \$1 per share, payable April 1 to holders of record March 26. This compares with a dividend of \$1 50 per share paid on Jan. 2 last and quarterly dividends of 50c. per share from Oct. 1 1924 to Oct. 1 1925 incl. -V. 121, p. 3018.

For other Investment News, see page 1649.

Reports and Documents.

PUBLISHED AS ADVERTISEMENTS

PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT—FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31 1925.

To the Shareholders:

The combined results of operations of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey and subsidiary utility companies for the twelve months ending December 31 1925 were as follows:

Operating Revenue of Subsidiary Companies.....		\$94,715,525 20
Operating Expenses.....	\$41,453,330 64	
Maintenance.....	10,622,755 22	
Taxes.....	9,858,549 34	
Depreciation and Retirement Expenses.....	7,741,009 23	
		69,675,644 43
Operating Income.....		\$25,039,880 77
Non-Operating Income.....		2,057,051 29
		\$27,096,932 06
Income Deductions of Subsidiary Companies (Bond Interest, Rentals and Miscellaneous Interest Charges).....		13,965,557 63
Net Income of Subsidiary Companies.....		\$13,131,374 43
Public Service Corporation of New Jersey Income (exclusive of dividends on stocks of operating utility companies).....	\$3,403,056 45	
Less—		
Expenses.....	\$806,100 89	
Taxes.....	304,548 93	
Retirement Expenses.....	83,570 00	
	\$1,194,219 82	
		2,208,836 63
		\$15,340,211 06
Public Service Corporation of New Jersey Income Deductions—		
Interest Charges.....	\$4,478,351 55	
Amortization of Debt Discount and Expense.....	234,585 99	
Other Contractual Deductions from Income.....	30,898 94	
		4,743,836 48
Net Income of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey and Subsidiary Companies.....		\$10,596,374 58
Appropriation Accounts of Subsidiary Companies, Adjustments of Surplus Accounts (Credit).....		30,833 08
		\$10,627,207 66
Dividends on Stock of Subsidiary Utility Companies in Hands of Public:		
Public Service Electric and Gas Company		
6% Preferred Stock.....	\$827,500 00	
Other Stocks.....	2,026 50	
		829,526 50
		\$9,797,681 16
Appropriation Accounts of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey (exclusive of dividends) (Credit).....		197,644 26
		\$9,995,325 42
Dividends on Preferred Stocks of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey—		
8% Cumulative Preferred Stock.....	\$1,722,488 00	
7% Cumulative Preferred Stock.....	1,489,554 85	
6% Cumulative Preferred Stock.....	11,685 75	
		3,223,728 60
		\$6,771,596 82
Dividends on Common Stock of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey.....		4,781,557 51
Net Increase in Surplus.....		\$1,990,039 31

During the year the regular quarterly dividends were paid on the outstanding Preferred Stock and also quarterly dividends at the rate of \$1 25 per share on the Common Stock.

ISSUE OF COMMON STOCK BY THE CORPORATION.

On May 26 1925 the Board of Directors authorized an additional issue of Common Stock in the proportion of one share for each ten shares of Common and Preferred Stock outstanding as of June 5 1925, the total additional Common Stock thus authorized being 132,997 shares. The right to subscribe to this stock, which right expired August 1, was offered to stockholders at \$62 50 per share.

In addition to this 132,997 shares there was issued during the year 80,790 shares authorized prior to January 1 1925, making a total of 213,787 shares issued during the year.

ISSUES OF PREFERRED STOCK BY THE CORPORATION.

On January 6 1925 the Board of Directors authorized the issue of 117,378 additional shares of 7% Cumulative Preferred Stock. Holders of 7% Cumulative Preferred Stock and 8% Cumulative Preferred Stock were offered the right to subscribe to this stock in the proportion of one share for each ten shares held, the right to subscribe expiring March 31 1925.

On September 22 1925 the Board of Directors authorized the issue of 118,003 shares of 6% Cumulative Preferred Stock, this being the first issue by the Corporation of Preferred Stock of this dividend rate. Holders of 7% Cumulative Preferred Stock and 8% Cumulative Preferred Stock were offered the right to subscribe to this issue in the pro-

portion of one share for each four shares held, the right to subscribe expiring October 31 1925.

These issues of Preferred Stock were authorized in order to make the stock available for sale under the Popular ownership plan.

During the year there was issued 226 shares of 8% Cumulative Preferred Stock of a total par value of \$22,600, 131,135 shares of 7% Cumulative Preferred Stock of a total par value of \$13,113,500, and 16,065 shares of 6% Cumulative Preferred Stock of a total par value of \$1,606,500, and in addition thereto at the end of the year 36,428 shares of the various classes of Cumulative Preferred Stock were being paid for on the installment plan.

PURCHASE OF STOCK OF SUBSIDIARIES.

The Corporation purchased during the year, at \$10 00 per share, 1,750,000 shares of the no par value Common Stock of Public Service Electric and Gas Company, issued by the latter company during the year. It also purchased at \$10 00 per share 485,000 shares of the no par value Common Stock of Public Service Transportation Company, issued during the year, and 99,990 shares of an issue of 100,000 shares of no par value Common Stock of Public Service Stock and Bond Company, a new subsidiary incorporated January 15 1925. This purchase was also at \$10 00 per share.

ISSUE OF SECURITIES BY SUBSIDIARIES.

In addition to the issue of the Common Stock purchased by the Corporation, Public Service Electric and Gas Company issued and sold to the public 150,000 shares of 6% Cumulative Preferred Stock, 1925 series, of a total par value of \$15,000,000, and \$2,500,000 First and Refunding Mortgage Gold Bonds 5% Series due 1965.

RETIREMENT OF SECURITIES.

During the year \$875,000 par value of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey General Mortgage 5% Bonds were purchased and canceled and \$413,000 were acquired by the Sinking Fund, there being outstanding in the hands of the public at the end of the year \$1,454,000 par value of the General Mortgage Bonds.

The following bonds were also acquired during the year by the sinking funds provided for by the mortgages: \$480,000 Public Service Electric and Gas Company First and Refunding Mortgage 5½% Series due 1959, \$201,000 Public Service Corporation of New Jersey Secured Bonds 6% Series due 1944, \$42,000 Public Service Newark Terminal Railway 5% First Mortgage Bonds, \$10,400 Princeton Light, Heat and Power Company 5% Sinking Fund Bonds, \$25,000 Rapid Transit Street Railway Company 8% First Mortgage Bonds, \$3,000 Plainfield Street Railway Company 6% First Mortgage Bonds, and \$210,009 Public Service Corporation of New Jersey Perpetual Interest Bearing Certificates.

Equipment Trust Series "A" Certificates of Public Service Electric Company amounting to \$130,000 were retired under the Equipment Trust Agreement and the \$90,000 of that company's car equipment bonds outstanding January 1 1925 were retired. Likewise the \$200,000 Public Service Gas Company 8% Notes outstanding January 1 1925 were retired, and also \$216,000 of the 6% Notes of that Company.

Public Service Railway Company retired \$408,000 Equipment Trust Certificates of Series "D," "E," and "F," in accordance with the Equipment Trust Agreements.

ACQUISITION OF BONDS OF SUBSIDIARIES.

The Corporation, during the year, purchased \$2,642,000 par value of outstanding North Jersey Street Railway Company 4% First Mortgage Bonds, and Public Service Electric and Gas Company purchased the following bonds of leased companies which matured during the year: \$100,000 Ridgewood Gas Company 5% First Mortgage Bonds, \$85,000 Ridgewood Gas Company 5% Second Mortgage Bonds, \$316,000 Passaic Lighting Company 5% Consolidated Mortgage Bonds and \$585,000 Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Paterson 5% First Mortgage Bonds.

POPULAR OWNERSHIP.

The year 1925 has presented substantial evidence of a favorable public attitude towards Public Service enterprises. In this the Corporation is reaping the benefits of the policy of Popular Ownership, adopted in 1921, and of cultivation of good-will through various service departments and by full and frank publicity in connection with all of its affairs.

On December 31 there were listed 47,122 shareholders of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey, holding a total of 1,534,632 shares, with an additional 15,666 subscriptions to 36,428 shares upon which payments were incomplete.

The Popular Ownership plan has not only given the added strength that comes from a veritable army of citizens financially interested in Public Service, but it has afforded an opportunity of spreading a concrete knowledge of Public Service facts among a large part of the public and among company employees as well.

The enthusiasm and loyal effort made by employee salesmen in the sale of stock is a basic cause of success and reflects a morale of which Public Service may well be proud.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY
ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.

A satisfactory increase in the volume of business done by the Electric Department is recorded for 1925. The total of electric sales was greater by more than 175,000,000 kilowatt hours, or 23.74%, than was the total for the previous year, 919,515,074 having been delivered to customers.

Power sales reckoned in kilowatt hours were 27.14% more than in 1924, and commercial metered lighting sales 16.92% greater. Power sales represented 61% of total sales, while at the end of the year there was connected to the system a load of 686,000 horse-power, which is estimated to be more than half of the total power load in the territory served. Among the large power contracts signed were those with Pennsylvania Railroad Company, Central Railroad Company of New Jersey, Sears, Roebuck Company, W. & J. Sloane and the American Copper Products Company.

Increase in the number of electric meters was surprisingly large. On December 31 1925 there were on the line 616,013, a gain of 90,435, despite the loss of 4,753 meters due to the sale of the Shore Lighting Company.

The building of new homes and the wiring for electricity of old houses is responsible in the main for the gain in meters, while in connection with the increased consumption of current, an additional element, the growing popularity of domestic electric appliances, also plays a part. Sales of such electrical appliances in the Public Service offices in 1925 produced a revenue of \$2,178,469.43, which was 21.32% greater than in 1924. Mechanical electric refrigeration is making rapid strides, and sales of refrigeration apparatus were substantially increased.

The extensive construction program of the Electric Department was carried rapidly forward during the year. Extension and improvement of plant to meet increase in demand, actual and prospective, progressed satisfactorily.

The first section of the Kearny Generation Station is nearing completion. Number one unit, a turbo-generator of 39,200 Kv-a. capacity, was put in operation on November 12, and the remaining units, four in number, which with Number one, will provide a combined capacity of 205,000 Kv-a., will go into service in 1926.

The transmission line which ties together Kearny, Essex and Marion, the three largest stations in the system, is in service, its eighteen steel towers having been erected and the necessary cables strung during 1925. At the large Kearny outdoor substation, two banks of 45,000 Kv-a. transformers, which will step up current generated at Kearny for transmission, were placed in service. At the Essex outdoor substation one bank of 45,000 Kv-a. transformers, and at the Marion outdoor substation two banks of 45,000 Kv-a. transformers are also in service to receive the current transmitted from Kearny.

At Essex, additional 13,200 volt switching equipment was installed in the enlarged switch house to care for local transmission to the Central and Essex divisions and similar equipment in the Marion switch house built in 1924, to provide for local transmission in the Hudson, Bergen and Passaic divisions.

Enlargement of the Marion switch house was begun. At the same station the installation of a second frequency changer set and the enlargement of the frequency changer building to make available twenty-five cycle capacity for the Pennsylvania Railroad under a contract which calls for the

provision of a maximum capacity of 25,000 Kv-a. for use of that company in the operation of its electrified sections in New Jersey, were started.

Further connections tying Public Service system in with adjacent systems for the interchange of power were made or provided for. On November 16, submarine cables connecting our Perth Amboy station with the system of the Staten Island Edison Corporation were put in service, with a maximum demand of 10,000 K. W.

Under a contract with the Philadelphia Electric Company, entered into during the year, a further supply of power up to a maximum of 30,000 K. W., supplementing that already received at Camden, has been arranged for, delivery to be made at Trenton. The increased capacity thus afforded assures an adequate supply of current for the southern division and permits the extension of service in this rapidly growing territory.

The two circuits connecting Public Service system with that of the Jersey Central Power and Light Company were put in operation during the year.

At both Essex and Marion stations coal handling and storage facilities were improved. At Essex a dragscraper installation was placed in service and an extension made to the Passaic River dock; at Marion the coal tower was rebuilt and improved, permitting the more expeditious handling of coal received by water.

Substation facilities were, during the year, increased and improved. Nine new substations, three of which replaced obsolete substations, were put in service; work was advanced on four other new substations, and major reconstruction was put under way on nine existing substations.

New substations were built at Fernwood, East Riverton, Mercerville, State Street (Camden), Mechanic Street (Perth Amboy), Bloomfield, Montclair, South Paterson, Englewood and Greenville (Jersey City).

In addition, the erection of new substations at Delair, Clay Street (Newark), and Passaic Avenue (Newark) and the reconstruction of existing substations at Liberty Street (Trenton), Haddon Heights, Gloucester, Woodbury, Cranford, Washington Avenue (Newark), Athenia, Westwood and Hoboken, was begun.

A 5,000 Kv-a. synchronous condenser was installed in the Plainfield substation and transformer capacity was increased in many other substations, all for the improvement of service.

The work of changing from two to three phase distribution continued, the change having been effected at the following substations: City Dock (Newark), Waverly (Newark), Orange, Paterson, North Paterson, Palisade Avenue (Jersey City) and Somerville.

Substantial extensions were made to the transmission system, ten new circuits being installed for the improvement of service in the Essex division, four in Hudson, two in Bergen, two in Southern and two to supply power to the system of Jersey Central Power and Light Company. In addition, preliminary work was advanced on the new line to the Passaic division, which upon completion will largely increase capacity available for use in that territory. The Company's underground system was extended by some thirteen street miles.

Distribution headquarters, and garages, at Elizabeth, Perth Amboy, Plainfield and Trenton were enlarged and improved. The use of electrically propelled trucks was extended to distribution department service in Elizabeth, Paterson and Trenton.

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY
GAS DEPARTMENT.

An increase of 436,728,000 cubic feet in the volume of gas sold brought the total for the year up to 20,294,360,000, the first time in the history of Public Service that an aggregate of twenty billion cubic feet has been attained.

During the year 32,209 gas meters were added to the number in service, the total on December 31 1925 being 675,264. This increase is the result of new building operations and the established popularity of domestic gas appliances, of which sales to the amount of \$2,561,815.19 were made in the commercial offices during the year.

For the first time, an active campaign was made to interest the public in the heating of houses, by gas, the result indicating that because of its many advantages which offset higher cost, gas heating presents possibilities for increased sales.

The use of gas for industrial purposes was largely increased. Consumption for this purpose amounted to more

than three billion three hundred and seventy million cubic feet, or 16.6% of sales for all purposes. The gain in industrial consumption during the year amounted to 23.3%. As between 1915 and 1925 the gain was 222% and the rapid extension in the use of gas for industrial purposes is an encouraging sign. A number of industrial concerns, each using more than a million feet a month, were added to the lines, and the nature of their operations shows the diversity of use to which gas is being put. Among these customers were: Zeh Brothers of Passaic, using gas for glass fusing; Armstrong Cork Company of Camden, for cork baking; Gamon Meter Company of Newark, for brass melting, and Weidman Silk Dyeing Company of Paterson, for silk finishing.

The construction program of the Gas Department progressed satisfactorily during 1925.

At the Harrison Works, the 15,000,000 cubic foot holder was completed. The works boiler house and compressor house were, at the end of the year, nearly ready for service and work on the gas generator house and the purifying and meter equipment had progressed satisfactorily.

Extension of mains to new territory and improvement of service in various parts of the system received careful attention. 219 miles of main were laid, bringing the total in service up to 3,865 miles. Construction for the year constitutes a record and provides service to sections in the rapidly growing Bergen and Southern divisions that have heretofore been without gas.

Communities in the Bergen division, to which mains were extended, include Midland Park, Closter, Demarest, Harrington Park and the Glenwood Park section of Teaneck; in the Southern division, the Mt. Ephraim section of Haddon Heights, the Haddon Homestead section of Haddon Township, the Erlton section of Delaware Township and the Maple Shade section of Chester Township.

A large amount of main was laid and a large number of district governors were installed throughout the system for the purpose of improving pressure. Service in certain sections of Montclair, Florham Park, Maplewood, North Bergen, Leonia, Fort Lee, Paterson, Hawthorne, Trenton, Plainfield and North Plainfield, was so improved.

To supply the western part of Bergen County from the Harrison Works, 7,400 feet of 24-inch and 1,100 feet of 8-inch pumping main was laid in North Arlington. To provide an additional supply for the western part of the Passaic division, including Hawthorne, Haledon, Prospect Park and Totowa, 8,800 feet of 20-inch and 1,050 feet of 12-inch pumping main was laid, the job including a submarine crossing of the Passaic River.

The holder capacity of the system was during the year greatly increased. The 15,000,000 cubic foot waterless holder built in connection with the Harrison Works was completed; a 3,000,000 cubic foot holder, with its pusher building and gas-driven pumping machinery, was put in service at Summit, as was a 500,000 cubic foot waterless type holder erected at Somerville, the first holder of this type in the system, and the foundation of a 1,000,000 cubic foot holder to improve service in the Bergen division was completed.

Bituminous coal in the manufacture of water gas was used during the year at both the Paterson and West End works. The result has been satisfactory and the use of soft coal will be extended to the Market Street works. Some saving is effected in the cost of making gas, and with this process in use the Camden Coke Company will be able to supply coke for all plants except a small amount which must be purchased for the Paterson works.

Further improvements were made at the various plants. The factor of safety to employees has been strengthened by the equipment of all machinery with safety guards.

At the Trenton works, a 40,000-gallon tar settling tank was erected. The installation of coke handling machinery at No. 2 generator house, Market Street works, Newark, was completed as was a similar installation at the West End works, Jersey City, where, also, a 90,000-gallon tar settling tank was built. Further betterments to property have maintained during the year the department's reputation for good housekeeping.

PUBLIC SERVICE RAILWAY COMPANY.

The problem presented to the management in connection with the Public Service transportation system is largely one of economical and at the same time efficient operation. Such part of the task of solution as depends upon the companies is being worked out.

It is believed that if car and bus service be further coordinated, better traffic regulation be enforced and the rail-

way company relieved of charges resulting from paving obligations imposed in the days of the horse car and no longer fair or just, the position of Public Service transportation companies can be much improved.

In the meantime, the record made during the year in the operation of both Public Service Railway Company and Public Service Transportation Company is a commendable one. Further economies were put in force, greater efficiency attained, and such degree of co-ordination as is possible under existing conditions was accomplished.

The use of one-man cars was further extended, so that all cars in the system are now so operated; the five-cent fare plan was extended to cover all lines; wherever possible, both on lines where Public Service controls all service and on those on which independent bus operation is still in vogue, operating schedules were established to the satisfaction of both the public and the municipal officials, while in some instances it was possible to discontinue duplicate service and run cars and buses as supplements to each other.

A change in form of company organization, effecting both the Railway and the Transportation Companies, was made with the idea of centralizing authority and responsibility in the operating heads of the six divisions. A Manager and an Assistant Manager were appointed for each division, who report directly to the Vice-President in Charge of Operation and to whom report the division officers in charge of transportation, way, overhead and shops.

The physical condition of railway property was well maintained. This is especially true as to rolling stock. Some 960 cars were completely overhauled, major repairs made to 800 others, and 1,442 passenger and 22 service cars repainted.

The conversion during the year of 333 closed and 197 open cars for one-man operation brought the total number of converted cars up to 1,789. In connection with this work, pneumatic door mechanism and folding steps were placed on 428 cars, and electric fare boxes and registers installed in 718.

During the year 22.5 miles of track was reconstructed with new rails. More than 7.5 miles was reconstructed with the same rail, and 3.8 miles of track extension made, largely in connection with outdoor car storage at car houses used in part as garages. Track was carefully maintained and is in satisfactory operating condition.

Improvement to overhead system followed the putting in service by the electric department of Public Service Electric and Gas Company of the Stratford, Wall Street, Burlington and Bound Brook substations. The campaign to save power was continued, with the result that savings due directly to this effort amounted to 11.44% as compared with 1923, and 2.17% as compared to 1924.

Escalators were installed in both the Newark and the Journal Square Terminals and proved of great convenience to the public; at West Shore Ferry Terminal, Weehawken, a pay-enter, pay-leave terminal with seven electrically operated turnstiles, was installed and greatly speeded up the handling of passengers between cars and boats.

The policy of utilizing, wherever desirable, car houses and other railway service buildings for garage purposes was continued.

A combined car house and garage, with ample shop facilities for minor repairs, having capacity for 70 buses, and indoor and outdoor storage for 44 cars, was erected at Sanford Street and Commercial Avenue, New Brunswick, and permitted the closing of the Milltown car house.

Through an arrangement with the United States Government, in connection with the relocation of track in West Deptford, the former Washington Park car house was relocated in the yard adjoining the Newton Avenue, Camden, car house, where it is available as a garage.

On December 6, under an arrangement with Morris County Traction Company, cars of that company began operation over tracks of Public Service Railway Company in and out of Public Service Terminal at Newark. The operation has so far proved mutually satisfactory and affords a decided accommodation to the public.

FERRIES.

Normal increase in vehicular traffic as well as important improvements to service combined to very materially increase the business of both the Riverside and Fort Lee and the Port Richmond and Bergen Point Ferries.

The former carried during the year 2,153,124 vehicles, an increase of 408,745 over 1924, the latter 407,347 vehicles, an increase of 38,945.

Improvements to the Fort Lee ferry service included a new slip, erected by the City of New York, at 125th Street, providing additional facilities, which permit the maintenance of speedy service during periods of heavy traffic.

The ferry boats "Fort Lee" and "Leonia" were rebuilt to provide four, instead of two, gangways. With these changes all five boats used in this service have been enlarged to capacity sufficient to provide for 1926 traffic.

The ferry-car terminal at Edgewater was remodeled to better accommodate transferring passengers. Thirteen electric and two mechanical prepayment turnstiles were installed, the open spaces between car shelters were roofed over and a trolley waiting room provided. These changes have proved an accommodation to passengers and have accelerated the loading and unloading of cars.

The Port Richmond terminal of the Port Richmond and Bergen Point Ferry was improved and the boats "Bayonne City" and "Edgewater" were overhauled and painted.

The Company's own mechanical organization is now making all repairs to marine equipment, except such as require the drydocking of boats, the result being a better degree of maintenance at less expense.

PUBLIC SERVICE RAILROAD COMPANY.

The use of cars of lighter weight and the rearrangement of schedules on the Trenton end of Public Service Railroad permitted the shutting down of the Plainsboro generation station. Power for the operation of this section of the railroad is supplied by the New Brunswick and Trenton substations.

PUBLIC SERVICE TRANSPORTATION COMPANY.

Very considerable progress was made during the year in bringing about an improvement in conditions surrounding the operation of buses by the Company. An organization fitted for the complex task of handling the large number of vehicles required for service in the territory is, as a result, taking permanent form; garage and shop facilities were extended; efficiency of methods was bettered, and operating experience acquired, all in anticipation of further co-ordination of car and bus service that will give to the people of the territory served one of the largest and best local transportation systems extant.

The year's activities culminated in the placing, in December, of an order for 333 gas-electric buses of a type which it is believed will provide the maximum of convenience and accommodation for the public, and at the same time materially reduce the expense of maintenance, which, owing to the character of equipment purchased from independent operators, has been abnormally high.

Experience in the Southern division, where it has been possible to effect a high degree of co-ordination, makes it evident that if co-ordination to a like extent is attained in other divisions, service can be improved and economies effected to the benefit of both the riders and the Companies.

Garage and shop facilities were, during the year, extended and improved. A 140-bus garage was built at Bloomfield Avenue and Lake Street, Newark. In the same city, a building on Frelinghuysen Avenue, owned by the Autocar Company, was purchased and is used in part as a garage. In New Brunswick, a new car house and garage which will accommodate 70 buses was built. In Paterson, the Lakeview and the Market Street car houses were remodeled for garage purposes. In Rutherford, the power house section of the Rutherford car house was converted into a garage. In West Hoboken, one bay of the car house was remodeled for garage purposes and an adjacent building purchased for storage purposes, while a building at Spring and Angeliue Streets, formerly used by the Track Department, was taken over as a garage.

Bus service buildings were erected at Broadway Loop, Market Street and Lakeview garages, Paterson, and at Hilton garage, Maplewood. Hydraulic gasoline systems were installed at the Lake Street, Sanford Street and Sherman Avenue garages, Newark.

Shop facilities are in shape to meet all present requirements. During the year 1,464 buses were completely or partially overhauled, while much bus equipment was rebuilt.

It has been the aim to consolidate, wherever possible, the facilities and working organization for cars and buses and substantial economies have resulted from this policy. In accordance with the privilege conferred by an act of the Legislature, approved March 19 1925, the Company is now carrying all of its own liability insurance.

PUBLIC SERVICE PRODUCTION COMPANY.

For the major work of construction carried on by Public Service companies during the year, Public Service Production Company was the contractor. The progress made in connection with these various undertakings is set forth in other parts of this report. The variety and extent of the services performed indicate the comprehensive character of the engineering and construction organization that has been assembled by the Production Company.

The activities of the Production Company, outside of its inter-company work, were extensive. The cement plant of the Lehigh Portland Cement Company at Sandt's Eddy, Pa., designed and constructed by the Production Company, was brought to completion. It has a present capacity of 1,000,000 barrels and will have a final capacity of 2,000,000 barrels. The work included the opening of a quarry and the construction of a village to house operatives.

For the Edison Portland Cement Company, the Company designed and started the construction of a packing and bag house, with facilities for packing 6,000 barrels of cement a day and cleaning 5,000 bags an hour. Its storage capacity will be 2,000,000 bags.

The Company is erecting for the Federal Trust Company in Newark what will be one of the largest bank and office buildings in New Jersey. Its Highway Department completed more than thirteen miles of concrete roads in Pennsylvania. The Company secured the general contract for the main highway approach to the vehicular tunnel at Jersey City, known as the "covered cut." It made the electrical installation at Hadley Field, New Brunswick, the eastern

terminus of the United States Air Mail Service and the power installation for the great radio station of the Radio Corporation of America at Bound Brook. Construction work is being done for steam railroads, while in the industrial field the Company made plant extensions and installed a number of substations and other equipment.

PUBLIC SERVICE STOCK AND BOND COMPANY.

Incorporated January 15 1925, Public Service Stock and Bond Company began business on February 1 1925. The Company specializes in the securities of Public Service Corporation, its subsidiaries and their underlying companies.

The policy adopted by the Company is to sell to the small investor, who although he may pay either in cash or in installments, becomes a permanent stockholder.

In attaining this end it was during the year successful, selling outside of the Popular Ownership campaigns, of which it is in charge, securities valued at \$4,056,000 to 2,999 buyers.

The main office of the Company is located in the North Canal and Pine Street corner of Public Service Terminal, Newark. Of the three branch offices opened during the year, one is located in Jersey City, one in Philadelphia and one in Pittsburgh. The advice of the Company's representative is available to all present or prospective holders of Public Service securities.

PRIVATE CAR ORDER.

The most important litigation in which the Corporation was interested during the past year was the so-called private coal car case. It was a suit brought by Public Service Electric and Gas Company, in which a number of the other companies joined, to enjoin the Interstate Commerce Commission from enforcing its order prohibiting the use of private cars of the Company for transportation of coal from Pennsylvania.

The order promulgated by the Interstate Commerce Commission would have deprived the Company of the exclusive use of its own cars in times of car shortage, and have placed them under the direction and at the service of other shippers, or required them to stand idle. The Company deemed it essential for the protection of its customers to test the order of the Commission to the court of last resort if necessary. The case was decided in favor of the Company by unanimous vote of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, three judges sitting.

GROUP INSURANCE.

On April 1 1925 there became effective a group insurance plan covering such employees of Public Service, in the service for one year or more, as cared to participate. Under it a blanket policy was taken out with the Prudential Insurance Company of America. Ninety per cent of those employees eligible made voluntary application, the original group consisting of 10,452 individuals who were covered by insurance aggregating \$13,381,500.

Since that time the original group has increased and on December 31 1925 there were 11,051 lives insured for a total of \$14,189,000.

Under the plan, the employees pay sixty cents per month per thousand and the balance of the premium and all administration expenses are paid by the companies.

WELFARE WORK.

A total of \$426,606 51 was disbursed in 1925 in connection with payments under our Welfare Plan and the Workmen's Compensation Act. This was an increase for the year of \$30,498 33, of which \$23,010 03 was assignable to Compensation and \$7,488 30 to Welfare.

Deaths among employees numbered ninety-eight, an increase of nine over 1924. Sick benefits were paid in 869 cases as against 833 in the previous year.

During the year twenty-two names were added to the pension rolls, while death removed twenty-one, the number on the rolls on December 31 1925 being 171.

The following is a comparative statement of expenditures for the years of 1925 and 1924 on account of the Welfare Plan:

	1925.	1924.
Insurance.....	\$40,718 54	\$39,500 00
Sick Benefits.....	36,504 46	35,930 18
Pensions.....	98,834 12	98,264 29
Expenses.....	27,524 59	22,398 94
	\$203,851 71	\$196,093 41

Payments on account of Workmen's Compensation made in 1925 and 1924 were as follows:

	1925.	1924.
Payments required by law.....	\$189,886 44	\$170,758 01
Payments not required by law.....	8,938 32	8,853 09
Expenses.....	24,200 04	20,403 67
	\$223,024 80	\$200,014 77

SERVICE EMBLEMS.

In recognition of their long period of faithful service, a gold button has been presented to each man and a gold pin presented to each woman who has been continuously in the employ of a Public Service Company, or one of its direct predecessors, for a period of twenty-five years or more.

Six hundred and eighty-nine emblems were so distributed at the first of the year, the great majority personally, at a meeting held in Newark on January 28. Since that time,

an additional number of eighty-four veterans have been so recognized. Up to December 31 1925 a total of 773 emblems, thirteen of them to women, had been distributed.

SAFETY WORK.

It is gratifying to record in connection with the extensive accident prevention work carried on in all of Public Service operating companies, that Josiah Layton, substation operator of the Electric Department of Public Service Electric and Gas Company, and John C. Goble, electrical foreman of Public Service Production Company, received from the National Electric Light Association, Insull medals for saving life by resuscitation, while William H. Brown, street foreman of the Gas Department of Public Service Electric and Gas Company, received from the American Gas Association a McCarter medal for a similar act.

TAXES.

Taxes accrued in 1925 against the Corporation and its subsidiaries amounted to \$10,186,632 95, an increase of \$1,370 323 16 over the amount accruing in 1924.

Of the total, the sum of \$304,548 93 was chargeable to the Corporation, leaving \$9,882,084 02 as taxes against subsidiaries, an amount equal to 10.7% of their gross revenues and 28.3% of their net earnings.

INSURANCE.

On December 31 1925 the amount of insurance in force was \$86,272,922, the yearly premium on which amounted to \$214,539. The average rate paid was 24.87 cents per \$100, as compared to an annual rate of 26.32 cents paid in 1924, a reduction of 1.45 cents per \$100. Insurance in force December 31 1925 was \$15,275,119 more than was in force on December 31 1924.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND STATISTICAL INFORMATION.

Attention is called to the balance sheets and statements of earnings and expenses of the Corporation and its subsidiary companies, which have been verified by Niles and Niles, Certified Public Accountants of New York, and to the usual statistical information and other statements herein submitted.

THOMAS N. McCARTER, *President.*

COMBINED RESULTS OF OPERATIONS PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY AND SUBSIDIARY UTILITY COMPANIES

FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31 1925.	
Operating Revenue of Subsidiary Companies.....	\$94,715,525 20
Operating Expenses.....	\$41,453,330 64
Maintenance.....	10,622,755 22
Taxes.....	9,878,549 34
Depreciation and Retirement Expenses.....	7,711,009 23
	69,675,644 43
Operating Income.....	\$25,039,880 77
Non-Operating Income.....	2,057,051 29
	\$27,096,932 06
Income Deductions of Subsidiary Companies (Bond Interest, Rentals and Miscellaneous Interest Charges).....	13,965,557 63
Net Income of Subsidiary Companies.....	\$13,131,374 43
Public Service Corporation of New Jersey Income (exclusive of dividends on stocks of operating utility companies).....	\$3,403,056 45
Less—	
Expenses.....	\$806,100 89
Taxes.....	304,548 93
Retirement Expenses.....	83,570 00
	\$1,194,219 82
	2,208,836 63
	\$15,340,211 06
Public Service Corporation of New Jersey	
Income Deductions—	
Interest on Perpetual Interest Bearing Certificates.....	\$1,206,714 60
Interest on Public Service General Mortgage 5% Bonds.....	350,409 68
Interest on Secured Gold Bonds 6% Series due 1944.....	1,200,000 00
Interest on Public Service Newark Terminal Railway Company First Mortgage Bonds.....	250,000 00
Interest on 5½% Installment Note to Public Service Electric and Gas Company.....	1,119,864 77
Interest on Miscellaneous Obligations.....	351,362 50
Amortization of Debt Discount and Expense.....	234,585 99
Other Contractual Deductions from Income.....	30,898 94
	4,743,836 48
Net Income of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey and Subsidiary Companies.....	\$10,596,374 58
Appropriation Accounts of Subsidiary Companies Adjustments of Surplus Accounts (Credit).....	30,833 08
	\$10,627,207 66
Dividends on Stock of Subsidiary Utility Companies in Hands of Public—	
Public Service Electric and Gas Company	
6% Preferred Stock.....	\$827,500 00
Other Stocks.....	2,026 50
	829,526 50
	\$9,797,681 16
Appropriation Accounts of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey (exclusive of dividends) (Credit).....	197,644 26
	\$9,995,325 42
Dividends on Preferred Stocks of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey—	
8% Cumulative Preferred Stock.....	\$1,722,488 00
7% Cumulative Preferred Stock.....	1,489,554 85
6% Cumulative Preferred Stock.....	11,685 75
	3,223,728 60
	\$6,771,596 82
Dividends on Common Stock of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey.....	4,781,557 51
Net Increase in Surplus.....	\$1,990,039 31

PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY AND SUBSIDIARY UTILITY COMPANIES.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1925.

ASSETS.	
Fixed Capital.....	\$440,939,295 75
Investments.....	3,348,612 36
Sinking Funds and Other Special Funds—	
Sinking Funds.....	\$124,653 40
Other Special Funds.....	29,703 49— 154,356 89
Special Deposits—	
Collateral to General Mortgage Bonds.....	\$2,376,187 35
Miscellaneous.....	391,167 23— 2,767,354 58
Current Assets—	
Cash.....	\$9,408,584 63
Marketable Securities.....	2,200,000 00
Notes Receivable.....	18,190 66
Accounts Receivable.....	8,999,601 84
Interest and Dividends Receivable.....	27,068 32
Materials and Supplies.....	6,317,385 66
Miscellaneous Current Assets.....	287,011 63
Subscribers to and Purchasers of Cumulative Preferred Stock of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey under Deferred Payment Plan—	
7% Cumulative Preferred.....	\$900,289 10
6% Cumulative Preferred.....	872,263 00— 1,772,552 10— 29,030,394 84
Deferred Charges—	
Prepayments.....	\$388,059 12
Unamortized Debt Discount and Expense.....	2,983,329 32
Miscellaneous Suspense.....	777,912 39— 4,149,300 83
	\$480,389,315 25

LIABILITIES, CAPITAL STOCK AND SURPLUS.

Long Term Debt—	
Long Term Debt of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey.....	\$48,098,464 00
Long Term Debt of Operating Subsidiaries Controlled through Stock Ownership.....	96,920,542 74
Long Term Debt of Lessor Companies Controlled through Stock Ownership.....	20,284,000 00
Long Term Debt of Lessor Companies Not Controlled through Stock Ownership.....	68,867,109 37— \$234,170,116 11
Current Liabilities—	
Notes Payable (Payable not more than one year from date of issue).....	\$102,800 00
Accounts Payable.....	4,511,221 65
Consumers' Deposits.....	3,358,056 39
Miscellaneous Current Liabilities.....	7,082 45
Taxes Accrued.....	3,830,818 23
Interest Accrued.....	3,020,569 32
Miscellaneous Accrued Liabilities.....	422,065 80
	15,252,613 84
Reserves—	
Premium on Capital Stock.....	\$23,000 00
Retirement Reserve.....	27,845,031 20
Unamortized Premium on Debt.....	7,300 39
Casualty and Insurance Reserve.....	1,473,345 64
Contributions for Extensions.....	96,696 34
Miscellaneous Reserves.....	2,658,235 25
	\$2,103,608 82
Miscellaneous Unadjusted Credits.....	1,163,945 97
Capital Stock—	
Capital Stock of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey:	
Common Stock (1,037,867 shares no par).....	\$52,803,440 91
8% Cumulative Preferred Stock.....	21,531,200 00
7% Cumulative Preferred Stock.....	26,538,800 00
6% Cumulative Preferred Stock.....	1,606,500 00
	\$102,479,940 91
Capital Stock of Operating Subsidiaries Controlled through Stock Ownership.....	15,031,080 00
Capital Stock of Lessor Companies Controlled through Stock Ownership.....	6,803,876 67
Capital Stock of Lessor Companies Not Controlled through Stock Ownership.....	55,428,205 33
	179,743,102 91
Subscriptions to and Sales of Cumulative Preferred Stock of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey under Deferred Payment Plan—	
7% Cumulative Preferred.....	\$2,576,100 00
6% Cumulative Preferred.....	1,066,700 00
	3,642,800 00
Profit and Loss—Surplus—	
Balance December 31 1924.....	\$12,323,088 29
Net Increase year ending December 31 1925, from statement of combined results of operations.....	1,990,039 31
	14,313,127 60
	\$480,389,315 25

PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1925.

ASSETS.	
Investments—	
Securities of subsidiary and leased companies.....	\$157,534,000 97
Other Securities.....	148,206 67
Advances to affiliated companies.....	5,486,649 10
Real estate.....	9,349,337 43
	\$172,518,194 17
Acquired Securities.....	1,925 99
Sinking Funds and Other Special Funds—	
Sinking Fund of General Mortgage 5% Series due 1944.....	\$62,227 54
Sinking Fund of Secured Gold Bonds 6% Series due 1944.....	204,851 13
Sinking Fund of Public Service Newark Terminal Railway Company First Mortgage Bonds.....	246,178 64
Sinking Fund of Perpetual Interest Bearing Certificates.....	203,542 56
Other special funds.....	89,213 41— 806,013 28
Other Special Deposits—	
Cash and United States Government Securities deposited with trustee for undeposited General Mortgage 5% Sinking Fund 50 Year Gold Bonds.....	2,376,187 35
Current Assets—	
Cash.....	\$1,658,804 20
Notes receivable.....	14,000 00
Accounts receivable.....	448,021 09
Interest and dividends receivable.....	40,404 64
Subscribers to and Purchasers of Cumulative Preferred Capital Stock under Deferred Payment Plan—	
7% Cumulative Preferred.....	\$900,289 10
6% Cumulative Preferred.....	872,263 00— 1,772,552 10— 3,933,782 03
Deferred Charges—	
Prepayments.....	\$55,106 15
Unamortized debt discount and expense.....	1,710,900 28
Miscellaneous deferred charges.....	136,392 89
	1,902,399 32
	\$181,538,502 14

PUBLIC SERVICE RAILWAY COMPANY.

Public Service Transportation Company, Public Service Railroad Company, The Riverside and Fort Lee Ferry Company, Port Richmond and Bergen Point Ferry Company, Highland Improvement Company, New York Harbor Real Estate Company, Peoples Elevating Company.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET—DECEMBER 31 1925.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL STOCK.	
Road and Equipment—Fixed Capital—		Funded Debt Unmatured—	
Balance December 31 1924	\$98,245,236 43	Mortgage Bonds	\$41,753,016 00
Additions to Property—Year ending December 31 1925	7,525,279 38	Equipment Obligations	852,000 00
Total	\$105,770,515 81	Miscellaneous Obligations—	
Less Property Written Off During Year	1,723,937 57	Real Estate Mortgages	550,435 00
Balance December 31 1925	\$104,046,578 24	Advances for Construction	991,793 46
Investments		Advances from Other Corporations—	
Sinking Funds	367,911 84	Public Service Corporation of New Jersey	\$3,580,000 00
Special Deposits	61,844 31	Public Service Electric and Gas Company	50,000 00
Current Assets—	391,167 23		3,630,000 00
Cash	\$874,205 80	Non-Negotiable Debt to Lessor Companies—	
Loans and Notes Receivable	500 06	Bonds of Lessor Companies issued for Construction Ex-	
Miscellaneous Accounts Receivable	354,299 22	penditures	1,643,000 00
Interest, Dividends and Rents Receivable	796 28	Current Liabilities—	
Materials and Supplies	939,640 67	Notes Payable	\$2,400 00
Other Current Assets	130,211 63	Accounts Payable	4,853,097 94
		Other Current Liabilities	55,855 99
Deferred Assets	2,299,653 66	Tax Liability	2,162,815 56
Deferred Charges—	12,560 28	Accrued Interest, Dividends and Rents Payable	629,766 63
Rents and Insurance Premiums Paid in Advance	\$86,201 21		7,703,936 12
Discount on Funded Debt	208,196 65	Reserves—	469,265 22
Other Unadjusted Debits	2,646 06	Accrued Depreciation—Road and Equip-	
	297,043 92	ment	\$2,103,807 69
Corporate Deficit—		Premium on Funded Debt	7,255 43
Balance December 31 1924	\$1,000,908 74	Casualty and Insurance Reserve	632,706 15
Net Increase year ending Dec. 31 1925	517,961 98	Other Unadjusted Credits	751,015 13
Balance December 31 1925	1,518,870 72		3,494,784 40
		Capital Stock—	
		Public Service Railway Company	\$36,562,500 00
		Public Service Railroad Company	285,000 00
		Public Service Transportation Company	10,000,000 00
		Port Richmond and Bergen Point Ferry Company	40,000 00
		The Riverside and Fort Lee Ferry Co.	1,000,000 00
		Highland Improvement Company	19,100 00
		People's Elevating Company	800 00
			47,907,400 00
	\$108,995,630 20		\$108,995,630 20

Henry A. Niles, C. P. A.
 Norman E. Webster, C. P. A.
 Henry A. Horne, C. P. A.

53 State Street,
 BOSTON

NILES & NILES
 Certified Public Accountants
 60 Broadway, New York.

CERTIFICATE OF ACCOUNTANTS.

New York, March 5 1926.

We have examined the books, accounts, and records of the Public Service Corporation of New Jersey and of its subsidiary companies for the year ending December 31 1925. We certify that the combined income and profit and loss of the Public Service Corporation of New Jersey and its subsidiary utility companies for the year ending December 31 1925 is correctly shown by the statement on page 25 [pamphlet report]; that the income and profit and loss for the year ending December 31 1925, of the companies which operate, respectively, the electric, gas and transportation utilities is correctly shown by the statements on pages 29 and 31 [pamphlet report]; and that the balance sheets as of December 31 1925 of

Public Service Corporation of New Jersey and its subsidiary utility companies (consolidated),
 Public Service Corporation of New Jersey,
 Public Service Electric and Gas Company and Camden Coke Company (consolidated),
 Public Service Railway Company,
 Public Service Transportation Company,
 Public Service Railroad Company,
 The Riverside and Fort Lee Ferry Company,
 Port Richmond and Bergen Point Ferry Company,
 Highland Improvement Company,
 New York Harbor Real Estate Company, and
 Peoples Elevating Company (consolidated),
 shown on pages 26-27, 28, 30, and 32-33 [pamphlet report], are in accordance with the books, and correctly show the financial condition of those companies at that date.

NILES & NILES,
 Certified Public Accountants.

PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES.
 LONG TERM DEBT DECEMBER 31 1925.

	Authorized.	Outstanding.	Intercompany & Sinking Fund Holdings.	Amount in the Hands of Public.
Public Service Corporation of New Jersey—				
Public Service Corporation of New Jersey 5% General Mortgage. Due October 1 1959.				
Fidelity Union Trust Company, Trustee. Interest payable April and October.	\$6,307,000 00	\$6,307,000 00	a\$4,853,000 00	\$1,454,000 00 ¹
Perpetual Interest Bearing Certificates of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey.				
Fidelity Union Trust Company, Trustee. Rate 6%. Interest payable May and November.	20,200,000 00	20,111,910 00	b\$1,103,771 00	19,008,139 00 ¹
Public Service Corporation of New Jersey Secured Gold Bonds 6% Series Due 1944.				
Fidelity Trust Company (Philadelphia), Trustee. Interest payable February and August.	21,400,000 00	20,000,000 00	a201,000 00	19,799,000 00 ¹
Public Service Newark Terminal Railway Co. 5% First Mortgage. Due June 1 1955.				
Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable June and December.	5,000,000 00	5,000,000 00	a246,000 00	4,754,000 00 ¹
Real Estate Mortgages.				
Miscellaneous Notes (payable more than one year from date of issue)				
		342,000 00		342,000 00 ¹
		2,741,325 00		2,741,325 00 ¹
Total Public Service Corporation of New Jersey		\$54,502,235 00	\$6,403,771 00	\$48,098,464 00
Public Service Electric and Gas Company—				
Public Service Electric and Gas Company First and Refunding Mortgage Gold Bonds 5 1/4% Series Due 1959. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable April and October.	\$31,834,000 00	\$26,586,000 00	c\$872,000 00	\$25,714,000 00 ¹
Public Service Electric and Gas Company First and Refunding Mortgage Gold Bonds 5 1/4% Series Due 1964. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable April and October.	30,000,000 00	15,000,000 00		15,000,000 00 ¹
Public Service Electric & Gas Company First and Refunding Mortgage Gold Bonds 5% Series Due 1965. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest payable June and December.	50,000,000 00	2,500,000 00		2,500,000 00 ¹
United Electric Company of New Jersey 4% First Mortgage. Due June 1 1949.				
New Jersey Title Guarantee & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable June and December.	20,000,000 00	18,617,500 00	d683,000 00	17,934,500 00 ¹
Consumers Light, Heat & Power Company 5% First Mortgage. Due June 1 1938.				
New Jersey Title Guarantee & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable June and December.	1,000,000 00	885,000 00	e577,000 00	308,000 00 ¹
North Hudson Light, Heat & Power Company 5% First Mortgage. Due October 1 1938.				
New Jersey Title Guarantee & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest payable April and October.	2,000,000 00	2,000,000 00	e1,633,000 00	367,000 00 ¹
Middlesex Electric Light & Power Company 5% First Mortgage. Due January 1 1955.				
Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable July and January.	200,000 00	181,000 00	d21,000 00	160,000 00 ¹
Princeton Light, Heat & Power Company 5% 30-year Sinking Fund Mortgage. Due February 1 1939.				
Equitable Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable February and August.	250,000 00	121,600 00		121,600 00 ¹
Weehawken Contracting Company 6% First Mortgage. Due February 20 1928.				
Weehawken Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable August and February.	30,000 00	30,000 00		30,000 00 ¹
Public Service Electric Company Equipment Trust Series "A" 8% Certificates. \$65,000 due each February 1 and August 1. Philadelphia Trust Company, Trustee.				
Interest Payable February and August.	1,300,000 00	650,000 00		650,000 00 ¹
Public Service Gas Company 6% Notes. \$18,000 due each month, Sept. 1 1923 to July 1 1926 inclusive. \$20,000 due Aug. 1 1926. Interest Payable February and August at Union Trust Company, Pittsburgh, Pa.				
Real Estate Mortgages.	650,000 00	128,000 00		128,000 00 ¹
Advances for Construction.		1,421,760 00		1,421,760 00 ¹
		673,454 28		673,454 28 ¹
Total Public Service Electric and Gas Company		\$68,794,314 28	\$3,786,000 00	\$65,008,314 28

PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES.
LONG TERM DEBT DECEMBER 31 1925—(Continued).

	Authorized.	Outstanding.	Intercompany & Sinking Fund Holdings.	Amount in the Hands of Public.
Companies Leased by Public Service Electric and Gas Company—				
Newark Consolidated Gas Company 5% Consolidated Mortgage. Due December 1 1948. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable June and December	\$10,000,000 00	\$6,000,000 00		\$6,000,000 00
Newark Gas Company 6% First Mortgage. Due April 1 1944. National Newark and Essex Banking Co., Trustee. Interest Payable July, October, January, April	4,000,000 00	3,999,700 00		3,999,700 00
Hudson County Gas Company 5% First Mortgage. Due November 1 1949. New Jersey Title Guarantee & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable May and November	10,500,000 00	10,500,000 00		10,500,000 00
New Brunswick Light, Heat & Power Company 4% First Mortgage. Due December 15 1939. Fidelity Union Trust Company, Trustee. Interest Payable June 15 and December 15	500,000 00	500,000 00		500,000 00
Ridgewood Gas Company 5% First Mortgage. Due June 1 1925. Equitable Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable June and December	100,000 00	100,000 00	100,000 00	
Ridgewood Gas Company 5% Second Mortgage. Due April 1 1925. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable April and October	100,000 00	85,000 00	85,000 00	
Paterson & Passaic Gas & Electric Company 5% Consolidated Mortgage. Due March 1 1949. The Paterson National Bank, Trustee. Interest Payable September and March	5,000,000 00	4,099,000 00	50,000 00	4,049,000 00
Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Paterson 5% First Mortgage. Due July 1 1925. The Paterson National Bank, Trustee. Interest Payable January and July	600,000 00	585,000 00	\$85,000 00	
Passaic Lighting Company 5% Consolidated Mortgage. Due May 1 1925. Guaranty Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable May and November	450,000 00	316,000 00	316,000 00	
South Jersey Gas, Electric & Traction Company 5% First Mortgage. Due March 1 1953. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable September and March	15,000,000 00	12,994,000 00	d3,507,000 00	9,487,000 00
Trenton Gas & Electric Company 5% First Mortgage. Due March 1 1949. Equitable Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable March and September	2,000,000 00	1,998,000 00		1,998,000 00
Somerset Union & Middlesex Lighting Company 4% First Mortgage. Due December 1 1943. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable June and December	2,750,000 00	1,974,809 37	d573,700 00	1,401,109 37
Central Electric Company 5% Consolidated Mortgage. Due July 1 1940. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest payable January and July	750,000 00	750,000 00	d20,700 00	729,300 00
Plainfield Gas & Electric Light Company 5% General Mortgage. Due April 1 1940. Guaranty Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable April and October	500,000 00	500,000 00		500,000 00
Somerset Lighting Company 5% First Mortgage. Due February 1 1939. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable February and August	150,000 00	150,000 00	d21,000 00	129,000 00
The Gas & Electric Company of Bergen County 5% General Mortgage No. 2. Due November 1 1954. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Int. Payable May and Nov	5,000,000 00	3,462,000 00	d1,538,000 00	1,616,000 00
The Gas & Electric Company of Bergen County 5% General Mortgage No. 1. Due November 1 1954. Equitable Trust Co., Trustee. Int. Payable May and November	5,000,000 00	38,000 00		38,000 00
The Gas & Electric Company of Bergen County 5% Consolidated Mortgage. Due June 1 1949. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Int. Payable June and December	1,500,000 00	1,443,000 00		1,443,000 00
Hackensack Gas Light Company 5% First Mortgage. Due July 1 1934. G. W. Conklin, D. W. Chamberlain, Trustees. Interest Payable July and January at Fidelity Union Trust Company	42,000 00	24,000 00		24,000 00
Hackensack Gas & Electric Company 5% General Mortgage. Due July 1 1935. G. W. Conklin, E. A. Pearce, Trustees. Interest Payable January and July at Fidelity Union Trust Company	40,000 00	10,000 00		10,000 00
Englewood Gas & Electric Company 5% First Mortgage. Due January 1 1939. Geo. W. Conklin, Trustee. Interest Payable January and July	200,000 00	23,000 00		23,000 00
Public Service Electric Power Company First Mortgage Sinking Fund Gold Bonds 6% Series of 1923. Due April 1 1948. Fidelity Union Trust Company, Trustee. Interest Payable April and October	15,000,000 00	14,000,000 00	a41,000 00	13,959,000 00
Total Companies Leased by Public Service Electric and Gas Company		\$63,551,509 37	\$7,145,400 00	\$56,406,109 37
Total Public Service Electric and Gas Company and Leased Companies		\$132,345,823 65	\$10,931,400 00	\$121,414,423 65
Public Service Railway Company—				
North Jersey Street Railway Company 4% First Mortgage. Due May 1 1948. Bankers Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable May and November	\$15,000,000 00	\$15,000,000 00	f\$9,872,000 00	\$5,128,000 00
Jersey City Hoboken & Paterson Street Railway Company 4% First Mortgage. Due November 1 1949. New Jersey Title Guarantee & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable May and November	20,000,000 00	14,061,000 00	1,498,000 00	12,563,000 00
North Hudson County Railway Company 5% Consolidated Mortgage. Due July 1 1928. S. B. Dod, Trustee. Interest Payable January and July at First National Bank, Hoboken	3,000,000 00	2,998,000 00		2,998,000 00
North Hudson County Railway Company 6% Improvement Mortgage. Due May 1 1926. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable May and November	1,292,000 00	1,291,000 00		1,291,000 00
North Hudson County Railway Company 5% Weehawken Extension Mortgage. Due February 1 1945. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable February and August	100,000 00	100,000 00		100,000 00
Paterson Railway Company 6% Consolidated Mortgage. Due June 1 1931. Irving Bank-Columbia Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable June and December	1,250,000 00	1,250,000 00		1,250,000 00
Paterson Railway Company 5% 2d General Mortgage. Due October 1 1944. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable April and October	300,000 00	300,000 00		300,000 00
Elizabeth Plainfield & Central Jersey Railway Company 5% First Mortgage. Due December 1 1950. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable June and December	2,500,000 00	2,400,000 00	154,000 00	2,246,000 00
Plainfield Street Railway Company 6% First Mortgage. Due July 1 1942. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable January and July	100,000 00	100,000 00	a9,000 00	91,000 00
Elizabeth & Raritan River Street Railway Company 5% General Mortgage. Due May 1 1954. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Int. Payable May and November	3,500,000 00	1,500,000 00	274,000 00	1,226,000 00
Brunswick Traction Company 5% First Mortgage. Due July 1 1926. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable January and July	500,000 00	500,000 00		500,000 00
East Jersey Street Railway Company 5% First Mortgage. Due May 1 1944. Perth Amboy Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable May and November	500,000 00	500,000 00		500,000 00
Middlesex & Somerset Traction Company 5% First Mortgage. Due January 1 1950. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable January and July	1,500,000 00	1,000,000 00		1,000,000 00
Public Service Series "D" Equipment Trust 5% Certificates. \$44,000 due each November 30 and May 31. Philadelphia Trust Company, Trustee. Interest Payable November 30 and May 31	880,000 00	132,000 00		132,000 00
Public Service Series "E" Equipment Trust 7 1/4% Certificates. \$140,000 due each February 1 and August 1 for first five years and \$42,000 due each February 1 and August 1 for the second five years. Bankers Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable February and August	1,820,000 00	420,000 00		420,000 00
Public Service Railway Company Equipment Trust Series "F" 6% Certificates. \$20,000 due each November 1 and May 1. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable November and May	400,000 00	300,000 00		300,000 00
Real Estate Mortgages		302,435 00		302,435 00
Advances for Construction		991,793 46		991,793 46
Total Public Service Railway Company		\$43,146,228 46	\$11,807,000 00	\$31,339,228 46
Companies Controlled by Public Service Railway Co.—				
Consolidated Traction Company 5% First Mortgage. Due June 1 1933. Bankers Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable December and June	\$15,000,000 00	\$15,000,000 00		\$15,000,000 00
Jersey City & Bergen Railroad Company 4 1/2% First Mortgage. Due January 1 1923. Edmund Smith, Trustee. Interest Payable January and July at Bankers Trust Co. or First National Bank, Jersey City	1,000,000 00	258,000 00	258,000 00	
Newark Passenger Railway Company 5% First Mortgage. Due July 1 1930. New Jersey Title Guarantee & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable January and July	6,000,000 00	6,000,000 00		6,000,000 00
Passaic & Newark Electric Traction Company 5% First Mortgage. Due June 1 1937. New Jersey Title Guarantee & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable June and December	1,000,000 00	550,000 00		550,000 00
Rapid Transit Street Railway Company 8% First Mortgage. Due April 1 1941. Mechanics National Bank of Trenton, N. J., Trustee. Interest Payable April and October	500,000 00	500,000 00	a60,000 00	440,000 00
Orange & Passaic Valley Railway Company 5% First Mortgage. Due December 1 1938. New Jersey Title Guarantee & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable June and December	1,000,000 00	833,000 00	83,000 00	750,000 00
Camden & Suburban Railway Company 5% First Mortgage. Due July 1 1946. The First National State Bank of Camden, Trustee. Interest Payable January and July	3,000,000 00	1,940,000 00		1,940,000 00
Bergen Turnpike Company 5% First Mortgage. Due July 1 1951. New Jersey Title Guarantee & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable January and July	1,000,000 00	1,000,000 00		1,000,000 00
People's Elevating Company 5% First Mortgage. Due October 1 1939. New Jersey Title Guarantee & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable April and October	250,000 00	175,000 00		175,000 00
Paterson & State Line Traction Company 5% First Mortgage. Due June 1 1964. Fidelity Union Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable June and December	300,000 00	150,000 00		150,000 00
New Jersey & Hudson River Railway & Ferry Company 4% Fifty Year Mortgage. Due March 1 1950. United States Mortgage & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable March and September	5,000,000 00	4,011,000 00		4,011,000 00
Hudson River Traction Company 5% First Mortgage. Due March 1 1950. United States Mortgage & Trust Co., Trustee. Interest Payable March and September	1,000,000 00	631,000 00	g67,000 00	564,000 00
Riverside Traction Company 7% First Mortgage. Due June 1 1960. West End Trust Co., Philadelphia, Trustee. Interest Payable December and June	1,500,000 00	1,500,000 00		1,500,000 00
Total Companies Controlled by P. S. Ry. Co.		\$32,548,000 00	\$468,000 00	\$32,080,000 00
Total Public Service Railway Co. and Subsidiary Cos.		\$75,694,228 46	\$12,275,000 00	\$63,419,228 46

PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES.
LONG TERM DEBT DECEMBER 31 1925—(Concluded).

	Authorized.	Outstanding.	Intercompany & Sinking Fund Holdings.	Amount in the Hands of Public.
Companies Controlled by Public Service Railroad Co. Elizabeth & Trenton Railroad Co. 5% First Mortgage. Due April 1 1962. Fidelity Trust Co., Philadelphia, Trustee. Interest Payable April and October.	\$1,200,000 00	\$990,000 00		\$990,000 00
Total Companies Controlled by Public Service Railroad Co.		\$990,000 00		\$990,000 00
Riverside and Fort Lee Ferry Company— Real Estate Mortgages		\$100,000 00		\$100,000 00
Total Riverside and Fort Lee Ferry Co.		\$100,000 00		\$100,000 00
Public Service Transportation Company— Real Estate Mortgages		\$148,000 00		\$148,000 00
Total Public Service Transportation Co.		\$148,000 00		\$148,000 00
TOTAL LONG TERM DEBT		\$263,783,287 11	\$29,610,171 00	\$234,170,116 11

a Purchased by the Sinking Fund. b Includes \$210,009 00 purchased by the Sinking Fund, \$891,845 00 owned by Public Service Electric and Gas Company and deposited as collateral under its First and Refunding Mortgage; \$1,917 00 owned by Public Service Corporation of New Jersey. c Includes \$480,000 00 purchased by the Sinking Fund; \$392,000 00 owned by Public Service Corporation of New Jersey. d Pledged under Public Service Electric and Gas Company First and Refunding Mortgage. e Pledged under United Electric Company of New Jersey First Mortgage. f \$7,230,000 00 pledged under Public Service Electric and Gas Company First and Refunding Mortgage; \$2,642,000 00 owned by Public Service Corporation of New Jersey. g Pledged under New Jersey and Hudson River Railway and Ferry Company Mortgage.

SUMMARY OF LONG TERM DEBT AS SHOWN IN CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET.

1 Long Term Debt of Public Service Corporation of New Jersey	\$48,098,464 00
2 Long Term Debt of Operating Subsidiaries Controlled Through Stock Ownership	96,920,542 74
3 Long Term Debt of Lessor Companies Controlled Through Stock Ownership	20,284,000 00
4 Long Term Debt of Lessor Companies Not Controlled Through Stock Ownership	68,867,109 37
TOTAL LONG TERM DEBT IN THE HANDS OF PUBLIC	\$234,170,116 11

STOCKS OF COMPANIES OPERATED UNDER LEASE BY SUBSIDIARY OPERATING COMPANIES OF PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY, WITH THE RATES OF DIVIDEND PAYMENTS GUARANTEED FROM RENTALS.

	Capital Stock Outstanding	Inter-company Holdings.	Amount in Hands of Public, Including Directors' Shares.	Par Value per Share.	Rate of Dividends from Rentals.	Date of Lease.	Term of Lease, Years.
Bordentown Electric Company	\$50,000	a\$49,600	\$400	\$50	1-5%	4-1-14	46
The Camden Horse Railroad Company	250,000		250,000	25	24%	4-1-96	999
The Camden and Suburban Railway Company	83,000,000	c10,000	2,990,000	25	4%	5-1-04	999
Cinnaminson Electric Light, Power & Heating Co.	20,000	a19,600	400	50	3%	4-1-14	46
Consolidated Traction Company	15,000,000	d100	14,999,900	100	4%	6-1-98	999
The East Newark Gas Light Company	60,000	e59,800	200	25	6%	9-1-09	999
Elizabeth & Trenton Railroad Co., Preferred	180,300		180,300	50	5%	4-1-12	999
Elizabeth & Trenton Railroad Co., Common	811,350		811,350	50	4%		
Essex and Hudson Gas Company	6,500,000		6,500,000	100	5%	6-1-03	900
The Gas Light Co. of the City of New Brunswick	400,000		400,000	100	5%	1-2-05	900
The Gas & Electric Co. of Bergen County	2,000,000		2,000,000	100	5%	1-1-05	999
Hudson County Gas Co.	10,500,000		10,500,000	100	8%	6-1-03	900
Newark Consolidated Gas Co.	6,000,000		6,000,000	100	5%	12-1-98	999
New Jersey & Hudson River Railway & Ferry Co., Preferred	750,000	d4,633	744,000	100	6%	5-1-11	900
New Jersey & Hudson River Railway & Ferry Co., Common	2,500,000	d2,446,450	53,550	100	6%		
Orange and Passaic Valley Railway Company	1,000,000	e995,200	4,800	100	1 4-5%	11-1-03	900
The Paterson & Passaic Gas & Electric Co.	5,000,000	h269,700	4,730,300	100	5%	6-1-03	900
Public Service Electric Power Co., Preferred	6,000,000		6,000,000	100	7%	6-1-23	999
Public Service Electric Power Co., Common	43,000,000	2,999,920	80	No Par	Not Fixed		
Rapid Transit Street Railway Co. of the City of Newark	504,000		504,000	100	11 3/4%	6-1-93	999
The Ridgewood Gas Company	100,000	d2,100	97,900	100	2%	7-1-10	999
Riverside Traction Company, Preferred	266,500		266,500	50	5%	4-1-12	999
Riverside Traction Company, Common	747,150		747,150	50	2 7/8%		
Somerset Union & Middlesex Lighting Co.	1,050,000	j431,700	618,300	100	4%	12-31-03	900
South Jersey Gas, Electric & Traction Co.	6,000,000		6,000,000	100	8%	6-1-03	900
The South Orange & Maplewood Traction Co.	225,000		225,000	100	2 2-3%	10-1-03	Perpetual
	\$71,914,300	\$7,288,803	\$64,624,130				

a Owned by Riverside Traction Company.
b \$600,000 paid in.
c Owned by Camden Horse Railroad Company.
d Owned by Public Service Corporation of New Jersey.
e \$59,775 owned by Essex and Hudson Gas Company and Newark Consolidated Gas Company; \$25 owned by Public Service Electric & Gas Co.
f \$1,367 reserved to retire stock of consolidated companies.
g Owned by Public Service Corporation of New Jersey; \$995,000 pledged under agreement securing its Perpetual Interest Bearing Certificates.
h Owned by Public Service Electric and Gas Company and pledged under its First and Refunding Mortgage.
i 300,000 shares.
j \$422,400 owned by Public Service Electric and Gas Company and pledged under its First and Refunding Mortgage; \$9,300 owned by Public Service Corporation of New Jersey.

STOCKS OF SUBSIDIARY OPERATING COMPANIES OF PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

	Amount.	No. of Shares Outstanding.	No. of Shares Owned by P. S. C. of N. J.	No. of Shares in Hds. of Public Inc. Directors' Shares.
Public Service Electric and Gas Company— Common Stock (No par value)	\$86,750,000	8,675,000	a8,674,990	10
7% Cumulative Preferred Stock (\$100 par)	20,000,000	200,000	b199,748	252
6% Cumulative Preferred Stock (\$100 par)	15,000,000	150,000		150,000
Public Service Railway Company (No par value)	36,562,500	c487,500	d487,456	44
Public Service Railroad Company (\$100 par)	285,000	2,850	2,842	8
Public Service Transportation Company (No par value)	10,000,000	1,000,000	999,992	8
Public Service Production Company (No par value)	1,000,000	100,000	99,992	3
Public Service Stock and Bond Company (No par value)	1,000,000	100,000	99,997	3
	\$170,597,500	10,716,350	10,565,017	150,333

a 5,783,334 shares pledged under mortgage securing Public Service Corporation of New Jersey Secured Gold Bonds.
b 197,368 shares pledged under agreement securing Public Service Corporation of New Jersey Perpetual Interest Bearing Certificates.
c includes stock of merged companies.
d 474,793 shares pledged under agreement securing Public Service Corporation of New Jersey Perpetual Interest Bearing Certificates.

GAS STATISTICS.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Gas Sold—M. Cu. Ft.	12,399,852	13,610,865	14,783,231	14,900,704	16,493,276	16,644,298	17,736,689	19,558,279	19,857,632	20,294,361
Miles of Mains in use Dec. 31	3,041	3,089	3,096	3,126	3,170	3,223	3,332	3,467	3,646	3,865
Meters in Service Dec. 31	496,885	516,745	526,213	538,574	553,343	565,711	583,842	609,140	643,055	675,264
Services Run	11,037	7,629	3,227	7,166	7,590	7,590	12,335	18,550	24,679	27,027
Ranges Sold	27,901	27,613	9,524	12,209	15,572	11,838	17,013	23,875	24,896	26,128
Water Heaters Sold	11,766	11,468	5,317	7,496	9,831	6,020	12,007	11,342	10,982	9,502
Hot Plates Sold	2,221	1,608	707	499	547	486	473	532	470	477
Heating Stoves Sold	11,094	19,442	6,119	7,059	6,731	4,276	6,355	5,029	4,539	4,979
Gas Ares Installed	5,405	4,918	1,556	1,563	1,296	855	570	353	320	323
Weisbach Lamps Sold	59,277	41,828	18,835	14,622	17,018	14,962	10,293	9,496	6,139	4,697
Mantles Sold	314,303	327,868	157,468	213,832	150,502	111,998	87,882	77,360	58,487	49,145
Domestic Appliances Installed	34,190	42,737	14,514	24,854	26,854	20,970	16,859	22,795	20,324	24,665
Manufacturing Appliances Installed	1,778	2,444	1,205	824	736	949	734	820	1,328	1,149
Gas Fixtures Installed	15,769	12,883	5,780	5,854	5,901	3,421	2,751	5,221	4,126	1,771
No. of Gas Engines Installed	48	47	5	9	8	1	1			
Horse Power of Gas Engines	774 1/2	514 1/2	35	133	75	3	30			

OPERATING REVENUE OF SUBSIDIARY UTILITY COMPANIES OF PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

Table with columns: Year, Electric Properties, Gas Properties, Transportation Properties, Total. Rows from 1903 (7 mos.) to 1925*.

* Change in classification of accounts effective January 1st.

EXPENDITURES CHARGED TO FIXED CAPITAL, PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY AND SUBSIDIARY UTILITY COMPANIES. YEAR 1925.

Table with columns: Corporation, Terminal Building, Fixed Capital Installed During Year, Less Property Written Off During Year, Net Increase in Fixed Capital. Includes sub-sections for Electric, Re-installation, Services, and Unfinished Construction.

Table with columns: Fixed Capital Installed During Year, Less Property Written Off During Year, Net Increase in Fixed Capital, Kearny Plant, Public Service Electric Power Company. Includes sub-sections for Gas, Services, and Unfinished Construction.

Table with columns: Brought forward, Miscellaneous Equipment, Miscellaneous Tangible Capital, Fixed Capital Installed Prior to Jan. 1 1913, Fixed Capital Installed During Year, Less Property Written Off During Year, Net Increase in Fixed Capital.

Table with columns: Transportation—Engineering and Superintendence, Right of Way, Other Land Used in Electric Railway Operations, Grading, Ballast, Ties, Rails, Rail Fastenings and Joints, Special Work, Track and Roadway Labor, Paving, Road Machinery and Tools, Signals and Interlocking Apparatus, Telephone and Telegraph Lines, Distribution Poles and Fixtures, Underground Conduits, Distribution System, Shops and Carhouses, Wharves and Docks, Passenger and Combination Cars, Electric Equipment of Cars, Shop Equipment, Furniture, Miscellaneous Equipment, Organization, Miscellaneous Physical Property, Ferry Slips, Buildings and Piers, Ferry Boats, Garage Buildings, Service Motor Equipment, Garage Machinery and Tools, Other Intangible Capital, General Repair Shop Machinery and Tools, Improvements on Leased Property, Motor Buses, Fixed Capital Installed During Year, Less Property Written Off During Year, Net Increase in Fixed Capital, Total Net Increase in Fixed Capital.

ELECTRIC STATIONS.

Railway and Lighting.

Table with columns: Number of Generating Stations, Capacity of Generators in K.V.A., Number of Substations, Capacity of Rotaries in Kilowatts, Capacity of Motor Generator Sets in Kilowatts, Kilowatt Hours Produced (years 1903 & 1925), Kilowatt Hours Purchased (year 1925). Rows for June 1 1903 and Dec. 31 1925.

ELECTRIC CONDUITS AND TRANSMISSION LINES.

Railway and Lighting Combined.

Table with columns: Length of Transmission Lines (in miles), Length of Conduits (in street miles).

ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM STATISTICS.

Table with columns: Number of Poles, Miles of Wire, Number of Transformers, Number of Meters, Total Commercial Load Connected (in 50 W. equivalent).

ELECTRIC LIGHTING AND POWER STATISTICS.

Table with columns: Year, K.W. Hours Sold (Excluding Inter-Company Railway Current), Number of Street Arc Lamps Supplied, Number of Street Incandescent Lamps Supplied, Total Connected Load in K. W. Rows from 1903 to 1925.

The increases shown above are somewhat, but not very materially, affected by properties acquired between June 1 1903 and January 1 1926.

TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS.

Table with columns: Year, Trolley Passengers, Bus Passengers, Total Passengers, Trolley Mileage, Bus Mileage, Total Mileage, Trolley Hours, Bus Hours, Total Hours, Passenger Receipts Per Trolley Mile, Passenger Receipts Per Bus Mile. Rows from 1904 to 1925.

* Mile zone system in effect from September 14 to December 7.

SIMMS PETROLEUM COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

ANNUAL REPORT—FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1925.

To the Stockholders of Simms Petroleum Company:

The operations of your Company for the year 1925 resulted in net earnings, after all charges, of \$2,636,735 94, or \$3 85 a share on the 684,492 shares of stock outstanding at the end of the year, compared with \$2 81 a share for the year 1924.

Operating Revenues for 1925, after deducting cost of raw materials refined, were \$8,643,836 24. Operating Expenses were \$2,939,550 16, leaving Gross Profit from Operations of \$5,704,286 08, or an increase of about 34% over the corresponding figures for 1924. Income Credits were \$266,037 00. Charges against income amounting to \$3,333,587 14 were made during the year, of which \$2,824,785 96 were for depreciation, depletion, incidental costs of productive drilling and current lease and property abandonments.

During the year, dividends of 50 cents a share were paid on January 2 1925 (initial dividend), and July 1 1925; and in November 1925 the Directors declared a dividend of fifty cents a share, payable January 2 1926.

Net production of crude oil, after royalties and outstanding interests, averaged 11,652 barrels daily, compared with 11,077 barrels in 1924, 10,847 barrels in 1923, 7,337 barrels in 1922 and 3,198 barrels in 1921. The number of producing oil wells increased from 288 at the beginning of the year to 413 at the end of the year.

Additions to property aggregating \$3,132,723 50 were made during the year. This includes the cost of new wells and leases acquired or developed (\$1,970,605 95); a modern refinery and distribution system (\$962,353 65); together with other miscellaneous equipment. Notwithstanding these heavy expenditures in 1925 for new property and the dividends declared amounting to \$634,775 50, outstanding Equipment Trust Certificates decreased \$75,000 00, and Net Quick Assets increased \$452,149 03 during the same period.

At the end of this report will be found a detailed Income Statement for the year 1925, together with Balance Sheet as of December 31 1925, and comparative statistics for the last four years.

PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT.

During the year 1925, your Company's net interest in the oil produced by it, after deduction of royalties, belonging to landowners and partnership interests, amounted to 4,252,967 barrels, or a daily average of 11,652 barrels. About 60% of this production was light oil, running from 35° to 41°, and the balance was Smackover heavy oil. Production by districts was as follows:

	Net Barrels.
Louisiana:	
Homer District.....	129,647
Haynesville District.....	47,479
Pine Island District.....	2,230
Total Louisiana.....	179,356
(Daily Average, 491 barrels.)	
Arkansas:	
Smackover District.....	1,835,710
(Daily Average, 5,029 barrels.)	
Texas:	
Wortham District.....	680,919
Powell District.....	563,994
Wichita Falls District.....	481,396
Mexia District.....	254,914
Richland District.....	116,856
West Texas District.....	79,756
Lytton Springs District.....	5,711
Total Texas.....	2,183,546
(Daily Average, 5,983 barrels.)	
Oklahoma.....	54,355
(Daily Average, 149 barrels.)	
Total All Districts.....	4,252,967

Reference to the tabulation of 1925 production by districts, shows that the Wortham District was the most productive for your Company in the light oil production. Production was first obtained by your Company on its holdings in the Wortham Field in December 1924. During the first part of 1925 these holdings were further developed and defined by drilling thirty producing wells and one dry hole. At Richland, Texas, located a few miles south of Powell, the Company purchased during the year a small producing property with three producing wells.

An important operation of your Company during 1925 was the development in the heavy oil district at Smackover, Arkansas, of sands found at approximately 2,400, 2,600 and 2,700 feet, known as the second, third and fourth sands,

respectively. During the year, thirteen producing oil wells were drilled to the second sand, twenty oil wells to the third sand and two gas wells were drilled to the fourth sand. In addition, a small property was purchased having three wells producing from the first sand at around 2,000 feet.

Production from the Smackover properties during the month of December averaged 5,100 barrels daily net after royalties of which approximately 2,750 barrels were from seventy-six wells in the first sand, about 950 barrels from thirteen wells in the second sand, and 1,400 barrels from twenty wells in the third sand, or a total of around 5,100 barrels. Average daily net production of 5,029 barrels from Smackover during the past year showed a considerable increase over the 3,939 barrels reported for the year 1924.

As modern cracking methods are improved, the intrinsic value of Smackover production likewise increases, and it is probable that each year a larger percentage of Smackover crude will be refined. Your Company is now planning on the erection of a small refinery with modern cracking methods at Smackover to handle part of its Smackover crude output.

In the Wichita Falls District (Wichita, Archer and northern Young Counties, Texas) the Company drilled thirty-seven shallow producing wells and thirteen shallow dry holes, five of which were on producing leases. Your Company's holdings in the so-called Litchfield Pool, on which production was obtained in December 1924, has been developed and defined by drilling thirty producing wells and two dry holes. In this same pool, during the year, the Company purchased two small producing properties with ten producing wells.

At the beginning of the year, the Company had 288 producing oil wells and 5 gas wells. During 1925 the Company completed 153 wells, of which 110 were oil wells, 9 were gas wells and 34 were dry holes. In addition, the Company acquired by purchase small properties having a total of 18 producing oil wells. Three wells, which were formerly oil wells, were plugged and abandoned. Thus the Company had, at the end of 1925, 413 producing oil wells and 14 producing gas wells.

A summary of development operations during the year, and of the wells drilling at the end of the year, is shown in the following tabulation:

District—	Wells Completed.	Wells Drilling
	Producers.	at End of Year.
	Dry Holes.	
Bossier Parish, La.....	1	1
Bernice, La.....	2	—
Webster Parish, La.....	2	—
Cleveland County, Ark.....	—	1
Smackover, Ark.....	35	2
Wichita Falls, Texas.....	37	4
West Texas.....	5	1
Powell, Texas.....	2	—
Navarro County, Texas.....	2	—
Wortham, Texas.....	30	1
Mexia, Texas.....	1	—
Harrison County, Texas.....	3	—
Reagan County, Texas.....	1	—
Bastrop County, Texas.....	1	—
Milam County, Texas.....	1	1
Williamson County, Texas.....	1	—
Jim Hogg County, Texas.....	1	1
Jim Wells County, Texas.....	2	—
Oklahoma.....	3	2
Kansas.....	1	—
Total.....	119	13

OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSES.

Prices for crude oil during the year 1925 were on the average higher and more stable than for any of the preceding four years. Based upon posted prices, the Company's net production of light oil had an average value of \$1 95 per barrel compared with \$1 60 per barrel in 1924, and its production of Smackover heavy crude had an average value of 90 cents per barrel as against 89 cents in 1924. The total market value of the Company's production based upon prices at the well on the day produced aggregated \$6,202,639 80 in 1925, compared with \$5,338,510 78 in 1924.

During 1925 the Company derived substantial revenue from the transportation and sale of its production and oil purchased from others in certain fields and from the sale of stored oil. At Smackover, Arkansas, the Company owns a system of gathering lines throughout the field connected with a tank farm and loading rack, and it likewise owns tank farm and loading rack facilities connected with leases

in the Homer, Mexia, Wortham and Powell Fields. The Company's fleet of 598 tank cars is used in marketing crude oil from these points. A statement of pipe line runs is included in the statistical summary at the end of this report. During 1925 a considerable portion of the Company's inventory of light crude oil was liquidated at prices higher than those at which the oil was carried on the books at the end of 1924, resulting in a profit which is included in the item "Gross Operating Revenue" in the Income Statement for 1925.

In June 1925 your Company acquired a controlling interest in Clayton Oil & Refining Company and subsequently purchased the remaining stock of that Company. As of June 30 1925, all of the assets of Clayton Oil & Refining Company, including a modern refinery at Dallas, Texas, and marketing stations in the surrounding territory, were transferred to Simms Oil Company. The Clayton Oil & Refining Company was subsequently dissolved. The Financial and Operating Statements appended include refining and marketing operations of Simms Oil Company from June 30 1925 to the end of the year. The item, "Gross Operating Revenue" in the Income Statement for the year includes revenue from refining and marketing operations after deducting cost of raw material consumed (crude oil, casing-head gasoline, etc.).

Operating Expenses for the year totaled \$2,939,550 16. Production Expenses amounted to \$1,490,234 50, equivalent to 35 cents per barrel of net crude oil produced, and Refinery and Marketing Expenses totaled \$432,231 46, or 59 cents per barrel of crude oil refined. Transportation and Storage Expenses were \$245,762 83; cost of Dry Holes Drilled amounted to \$401,222 21, and Administrative Expenses were \$370,099 16.

APPLICATION OF INCOMING RESOURCES.

The profit for the year, before Depreciation, Depletion and a contingent reserve for Federal Income Taxes, amounted to \$4,393,917 44. In addition, the net increase in the Capital Stock outstanding was \$12,410 00. As will appear from an examination of the Balance Sheet, the sum of these two items, \$4,406,327 44 was applied in the following manner:

Additions to Property	\$3,132,723 50
Dividends Declared	684,775 50
Increase in Net Quick Assets	452,149 03
Decrease in Equipment Trust Certificates	75,000 00
Increase in Investment in Other Companies	43,175 45
Increase in Deferred Charges	18,503 96
Total	\$4,406,327 44

ADDITIONS TO PROPERTY ACCOUNT.

A. New Leases.

It is believed that the above items are of themselves self-explanatory, except for the \$3,132,723 50 expended in additions to property. Of this amount, \$1,018,595 66 represents net additions to the Company's Active and Inactive Leases. The Company acquired, in 1925, new leases on approximately 92,000 acres, which, together with certain royalties and deferred payments out of oil, cost \$1,207,306 94. At the same time, due to tentative settlements of Federal income tax questions, the value of certain inactive leases acquired at organization was revised and increased to the extent of \$245,457 61, and the Company's "Reserve for Abandonment of Leases and Contingencies" was correspondingly increased. During the year, leases covering about 40,000 acres, having a book value of \$236,489 76 were either sold or abandoned, and of this amount \$47,778 48, representing the value of certain leases acquired prior to June 1 1920, was charged to the Reserve for Abandonment and Contingencies, while the remaining \$188,711 28 was charged against income as Current Lease Abandonments. At the end of the year the Company owned leases on approximately 137,000 acres in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas. These leases had a gross book value of \$10,667,500 21, against which a reserve had been provided for depletion based on cost to the extent of \$6,209,450 96, leaving the net book value of all Active and Inactive Leases at \$4,458,049 25.

B. Wells and Improvements.

The Company increased its investment in wells and lease facilities during the year to the extent of \$952,010 29. This represents added investment in lease lines, tanks, treating plants, power plants, and the physical equipment in or appertaining to producing wells, and is exclusive of the sum of \$984,548 22 expended during the same period and charged to operating expense for labor, fuel and similar costs incident to wells completed as producers, nor does the amount added to property include any part of the cost of dry holes

completed during the year. By the end of the year the Company's total investment in wells and lease facilities aggregated \$4,269,409 73, an average of about \$10,000 00 for each producing well. Depreciation charges to the end of the year had reduced the net book value to \$2,645,378 33, or an average of about \$6,200 00 for each producing well.

C. Refining and Marketing Facilities.

The most important single investment made by the Company in 1925 were expenditures amounting to \$962,353 65 by December 31 in a refinery and distribution system. As previously mentioned, in June 1925 the Company acquired the Clayton Oil & Refining Company, which included a modern refinery, located at Dallas, Texas, with a daily crude oil throughout capacity of 4,500 barrels, together with four Cross Cracking Units capable of handling 3,200 barrels a day. In addition, the Clayton acquisition included retail filling stations at Dallas, Texas, and wholesale bulk stations in cities and towns within a one-hundred-mile radius of Dallas. Following the purchase of these properties, additions were made to the crude and refined oil storage facilities at the refinery, improvements to the refining process were installed, the number of filling stations was increased, and the distribution system further extended by the construction and purchase of bulk stations in other desirable locations throughout north and west Texas. The Company now directly owns and operates eighteen filling stations, all located in Dallas, and seventeen wholesale tank wagon stations in the State. For the six months ending December 31 the daily average production of gasoline was 95,925 gallons. It is expected that improvements now being completed will still further increase the percentage of gasoline yield. An aeroplane view of the refinery is given at the end of the text of this [pamphlet] report.

D. Other Capital Expenditures.

Other capital expenditures during the year included \$97,038 35 for new drilling equipment; a net expenditure of \$10,216 29 for pipe line and storage facilities, and \$34,561 22 for a casinghead gasoline plant completed prior to the end of the year on one of the Company's leases in the north part of Young County, Texas.

DEPRECIATION CHARGES.

As of December 31 1925 the book value of the Company's physical property (not including leases) amounted to \$9,537,401 56. This amount is exclusive of labor, fuel, water and other similar costs incident to the drilling of new wells, which items, as previously stated, are currently charged against income. To provide for the amortization of this physical equipment, \$1,078,979 28 was charged against income and credited to "Reserve for Depreciation" for the year 1925. This Reserve at the end of the year was \$2,963,805 76, leaving the net book value of the Company's physical properties at that time \$6,573,595 80.

NET QUICK ASSETS.

During 1925 Net Quick Assets increased \$452,149 03, and at the end of the year were \$3,555,255 93. Included in the Current Assets are 1,334,107 barrels of crude oil in storage worth \$1,316,981 46, at prices prevailing on December 31 1925. Since that time this oil inventory has appreciated in value by reason of the somewhat higher prices now prevailing.

From the Balance Sheet it appears that an item of \$160,000 00 charged against income during the year as a provision for possible Federal income taxes is not included as a current liability. The liability for income tax being doubtful, the amount is carried in a reserve.

CHANGES IN BALANCE SHEET.

Under the Revenue Acts of 1918, 1921 and 1924, the United States Treasury Department permitted oil producers to revalue acreage proven by discovery wells, and, within certain limitations, permitted depletion to be charged on this "appreciation." In the Balance Sheets of your Company for the years 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923 and 1924 an item "Appreciation of Active Leases" was carried as an asset, which represented the difference between cost and the revised value of acreage proven by discovery calculated under the Treasury Department Regulations, and at the same time the amount of such appreciation set up (less accrued depletion) was carried as a special "Surplus Arising from Appreciation in Oil Leases" in the Surplus Account. The new Revenue Act of 1926 does not provide for revaluations of leases on the discovery of oil, but instead provides for a depletion allowance based upon a fixed percentage of gross or net income. As the inclusion in the Company's Balance Sheet of appreciation and depletion items based upon technical reg-

ulations of the Treasury Department was confusing to many stockholders, these "Discovery Appreciation" items have been eliminated from the Balance Sheet appended hereto. All of the assets values shown therein are based upon cost, which, in the case of many of the Company's oil leases, is greatly exceeded by present values due to discoveries made thereon. Similarly, the Surplus shown on the Balance Sheet does not include appreciation in value of leases due to the discovery of oil.

EMPLOYEES STOCK-PURCHASE PLAN.

During the year 1925 the Directors of your Company authorized an Employees Stock Purchase Plan under which employees in the service of the Company for one year or longer may contribute up to 20% of their salaries to a fund administered by Trustees appointed by the Board of Directors. For every dollar contributed by the employees to this fund, the Company agrees to contribute fifty cents. These contributions are used by the Trustees to purchase Simms Petroleum Company stock from the Company's treasury at a price fixed by the Board of Directors each six months, or in the open market if it can be so purchased to greater advantage. The Plan was made effective June 1 1925 and runs for a term of five years, at the end of which time the stock then held by the Trustees will be distributed among the employees in the proportion of their respective contributions. This Plan was formulated with the purpose of encouraging thrift among the employees and to provide a means whereby the loyal and efficient members of the organization could participate in the success of the Company for which they are so largely responsible.

CONCLUSION.

The year just passed was prosperous for the industry and for your Company. It is perhaps not generally recognized that an important contributing cause to the satisfactory profits most companies have shown for the year 1925 was the liquidation of inventories during the year 1925, at prices considerably higher than the low prices prevailing on December 31 1924. The price level for crude and refined oils on December 31 1925 was generally higher than at the end of the previous year, leaving less opportunity for profits on sale of inventory during 1926. Since the first of the year there has been an advance in crude prices east of the Rockies, but supply of gasoline has been ample and gasoline prices have been weak, showing little or no profit to refiners. Such a condition is not apt to endure over a long period, though it is too soon to hazard a guess whether the situation will be corrected by an advance in prices of refined products or a decline in the price of crude. The increased use of modern cracking methods and the development of the natural gasoline industry are resulting in a large increase in the proportion of gasoline manufactured to crude oil produced. While the oil industry will doubtless readjust itself to this development as it has to other developments in the past, the situation caused by the increased yield of gasoline should not be overlooked.

By order of the Board of Directors,

EDWARD T. MOORE, President.

THOMAS W. STREETER, Chairman of the Board.
March 17 1926.

SIMMS PETROLEUM COMPANY
SIMMS OIL COMPANY
TRINITY DRILLING COMPANY
COMPARATIVE CONDENSED INCOME STATEMENT
1925, 1924, 1923, 1922.

	1925.	1924.	1923.	1922.
Gross operating revenue	\$8,643,836	\$6,288,510	\$4,220,830	\$3,925,085
Other income	266,037	110,975	105,569	211,907
Gross Income	\$8,909,873	\$6,399,485	\$4,326,399	\$4,136,992
Operating expenses	\$2,939,550	\$2,019,569	\$1,744,055	\$1,399,074
Productive drilling, taxes, interest, abandonments, &c.	1,736,406	1,074,418	1,121,716	1,354,195
Expenses and Deductions	\$4,675,956	\$3,093,987	\$2,865,771	\$2,753,269
Net income before depreciation and depletion	\$4,233,917	\$3,305,498	\$1,460,628	\$1,383,723
Depreciation and depletion	1,597,181	1,383,280	1,119,220	1,183,846
Net Income	\$2,636,736	\$1,922,218	\$341,408	\$199,877
Shares of capital stock outstanding at end of each year	684,492	683,251	664,042	673,280
Net Income per Share	\$3.85	\$2.81	\$0.51	\$0.30

ANNUAL NET PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL BY STATES FOR YEAR.

	1925.	1924.	1923.	1922.
Louisiana	179,356	233,901	279,696	460,104
Arkansas	1,835,710	1,441,618	2,362,544	429,093
Texas	2,183,546	2,375,973	1,316,817	1,778,917
Oklahoma	54,355	2,870	---	---
Total	4,252,967	4,054,362	3,959,057	2,678,114
Daily Average	11,652	11,077	10,847	7,337

NUMBER OF PRODUCING OIL WELLS—DISTRIBUTED BY STATES.

	1925.	1924.	1923.	1922.
Louisiana	92	92	91	87
Arkansas	112	76	65	38
Texas	203	117	69	46
Oklahoma	6	3	---	---
Total	413	288	225	171
Gas Wells	14	5	6	4

BARRELS CRUDE OIL RUN THROUGH PIPE LINES.

	1925.	1924.	1923.	1922.
Louisiana	257,780	278,191	213,974	308,979
Arkansas	2,966,488	1,850,350	2,405,248	424,732
Texas	1,326,984	1,307,587	1,064,118	1,649,476
Total	4,551,252	3,436,128	3,683,340	2,383,187
Daily Average	12,469	9,388	10,091	6,529

SIMMS PETROLEUM COMPANY
SIMMS OIL COMPANY
TRINITY DRILLING COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1925.

Gross Operating Revenue (after deducting cost of raw material refined)	\$8,643,836 24
Operating Expenses:	
Production expenses	\$1,490,234 50
Dry holes	401,222 21
Transportation and storage expenses	245,762 83
Refinery and marketing expenses	432,231 46
Administrative expenses	370,099 16
Total Operating Expenses	2,939,550 16
Profit from Operations	\$5,704,286 08
Income Credits:	
Interest and discount	\$112,741 36
Miscellaneous	153,295 64
Total	266,037 00
Income Before Charges	\$5,970,323 08
Income Charges:	
Interest and discount	\$75,232 36
Property, capital stock and franchise taxes	114,225 74
Provision for Federal income taxes	160,000 00
Lease rentals, etc.	40,758 47
Leasing expenses	118,584 61
Labor and incidental cost of productive drilling	984,548 22
Current lease and property abandonments	243,056 24
Depreciation	1,078,979 28
Depletion of leases, based on cost	518,202 22
Total Income Charges	3,333,587 14
Net Income for Year	\$2,636,735 94
Dividends on Capital Stock (of 50 cents per share each, paid July 1 1925 and payable January 2 1926)	684,775 50
Surplus for Year	\$1,951,960 44

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET, DECEMBER 31 1925.

ASSETS.

Property:	
Active leases at cost	\$8,641,154 75
Less reserve for depletion based on cost	6,209,450 96
Net Value of Active Leases	\$2,431,703 79
Inactive leases, at cost	2,026,345 46
Physical equipment, at cost:	
Wells and lease equipment	\$4,269,409 73
Tank cars	1,571,254 44
Storage tanks	787,526 87
Pipelines	1,163,399 51
Refinery and marketing	962,322 21
Drilling tools	253,145 21
Miscellaneous	430,343 59
Total	\$9,537,401 56
Less reserve for depreciation	2,963,805 76
Net Value of Physical Equipment	6,573,595 80
Total Property less Depletion and Depreciation	\$11,031,645 05
Investments in Other Companies:	
Capital stocks	\$884,539 40
Advances	69,263 82
Total Investments in Other Companies	953,803 22
Current Assets:	
Cash	\$1,170,367 36
U. S. Treasury Notes	701,581 54
Accounts receivable (less \$27,338 52 reserve)	800,216 26
Notes receivable (less \$9,742 29 reserve)	32,486 22
Accruals receivable	17,419 24
Inventories (at market values):	
Crude oil	1,316,981 46
Refined products	241,210 84
Materials and supplies	398,514 85
Total Current Assets	4,678,777 77
Deferred Debt Items:	
Prepaid expenses and advances on contracts	\$75,479 11
Unamortized debt discount expense	22,977 67
Items in suspense	23,427 50
Total Deferred Debt Items	121,884 28
Total	\$16,786,110 32

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock (authorized 1,000,000 shares, \$10 00 par value, issued 720,762 shares, in treasury 36,270 shares, outstanding 684,492 shares)	\$6,844,920 00
7% Equipment Trust Certificates (maturing serially 1926-1931)	449,000 00
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	\$651,749 24
Accrued interest, taxes, &c.	129,526 60
Dividend payable January 2 1926	342,246 00
Total Current Liabilities	1,123,521 84
Reserves:	
Reserve for abandonment of leases and contingencies	\$1,525,421 15
Reserve for contingent federal income taxes	160,000 00
Total Reserves	1,685,421 15
Surplus:	
Capital Surplus	\$2,569,185 00
Profit and Loss Surplus, January 1 1925	\$2,162,101 89
Net Income for year 1925	2,636,735 94
Total	\$4,798,837 83
Less dividend paid July 1, 1925 and payable Jan. 2, 1926	684,775 50
Net Profit and Loss Surplus	\$4,114,062 33
Total Surplus	6,683,247 33
Total	\$16,786,110 32

Note—Simms Oil Company has contingent liabilities of \$270,920 40 at December 31 1925, on account of deferred payments for sundry leases to be made if, when and as oil is produced and sold.

Note—Values for active leases shown above are based on cost and do not include unrealized appreciation due to discovery of oil. Such appreciation has been substantial and present values of active leases are considerably in excess of net values shown above.

SIMMS PETROLEUM COMPANY, INC., SIMMS OIL COMPANY, TRINITY DRILLING COMPANY, DALLAS, TEXAS.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT.

We have made a general audit of the books and accounts of the Simms Petroleum Company, Inc., Simms Oil Company, and Trinity Drilling Company for the year ended December 31 1925, and for a number of years prior thereto, and

We Herby Certify that, in our opinion, the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31 1925 and Summary of Consolidated Income and Profit & Loss for the year ended that date are correct.

Dallas, Texas, March 6 1926.

HASKINS & SELLS.

COLUMBIAN CARBON COMPANY

ANNUAL REPORT—MARCH 15 1926.

In the year just completed, Columbian Carbon Company again demonstrated its ability to earn and pay a satisfactory return upon its capital, despite abnormally low prices for carbon black. This result is attributable in large measure to the policy adopted several years ago of diversifying the business so as to include the production and sale of gasoline, natural gas, lamp black, vegetable black and bone black, instead of confining it to a single product.

Though prices for carbon black were such as to yield only the slenderest margin of profit, the increased demand for the company's carefully standardized output of this commodity is attested by the fact that the volume of shipments was the largest in its history, being 28% in excess of the previous year. After experiencing the evils of a long period of overproduction, it is a pleasure to report that a better balance between supply and demand has at length been established, and that contracts for 1926 have been made on a more satisfactory price basis.

It is also gratifying to report that the company during the year improved its net liquid position by nearly two million dollars. Current assets on December 31 1925 amounted to \$5,848,932, of which \$1,128,834 was in cash, \$1,406,863 in receivables and \$579,812 in Liberty bonds and United States Treasury notes. Total liabilities at the same date (including reserve for income taxes payable in 1926) amounted to \$633,382, resulting in net current assets of \$5,215,550, as compared with \$3,290,255 at the close of the year 1924. The financial condition of the company is such as to enable it to avail itself of opportunities now presented for the expansion of its business in directions likely to increase and further to stabilize its earning power.

The inventory on December 31 1925 amounted to \$2,712,542. With better prices now prevailing, there is every reason to repeat the prediction in the last annual report that "a very substantial profit will be realized when the inventory is liquidated."

Net earnings after all operating charges but before reserves for depreciation, depletion and Federal Taxes amounted to \$4,099,017, or \$10.12 per share.

Pursuant to the settled policy of the company of making adequate provision for depreciation and depletion, there was reserved for these purposes in the current year \$1,622,727, or \$4.03 per share, as compared with \$1,705,105 in 1924. The decrease is due to the fact that certain of the older properties have been charged down to a salvage value, so that no more depreciation or depletion is allowable thereon. Total reserves for depreciation and depletion at the end of the year amounted to \$8,064,033, or approximately 49% of the entire property account.

Net earnings after depreciation, depletion and taxes were \$2,166,290, or \$5.38 per share, which is approximately the same as in 1924. After payment of dividends at the rate of \$4 per share and deducting \$45,865 for earnings applicable to minority stock in subsidiary corporations, the net credit to surplus was \$515,515.

Comparative production figures are as follows:

Year.	PRODUCTION.			
	Carbon Black (pounds).	Lamp Black and Other Pigments (pounds)	Gasoline (gallons).	Natural Gas (cu. ft.)
1925.....	64,888,416	7,443,786	12,001,811	41,985,626,000
1924.....	73,536,145	5,218,867	15,173,059	49,980,883,000
1923.....	62,490,513	7,018,928	12,405,571	36,880,248,000
1922.....	31,512,619	4,462,141	4,720,494	20,358,011,000

In view of the inventory carried, it was not deemed advisable to produce carbon black beyond current market requirements. Sales of natural gas showed an increase of 16% in volume and 35% in gross revenue. The following table shows the growth of the company's natural gas business:

Year.	SALES OF NATURAL GAS.	
	Cubic Feet.	Gross Revenue.
1925.....	7,017,921,000	\$964,934.41
1924.....	6,083,310,000	715,607.12
1923.....	3,298,386,000	166,457.53
1922.....	2,175,315,000	131,080.59
1921.....	1,376,853,000	109,335.11

In the development of this branch of the business, it is the policy of the present management so far as possible to avoid retail distribution under municipal franchises, and to sell gas only to pipe line or distributing companies at wholesale prices fixed by contract.

Last November the company began delivery of gas from its properties in Kanawha and Roane Counties, West Virginia, to Hope Natural Gas Company. Deliveries under this contract have averaged about eight million cubic feet per day, but commenced too late in the year to have an important bearing on income. The price received for this gas is fifteen cents per thousand, with annual increases. In Doddridge County, West Virginia, the company is marketing its entire gas production at twenty-two cents per thousand cubic feet. The above prices are for the gas delivered at receiving stations located near the wells.

A number of very satisfactory wells were completed in West Virginia during the year.

Total sales from the pipe line running from the Monroe, Louisiana, field to Alexandria amounted to \$374,779, as compared with \$275,939 in 1924.

Plans now matured justify the announcement that a great expansion in sales of gas may be expected within the next twelve months.

The following is the well record for 1925:

State	Producing Wells Dec. 31 1924	Drilled 1925.	Aban- doned 1925.	Producing Wells Dec. 31 1925	Wells Drilling.
W. Va.....	144	13	16	141	5
Louisiana.....	111	6	0	117	2
Kentucky.....	3	10	3	10	3
Total.....	258	29	19	268	10

The acreage owned or leased on December 31 1925:

	Owned.	Leased.	Total.
West Virginia.....	550	19,261	19,811
Louisiana.....	31,258	7,335	38,593
Wyoming.....	304	200	504
Kentucky.....	60	10,422	10,482
Texas.....	56	---	56
Total.....	32,228	37,218	69,446

Total open flow capacity of our wells in the Monroe, Louisiana, field, according to official gauge of the Department of Conservation, made in September 1925, amounted to 825,921,049 cubic feet per day. The acreage controlled by the company in that field amounted on December 31 1925 to 38,593 acres, of which 31,258 acres were owned in fee. Since the close of the year, the Louisiana acreage has been greatly augmented by purchases of additional fee and leasehold lands in the proven area.

In Kentucky, the company has done a moderate amount of exploration work with a view to the development of a sufficient gas production for future sale. On this acreage there are now ten producing wells with a total open flow capacity in excess of nine million cubic feet per day.

In general, the business of the company is in a more prosperous condition than at any time within the past two years. Its operations have been economically and successfully conducted. All departments of its business are in sound and flourishing condition. The price of natural gas gasoline is holding steadily, with prospect of improvement as the season advances. Prices of carbon black are approaching more nearly to normal levels. Natural gas sales in 1926 bid fair to be far in excess of any previous year. The prediction is therefore ventured that earnings in 1926 will run at a higher rate than in the last two years.

Attached hereto, in addition to the usual balance sheet and profit and loss account, is a table showing the growth of the business during the past nine-year period.

During this period, net current assets have increased from \$307,406 to \$5,215,550; gross assets have grown from \$6,467,954 to \$23,792,872; depreciation reserve has increased from \$434,512 to \$8,064,033; and sales have risen from \$1,597,980 to \$7,286,162. Natural gas production has increased from seven billion to forty-one billion cubic feet. Carbon black production has trebled. Natural gas sales have increased twenty-fold. The entire present production of gasoline, lamp black and bone black has been added.

In the same period over eleven million dollars have been put back into the business, exclusive of all amounts derived from the sale of capital stock; nine and one-half million dollars have been disbursed in dividends; and in no year or quarter have the operations of the company resulted in a loss.

This record indicates consistent progress under conservative management, and furnishes a sound basis for the belief that the company will continue to grow and prosper.

On and after May 1 1926 the executive offices of the company will be located at 45 East 42d Street, New York City.

Respectfully submitted,
F. F. CURTZE, President.

March 15 1926.

LESLIE, BANKS & COMPANY,
Accountants.
7 Dey Street.

New York, February 24 1926.

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders
of the Columbian Carbon Company.

We have audited the books of account and records of the Columbian Carbon Company and its subsidiary companies for the year ended December 31 1925 and submit herewith balance sheet, profit and loss account and supporting schedules.

The cash, notes receivable and investments were verified by personal count, examination or by certification from the depositories.

The inventory of finished products is priced at cost of manufacture and the raw materials and supplies at invoice cost and it is our opinion that the inventory is conservatively valued.

Only actual additions have been charged to the property account during the year and a full and fair reserve has been made for depreciation and depletion.

We verified all known liabilities of the company by either direct communication or inspection of account and hereby certify that, in our opinion, based upon the records examined and information obtained by us, the accompanying balance sheet is drawn up so as to show the true financial condition of the Columbian Carbon Company and its subsidiary companies at December 31 1925.

LESLIE, BANKS & COMPANY, Auditors.

COMPARATIVE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1925.

ASSETS.

	At Dec. 31 1924.	At Dec. 31 1925.
Current:		
Cash	\$721,037 46	\$1,128,834 03
Notes and Accounts Receivable	609,940 28	1,406,863 86
Investments—at Cost:		
U. S. Government Bonds and Treasury Notes	342,611 16	579,812 74
Other Marketable Securities	14,167 50	14,167 50
Total Investments	\$356,778 66	\$593,980 24
Accrued Interest	\$5,443 66	\$6,711 28
Inventory of Finished Products, Materials and Supplies (lower of cost or market)	2,426,608 57	2,712,542 66
Total Current Assets	\$4,119,808 63	\$5,848,932 07
Property:		
Plant, Pipe Lines, Equipment, Real Estate, Leases, Wells and Mineral Rights (Schedule "B")	\$17,077,096 71	\$16,591,325 50
Stocks and Bonds of Other Companies	523,370 79	563,870 79
Other Assets:		
Loans and Advances	123,048 99	121,573 23
Deferred Notes and Accounts Receivable	45,918 33	8,689 59
Copyrights, Trademarks, Goodwill, &c	531,222 81	531,222 81
Deferred Charges	149,922 61	127,258 71
	<u>\$22,570,388 87</u>	<u>\$23,792,872 70</u>

LIABILITIES.

Current:		
Accounts Payable	\$529,553 57	\$323,382 06
Federal Taxes—Estimated	275,000 00	310,000 00
Purchase Money Mortgage	25,000 00	
Total Current Liabilities	\$829,553 57	\$633,382 06
Minority Stockholders' Interest	729,094 27	750,590 30
Reserve for Depreciation and Depletion (Schedule "B")	7,131,998 11	8,064,033 25
Deferred Income	7,189 20	3,677 73
Capital Stock and Surplus (Schedule "A"):		
402,131 shares of no par value, less 10 shares in Treasury	13,872,553 72	
402,131 shares of no par value, less 100 shares in Treasury		14,341,189 36
Contingent Liabilities at December 31 1925: Note Receivable discounted \$100,000 paid by Maker at maturity on January 19 1926.		
	<u>\$22,570,388 87</u>	<u>\$23,792,872 70</u>

COMPARATIVE CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDED DEC. 31 1924-1925.

	Year 1924.	Year 1925.
Sales—Net	\$6,489,587 96	\$7,286,162 65
Cost of Sales:		
Labor, Material and Other Charges	\$1,381,407 84	\$2,286,499 21
Depreciation and Depletion for Year	1,705,105 47	1,622,727 36
Total Cost of Sales	\$3,086,513 31	\$3,909,226 57
Gross Profit on Sales	\$3,403,074 65	\$3,376,936 08
Selling, Administrative and General Expenses	924,993 60	947,887 13
Net Profit on Sales	\$2,478,081 05	\$2,429,048 95
Other Income:		
Rentals, Interest, Dividends, Discounts, Commissions, Royalties, &c	170,656 27	178,489 31
Other Charges:	\$2,648,737 32	\$2,607,538 26
Loss on Property Sold or Abandoned	145,100 49	93,453 03
Miscellaneous	61,219 29	37,794 95
Total Other Charges	\$206,319 78	\$131,247 98
Net Profit from Operations for Year	\$2,442,417 54	\$2,476,290 28
Deductions from Net Profit:		
Federal Income Tax on Earnings for Year (Estimated)	\$275,000 00	\$310,000 00
Dividends Paid during Year	1,602,254 00	1,604,909 00
Profit Applicable to Minority Interest	51,733 39	45,865 58
Total	\$1,928,987 39	\$1,960,774 58
Balance of Net Profit Credited to Surplus Account	\$513,430 15	\$515,515 70

THE BORDEN COMPANY AND ALL SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1925.

DIRECTORS.

Union N. Bethell	Arthur W. Milburn
Lewis M. Borden	George L. Nichols
Albert T. Johnston	Shepard Rareshide
Albert G. Milbank	Henry C. Sherman
Robert Struthers	

OFFICERS.

Albert G. Milbank, Chairman Board of Directors.
 Arthur W. Milburn, President.
 Albert T. Johnston, Vice-President.
 Shepard Rareshide, Vice-President and Treasurer.
 Charles C. Lobeck, Vice-President.
 Wallace D. Strack, Vice-President.
 William P. Marsh, Secretary and Assistant Treasurer.
 George M. Waugh Jr., Comptroller and Assistant Secretary.
 Stephen J. DeBaun, Assistant Treasurer.

GENERAL OFFICES.

The Borden Company—
 350 Madison Avenue, New York City.
 510 North Dearborn Street, Chicago.
 503 Market Street, San Francisco.
 180 St. Paul Street West, Montreal, Canada.

Borden's Farm Products Company, Inc.—
 110 Hudson Street, New York City.
 326 West Madison Street, Chicago.
 120 Murray Street, Montreal, Canada.

Transfer Agent, Seaboard National Bank, 115 Broadway,
 New York City.

Registrar, Bankers Trust Company, 16 Wall Street, New
 York City.

Counsel, Masten & Nichols, 49 Wall Street, New York City.

CORPORATE ORGANIZATION AND SCOPE.

The business of your Company may be divided into two parts:

(1) The manufacture and sale of milk products comprising:

Condensed Milk	Condensed Coffee and Milk
Evaporated Milk	Condensed Cocoa and Milk
Dried Milk	Caramels
Malted Milk	

(2) The purchase, preparation and distribution of fresh milk, cream and other dairy products by a system of wagon deliveries.

The manufacturing operations are conducted by The Borden Company (which dates back to 1857 in the production of Eagle Brand Condensed Milk) and its following manufacturing subsidiaries:

Corporate Name—	Percentage of Stock Owned.
The Borden Sales Co., Inc.	100%
Borden's Premium Co., Inc.	100%
The Borden Western Company	100%
The Borden Company of Utah	100%
The Borden Southern Company	100%
The Borden Company of Pennsylvania	100%
The Borden Company, Ltd. (Canada)	100%
Borden Realty Corporation	100%

The fresh milk and dairy products distribution in the so-called Metropolitan District of New York City and adjacent territory, in Chicago, Ill., and its suburbs, and in Montreal, Canada, is conducted by subsidiaries as follows:

Corporate Name—	Percentage of Stock Owned.
Borden's Farm Products Co., Inc.	100%
Borden's Farm Products Co. of Ill.	100%
Borden's Farm Products Co., Ltd. (Canada)	100%

COMMENT.

It seems proper to first direct your attention to the Balance Sheet of December 31 1925 because of the important changes, both as to form and figures, reflected therein and principal among which are the following:

Property, Plant and Equipment.

To the item of Property, Plant and Equipment, in addition to the year's extension and betterment expenditures, there has been added the net sum of \$8,739,944.41, being the result of a re-appraisal of the properties of three of the Company's subsidiaries as made by Messrs. Ford, Bacon & Davis of New York City. This appreciation of \$8,739,944.41 of

property values has, because of its very nature, received special treatment as more particularly explained later. (See "Appropriations" on page 10 of this report.)

"Reserve for Property Depreciation" previously reported under "Reserves" has, in accordance with best modern practice, been directly applied to the reduction of the asset item of "Property, Plant and Equipment," thus showing this item at net sound values.

The increase in the amount of "Mortgages on Madison Avenue Office Building Properties" is the result of the purchase during the year by "The Borden Realty Corporation" of adjoining property on 45th Street, which, in addition to its investment value, serves, together with control of the property on Madison Avenue adjoining on the south, to protect our building from developments that would interfere with the excellent light and air it now enjoys with consequent effect on rental values and comfort of the occupants.

Appropriation of Surplus Created by Re-Appraisal of Certain Subsidiary Companies' Properties.

The surplus created by the re-appraisal referred to and amounting to \$8,739,944.41 was appropriated as follows:

For the reduction of Good-Will to a figure of \$2,500,000 (being less than the cash cost of Good-Will from time to time purchased)	\$3,891,356.63
For Premium on Retirement of Preferred Stock at \$110 (75,000 shares at \$10.00 per share)	750,000.00
To a Reserve to provide against Obsolescence, etc., as differentiated from ordinary physical depreciation and applying to certain manufacturing plants not included in the re-appraisal	1,000,000.00
To a Contingency Reserve	3,098,587.78
Total	\$8,739,944.41

By this action the appreciation of values resulting from re-appraisals of part of the Company's properties has been so appropriated as to not directly affect Surplus Account.

Current Assets.

Cash on hand December 31 1925 of \$8,663,379.78 compares with \$7,018,028.71 on hand at the close of the previous year.

"Reserve for Doubtful Accounts," also previously reported under "Reserves," has been directly applied to the reduction of "Accounts Receivable."

The use of previously created special reserves, together with revaluation and reclassification of certain investments of the Company, is reflected in the item of "Marketable Securities" and the elimination of "Investments in Stocks of other Companies." These valuations are well under market values.

Increase in the item of "Finished Goods" reflects a more normal and adequate inventory than that of the previous year.

Net Working Capital and Ratio of Current Assets.

Net Working Capital amounted on December 31 1925 to \$17,763,441.19 as compared with \$12,445,790.76 on December 31 1924.

Current Assets as of December 31 1925 amounted to \$2.98 for every \$1.00 of Current Liabilities.

Mortgages.

The item "Mortgages" is \$44,750 less than at the close of the year 1924.

Purchase Money Notes.

The item "Purchase Money Notes" reflects notes given in connection with plants purchased.

Note Due June 1927.

The redemption of the Preferred Stock on December 15 1925 called for the expenditure of \$110 per share on 75,000 shares and amounted to \$8,250,000. This expenditure was financed by drawing on the Company's cash to the extent of \$2,250,000, and the balance of \$6,000,000 was provided by a favorable bank loan contract. A feature of this contract was the giving of a note which, while not due until June 1927, could be anticipated under the terms of the contract.

This note was paid in full January 27 1926.

Capital Stock.

The "Capital Stock" account has, of course, changed during the year and reflects the shares of Common outstand-

ing December 31 1925 and the retirement of the Preferred Stock.

There was issued to stockholders or their assignees during the year 63,508 shares of Common at \$50.00 per share.

The report for the year 1926 will reflect the issuance of an additional 82,290 shares of Common Stock on February 15 1926 at \$75.00, which issuance will have the effect of adding substantially to Surplus.

Reserves.

This Balance Sheet item of "Reserves" has, of course, been affected by the special and regular appropriations herein set forth and specially referred to, and, as well, by the transfer from this account of reserves now directly applied to the several asset accounts.

Sales.

Sales for 1925 were \$123,352,832.65 as compared with \$109,666,633.01 in 1924. These are the largest sales in the history of the Company, even exceeding the peak war and post-war years.

Net Income.

Net Income for 1925 was \$6,297,235.36, compared with \$5,412,705.62 in 1924, being the largest earnings in the history of the Company, although only 5.10% on Sales.

This is the equivalent of \$10.65 per share of Common Stock (par \$50) outstanding December 31 1925 after the full year's dividends on the Preferred Stock now retired.

Collections and Credits.

Collections were again excellent with very small credit losses.

Stockholders.

The stock records show a total of 4,805 holders of the Company's stock (now all Common) with an average individual holding of 114 shares. Employees hold an aggregate of 61,059 shares.

Report of Special Stockholders' Meeting.

It is with great satisfaction that a report is made of the result of the Special Meeting of Stockholders on March 10 1926.

There were 495,416 shares of stock represented, either in person or by proxy, being about 80% of the outstanding stock eligible to vote.

The stockholders voted overwhelmingly to sustain the action of the Directors on all of the matters brought before the meeting, including the approval and ratification of the Company's profit sharing plans and the modifications thereof as proposed by the Directors, and the ratification of all acts done by the Directors and Officers in respect thereof in the past, there being only 506 shares voting in opposition thereto.

The action of the Officers and Directors in connection with the underwriting of the recent issue of stock was also overwhelmingly approved and ratified, the same 506 shares voting in opposition.

Of these 506 shares, 253 shares were voted by Clarence H. Venner and 253 shares by Mr. Venner's company, The Continental Securities Company, these two stockholders being now engaged in litigation against the Company and its Directors, as to which stockholders have heretofore been advised.

There were a greater number of stockholders not identified with the Management present in person at this meeting than ever before. Full and detailed information as to all of the matters coming before the meeting was submitted during the five hours which the meeting was in session. Among the matters submitted was a full report by Messrs. Haskins & Sells, Certified Public Accountants, of the detailed working of all profit sharing plans. Included in this report was an analysis of the expenditure of \$4,415,423.78 for profit sharing purposes during the seven year period from January 1 1919 to December 31 1925 inclusive, advice of which expenditure was included in a circular letter to Stockholders, dated February 20 1926. The analysis showed this total \$4,415,423.78 expenditure as including \$954,228.74 of profit sharing distribution applicable to the year 1925, which amount is included, as in previous years, in the item of "Appropriations to Reserves" appearing in the accompanying "Statement of Consolidated Income and Profit and Loss," and was distributed among 327 Employees and Officers.

This gratifying endorsement by the Stockholders is deeply appreciated by the Directors and Officers of the Company.

The Organization.

It gives pleasure to acknowledge with great appreciation the splendid spirit and intelligent service of the organization serving the business throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
ARTHUR W. MILBURN, *President.*

THE BORDEN COMPANY AND ALL SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

CONSOLIDATED GENERAL BALANCE SHEET, DECEMBER 31 1925.

<i>ASSETS.</i>	
Property, Plant and Equipment: Including Madison Ave. Office Building Properties, and Re-appraisal Adjustment.....	\$48,049,218 32
Less: Mortgages—Madison Ave. Office Building Properties.....	\$1,905,000 00
Reserve for Depreciation.....	11,784,821 63
	13,689,821 63
Net Sound Values.....	\$34,359,396 69
<i>Current Assets:</i>	
Cash.....	\$8,663,379 78
Receivables—Less Reserve for Doubtful Accounts.....	5,359,588 97
Marketable Securities.....	5,022,491 25
Finished Goods.....	5,086,748 69
Raw Materials and Supplies.....	2,618,969 29
	26,751,177 98
Deferred and Suspended Assets.....	164,000 00
Trade Marks, Patents, and Good Will.....	2,500,000 00
	\$63,775,148 57
<i>LIABILITIES.</i>	
Mortgages.....	\$201,250 00
Purchase Money Notes (Maturing in 1927 or thereafter).....	264,000 00
Note Due June 1927.....	*6,000,000 00
<i>Current Liabilities:</i>	
Accounts Payable.....	\$6,228,492 62
Accrued Accounts—Taxes (estimated), etc.....	2,759,244 17
	8,987,736 79
Deferred and Suspended Liabilities.....	21,383 47
	\$15,474,370 26
Total Liabilities to Other than Stockholders.....	\$15,474,370 26
Capital Stock—The Borden Company: 548,606 shares Common (\$50.00 each).....	\$27,430,300 00
<i>Reserves:</i>	
Insurance, Contingencies, Obsolescence, etc.....	8,659,143 05
Surplus.....	12,211,335 26
	\$48,300,778 31
Total.....	\$63,775,148 57

* Note Paid in full January 27 1926.

STATEMENT OF CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND PROFIT AND LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1925.

Gross Sales.....	\$123,352,832 65
<i>Net Operating Profit:</i>	
(After deducting all operating charges, including Depreciation, Insurance and Property Taxes).....	\$6,899,855 76
Other Income—Interest Received, Net.....	395,178 29
Gross Income.....	\$7,295,034 05
Other Deductions—Income Taxes (estimated).....	997,798 69
Net Income.....	\$6,297,235 36
<i>Surplus Credits:</i>	
Surplus, January 1 1925.....	9,310,979 06
Earnings applicable to Prior Period, etc.....	560,972 74
Appreciation due to Appraisal.....	\$8,739,944 41
Appropriated as Follows:	
Good-Will Reduction.....	\$3,891,356 63
Premium on Preferred Stock Retired.....	750,000 00
Reserve for Obsolescence of Plants.....	1,000,000 00
Reserve for Contingencies.....	3,098,587 78
	8,739,944 41
Gross Surplus.....	\$16,169,187 16
<i>Surplus Charges:</i>	
Dividends:	
Preferred.....	\$450,000 00
Common.....	1,940,387 00
	\$2,390,387 00
Interest on Subscriptions to Capital Stock.....	79,716 00
Loss on Property and Securities Sold.....	122,021 73
Appropriations to Reserves, Net.....	1,365,727 17
	3,957,851 90
Surplus, December 31 1925.....	\$12,211,335 26

Atlanta	HASKINS & SELLS		Salt Lake City
Baltimore	Certified Public Accountants		San Diego
Birmingham	37 West 39th Street		San Francisco
Boston	New York		Seattle
Buffalo			Tulsa
Chicago			Watertown
Cincinnati	Detroit	Newark	Pittsburgh
Cleveland	Kansas City	New Orleans	Portland
Dallas	Los Angeles	New York	Providence
Denver	Minneapolis	Philadelphia	Saint Louis

Canada—Cuba—Mexico
Deloitte, Plender, Haskins & Sells

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT.

We have audited the books and accounts of The Borden Company and its Subsidiary Companies for the year ended December 31 1925.

We have verified the accounts representing cash and securities either by examination of such assets or by obtaining certifications of depositaries.

The charges to property accounts have been controlled by a conservative policy. Adequate reserves have been provided for depreciation of property and for possible losses, and full provision has been made for all known liabilities.

The inventories of finished goods and raw materials and supplies represent book balances as shown by the inventory records, which are adjusted from time to time to agree with physical inventories, and which were examined and appear to be correct, all inventory valuations being based upon cost or market, whichever was lower.

We hereby certify that, in our opinion, the accompanying Consolidated General Balance Sheet and Statement of Consolidated Income and Profit and Loss correctly exhibit, respectively, the financial condition of the Companies at December 31 1925 and the results of their operations for the year ended that date.

New York, March 12 1926.

HASKINS & SELLS.

FAMOUS PLAYERS-LASKY CORPORATION
AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT,
YEAR 1925**

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 26, 1925.

<i>ASSETS.</i>	
Cash	\$7,346,049.56
Bills Receivable	98,624.31
Accounts Receivable:	
Advances to subsidiary companies (not consolidated)	\$567,456.97
Advances to outside producers (secured by film)	889,666.01
Film customers and sundries	2,102,721.69
	3,559,844.67
Inventory:	
Negatives, positives, film and supplies	\$17,043,473.01
Rights to plays, scenarios, etc.	1,171,521.47
	18,214,994.48
Securities	277,068.66
	\$29,496,581.68
Total current and working assets	1,054,532.52
Deposits to secure contracts	3,952,691.21
Investments in subsidiary and affiliated companies (not consolidated)	
Land, buildings, leases and equipment, after depreciation (including equities of subsidiary companies subject to mortgages thereon of \$19,817,536.83 being obligations of subsidiary companies) after giving effect to increase in land values arising through independent appraisals of \$7,438,174.19	31,916,199.69
Deferred charges	2,071,491.23
Goodwill (after applying \$7,438,174.19 appreciation in land values, based on independent appraisals)	7,493,214.83
	\$75,984,711.16

<i>LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL.</i>	
Bills Payable	None
Accounts Payable	\$1,668,721.32
Owing to subsidiary companies (not consolidated)	192,189.73
Excise taxes, payrolls and sundries	1,861,092.43
Owing to outside producers and owners of royalty rights	1,037,887.45
Purchase money notes and mortgage bonds of subsidiary companies maturing serially within twelve months	1,471,516.25
Serial payments on investments due within twelve months	1,609,173.17
1925 Federal taxes (estimated)	779,638.30
Reserve for dividend declared on common stock payable Jan. 2, 1926	740,228.00
Reserve for dividend declared on preferred stock payable Feb. 1, 1926	160,000.00
	\$9,520,446.65
Total current liabilities	1,665,158.37
Advance payments of film rentals, etc. (self liquidating)	635,978.54
Purchase money notes of subsidiary companies maturing serially after one year	8,856,925.29
Serial payments on investments due after one year	543,866.08
Reserve for contingencies	
	\$21,222,374.93
Interest of minority stockholders in subsidiary companies with respect to capital and surplus	369,774.85
Capital (represented by):	
Preferred Stock (80,000 shares \$100 par value)	\$8,000,000.00
Common Stock (370,114 shares of no par value)	31,183,244.70
	\$39,183,244.70
Surplus	15,209,316.68
	\$54,392,561.38
	\$75,984,711.16
Contingent mortgage liability of subsidiary companies on properties sold	\$735,500.00
Contingent liability on investment notes discounted	900,000.00
Guaranty of advances	157,625.18
	\$1,793,125.18

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 26, 1925.	
Operating profit for 12 months	\$6,418,053.85
Less: Provision for Federal taxes	700,000.00
	\$5,718,053.85
Balance carried to surplus	

CONSOLIDATED SURPLUS ACCOUNT AT DECEMBER 26, 1925.	
Surplus at December 27, 1924	\$12,350,076.83
Add: Profit for 12 months to December 26, 1925, after providing for Federal taxes, as above	5,718,053.85
	\$18,068,130.68
Less Dividends:	
On common stock (paid and reserved in 1925)	\$2,200,814.00
On preferred stock (paid and reserved in 1925)	658,000.00
	2,858,814.00
Surplus at December 26, 1925]	\$15,209,316.68

We have examined the accounts of the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation and its subsidiaries for the twelve months ending December 26, 1925, and certify that, in our opinion, the foregoing balance sheet and profit and loss account correctly set forth the financial position of the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation and its subsidiary companies at December 26, 1925, and the earnings for the twelve months ending on that date.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & COMPANY.

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

REPORT TO THE STOCKHOLDERS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING—APRIL 7 1926.

To the Stockholders of the
American International Corporation:

During the year the Income of the American International Corporation was as follows:

Interest Revenue.....	\$484,872 44
Dividends on Stocks Owned.....	748,657 21
Profit on Sales of Securities.....	3,885,037 27
Profit on Syndicate and Credit Participations.....	376,175 97
Miscellaneous.....	7,297 69
Total.....	\$5,502,040 58
Deduct:	
Expenses.....	\$351,363 19
Interest.....	2,976 69
Taxes.....	29,355 63
	383,695 51
Operating Income.....	\$5,118,345 07

For the year 1925 the Operating Income of the Corporation was \$5,118,345 07, as shown above. Included in the latter are the profits realized from the sale of the Corporation's holdings in New York Shipbuilding Corporation, Pacific Mail Steamship Company and International Products Company Mortgage Notes, a total of \$3,064,577 27. Obviously these profits will not be recurring and before including such items, the Income for 1925 shows Operating Income from ordinary sources of \$2,053,767 80, equal to \$4 19 per share on the 490,000 shares of Non Par Common Stock, the entire capital stock outstanding.

During the year your Corporation was able to retire all the outstanding Preferred Stock, for which \$100 per share in cash was originally paid to the Corporation. As stated in last year's Annual Report, an option of \$70 per share had been obtained; however, the actual retirement was effected at a discount from the option price, resulting in all, in a credit to surplus of \$313,435 89. In due course, an Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation will be submitted to the stockholders so that proper legal action may be taken to eliminate the Preferred Stock from the authorized capital of the Corporation. The charges to surplus account during the year represent a special provision for possible shrinkage in value of certain securities which was not provided for at the time of Recapitalization, October 31 1924.

The Balance Sheet of the Corporation as of December 31 1925, attached hereto, includes the following items:

U. S. GOVERNMENT OBLIGATIONS AND OTHER TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS.

Under this heading in the Balance Sheet are included U. S. Government obligations which cost \$1,009,998 00, temporary investments in marketable securities which cost \$5,529,597 89 and subscriptions and participations in Syndicates representing an investment of \$3,774,543 81, a total of \$10,314,139 70. The market value of these investments at December 31 1925 (based on published quotations), was \$10,715,397 56.

NOTES AND LOANS RECEIVABLE.

Included in this item are a loan to Welin Davit & Boat Corporation of \$23,000 and a loan to G. Amsinck & Company, Inc., of \$1,200,000 made to enable that Company to liquidate its bank loans.

STOCKS AND SHARES—LISTED SECURITIES.

Your Corporation, together with other holders of large blocks of stock of New York Shipbuilding Corporation, sold its entire holdings of the Common Stock of New York Shipbuilding Corporation for cash and a new Preferred Stock, which latter stock was subsequently sold, resulting in the disposition of the Corporation's entire holdings in the New York Shipbuilding Corporation.

The sale to other interests by the United States Shipping Board of the five President steamers, which had been operated in the trans-Pacific service for four years by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, deprived that Company of a very substantial part of its earning capacity. Without the five President boats it was impossible to continue the trans-Pacific service, as the Company had no vessels suitable for

that service. After protracted negotiations an arrangement was made which resulted in your Corporation being able to dispose of its shares of Pacific Mail Steamship Company at \$10 50 per share in cash.

During the year your Corporation made various changes in its holdings of securities. The market value of these listed securities (based on published quotations at December 31 1925), exceeded the book value by approximately \$1,500,000.

STOCKS, BONDS AND NOTES UNLISTED.

During the year your Corporation made several changes in its holdings under this heading, the principal item being an increase in its investment in Ulen & Company.

This company, in which we have a substantial interest, had an excellent year. The average capital employed in their business during the year was \$2,193,310, and after providing for taxes and other contingencies the net earnings were equivalent to over 28%. In addition to paying the full semi-annual dividends on the Preferred Stock Ulen & Company are accumulating a satisfactory surplus.

At the end of the year Ulen & Company had engineering and construction contracts amounting to approximately \$33,500,000 on which the profits should be substantial. They also have under consideration other attractive proposals.

PROPRIETARY COMPANIES.

Gross business of the Allied Machinery Company of America fell off, principally on account of business conditions in Japan; but due to drastic reduction in expenses the Company is able to report an increase in net profits over the previous year. Very substantial reduction was effected in inventories in Europe and in the Far East, and the cash position of the company has materially improved.

Negotiations by G. Amsinck & Co., Inc., are pending, looking toward permitting important interests to join in this venture. The contemplated arrangement will provide a means of enabling G. Amsinck & Co., Inc., to repay its loan to your Corporation and will result in your Corporation's retaining a minority interest in this Company, consisting of Preferred and Common Stock instead of 100% Common Stock as at present.

At the close of the year your Corporation had 490,000 shares of Common Stock outstanding which is carried in the Balance Sheet at \$14,700,000. The surplus account at the close of the year amounted to \$9,899,720 96, making a combined capital and surplus of \$24,599,720 96. Of the total net assets \$5,276,359 80 is invested in assets which are at present non-productive, and \$19,323,361 16 is invested in productive assets. During the year the amount of the productive assets increased \$9,288,673 56.

Your Corporation has had a very satisfactory year and at present is in the strongest financial position it has known for a number of years.

Annexed to this report are a Balance Sheet of American International Corporation as of December 31 1925, a Summary of Income and Profit and Loss Account for the year, and a Certificate of Audit by Messrs. Haskins & Sells, the Auditors of the Corporation.

By order of the Board of Directors.

M. C. BRUSH, *President.*

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT.

We have audited for the year ended December 31 1925 the general accounts of the AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION, including verification of the current assets and securities, and

WE HEREBY CERTIFY that, in our opinion, the accompanying Balance Sheet and Summary of Income and Profit & Loss correctly exhibit, respectively, the financial condition of the Corporation at December 31 1925 and the results of its operations for the year ended that date.

HASKINS & SELLS.

New York, February 24 1926.

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION.

BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1925.

ASSETS.

<i>Current Assets—</i>	
Cash.....	\$346,644 35
Call Loans.....	850,000 00
U. S. Government Obligations and Other Temporary Investments.....	10,314,139 70
Bills, Notes and Loans Receivable.....	1,223,000 00
Accounts Receivable.....	608,204 76
Total Current Assets.....	\$13,341,988 81
Stocks and Shares—Listed Securities.....	4,144,281 75
Stocks, Bonds and Notes—Unlisted.....	6,778,150 87
Proprietary Companies—Wholly Owned.....	1,050,000 00
Furniture and Fixtures.....	10,355 79
Deferred Debit Items.....	8,871 50
Total.....	\$25,333,648 72

LIABILITIES.

<i>Current Liabilities:</i>	
Accounts Payable.....	\$42,094 63
Total Current Liabilities.....	\$42,094 63
Deferred Credit Items.....	116,833 13
Reserves for Taxes, &c.....	575,000 00
<i>Capital and Surplus:</i>	
Common Stock.....	\$14,700,000 00
Surplus.....	9,899,720 96
Total Capital and Surplus.....	24,599,720 96
Total.....	\$25,333,648 72

Note:—There were contingent liabilities on account of credit participations aggregating \$507,333 98.

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION.

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND PROFIT AND LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1925.

<i>Earnings:</i>	
Interest Revenue.....	\$484,872 44
Dividends on Stocks Owned.....	748,657 21
Profit on Sales of Securities.....	3,885,037 27
Profit on Syndicate and Credit Participations.....	376,175 97
Miscellaneous Income.....	7,297 69
Total.....	\$5,502,040 58
<i>Deduct:</i>	
Expenses.....	\$351,363 19
Interest.....	2,976 69
Taxes.....	29,355 63
Total.....	383,695 51
Operating Income.....	\$5,118,345 07
Surplus at Beginning of Year.....	5,061,996 92
Gross Surplus.....	\$10,180,341 99
<i>Profit and Loss Charges and Credits:</i>	
Special Provisions for Securities.....	\$600,250 00
Less:	
Discount on Preferred Stock Retired and Miscellaneous Recoveries.....	319,628 97
Total.....	280,621 03
Surplus at End of Year.....	\$9,899,720 96

MACK TRUCKS, Inc.

AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET—DECEMBER 31 1925.

To the Stockholders of Mack Trucks, Inc.:

Your Directors submit herewith consolidated balance sheet and profit and loss statement of Mack Trucks, Inc., and subsidiary companies, prepared by Arthur Young & Company, Members American Institute of Accountants, showing the condition of your Company as of December 31 1925 as compared with December 31 1924.

Your attention is called to the financial statements of the two wholly owned subsidiaries—Mack Acceptance Corporation and Mack Trucks Real Estate, Inc. Mack Acceptance Corporation was organized to finance customers' notes secured by liens on trucks and buses sold on part cash part time basis. Mack Trucks Real Estate, Inc., was organized to finance service stations owned by your Company or its subsidiaries.

Sales for the year 1925 were \$68,912,183 09, as compared with \$46,622,621 75 for the year 1924.

The combined earnings for the year were \$9,468,269 70, which, after paying dividends of 7% on the first and second

preferred stock, amount to \$13 62 per share on the outstanding 611,514.84869 shares of common stock.

During the year the regular dividends of 7% were paid on the first and second preferred stock amounting to \$1,137,751 36, and four quarterly dividends of \$1 50 on the common stock amounting to \$2,056,629 58.

In addition to cash dividends your Directors at the November meeting declared a 50% dividend, payable December 31 1925, in common stock to common stockholders of record at the close of business December 15 1925.

The plants have been fully maintained and the maintenance cost charged to operating expense. In addition, \$1,226,053 02 has been charged off as depreciation. The inventory has been priced at cost or market, whichever was lower. No obsolete materials have been included in the inventory, and ample reserves have been set up for contingencies.

The balance sheet reflects the excellent financial condition of your company, with net current assets of \$37,790,364 13.

During the year your Directors authorized plant extensions at Allentown, Plainfield and New Brunswick. These extensions will be completed during 1926, making it possible for your Company to take care of a greater volume of business than ever before.

Your Directors authorized also the erection of new service stations at Chicago, Jersey City, New Haven, Bridgeport, Worcester, Albany, White Plains, Camden, Baltimore, Tampa, Minneapolis-St. Paul.

Your Company produces and sells more high quality, heavy duty trucks—2-tons and up—than any other Company. It is also the largest producer of high-grade buses.

The growth of your Company, while proceeding at an extremely rapid rate, is, nevertheless, normal and thoroughly sound, and has been carried on in an orderly manner.

The plants are working at full capacity. Orders on hand and the prospects for next year justify our Officers in forecasting a continued increase in business, and that your Company will maintain and improve its dominating position in the industry.

The President takes this opportunity to express his appreciation of the loyal efforts of the employees and the ever-increasing spirit of co-operation that is being manifested.

For the Directors,

A. J. BROUSSEAU, *President.*

New York City, February 24 1926.

MACK TRUCKS, INC., AND SUBSIDIARIES.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31 1925 AND DECEMBER 31 1924.

ASSETS.			
	1925.	1924.	
Current Assets:			
Cash	\$5,577,100 04	\$2,442,719 42	
Accounts and Notes Receivable	6,361,881 46	13,679,091 24	
Inventories	25,914,355 29	16,917,556 47	
Total Current Assets	\$37,853,336 79	\$33,039,367 13	
Due from Mack Acceptance Corporation	\$7,545,832 80		
Balance Receivable from Employees under Stock Allotment	\$1,725,197 01	\$1,178,334 94	
Fixed Assets:			
Real Estate	\$721,235 23	\$773,759 06	
Buildings and Building Equipment	6,409,371 67	5,496,391 47	
Machinery and All Other Equipment	11,694,069 01	9,011,184 75	
Less: Reserve for Depreciation	\$18,824,675 91	\$15,281,335 28	
	6,310,732 86	5,084,679 84	
Total Fixed Assets	\$12,513,943 05	\$10,196,655 44	
Investment in Mack Acceptance Corporation	\$4,400,000 00		
Investment in Mack Trucks Real Estate, Inc.	\$1,000,000 00		
Sundry Investments	\$75,542 89	\$210,464 89	
Deferred Charges	\$353,152 21	\$390,221 44	
Licenses, Patents, Patent Rights and Good-Will	\$2,434,864 94	\$2,434,864 94	
	\$67,901,869 69	\$47,449,908 78	
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL.			
	1925.	1924.	
Current Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable	\$3,437,822 13	\$2,222,938 86	
Accrued Accounts	1,923,731 68	1,144,639 99	
Customers' Deposits	211,554 16	119,011 18	
Total Current Liabilities	\$5,573,107 97	\$3,486,590 03	
Due to Mack Trucks Real Estate, Inc.	\$1,698,578 29		
Reserves:			
For Current Year's Federal Income Taxes	\$1,550,000 00	\$935,000 00	
For Contingencies	1,547,431 61	731,636 85	
Total Reserves	\$3,097,431 61	\$1,666,636 85	
Equity of Minority Stockholders in Subsidiaries	\$12,728 38	\$9,916 42	
Stockholders' subscriptions		\$3,061,485 00	
Capital Stock:			
1st Preferred 7% Cumulative Stock. Authorized—109,219 shares of a par value of \$100 each			
Issued—109,218,9107 shares of a par value of \$100 each			
2nd Preferred 7% Cumulative Stock. Authorized—53,478 shares of a par value of \$100 each			
Issued—53,317,00119 shares of a par value of \$100 each			
Common. Authorized—1,000,000 shares of no par value	\$19,619,790 44	\$17,869,700 00	
Issued	611,514,84869 shares		
Allotted employees under subscription contract	61,725 shares		
	673,239,84869 shares		
Surplus:			
Capital Surplus, being excess consideration on Common Stock issued and allotted to Employees above value of \$5 per share included in Stated Capital	\$19,289,936 56	\$7,782,325 00	
Earned Surplus	18,610,296 44	13,573,255 48	
Total Surplus	\$37,900,233 00	\$21,355,580 48	
	\$67,901,869 69	\$47,449,908 78	

MACK TRUCKS REAL ESTATE, INC., AND SUBSIDIARIES.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AT DEC. 31 1925.

ASSETS.	
Cash	\$145,097 81
Due from Mack Trucks, Inc.	1,698,578 29
Accrued Rents Receivable	4,576 46
Real Estate, Buildings and Building Equipment	\$2,309,712 61
Less: Reserve for Depreciation	29,324 14
	2,280,388 47
	\$4,128,641 03
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL.	
Accounts Payable	\$1,972 09
Accrued Interest on Secured Gold Notes, 6%, Series "A"	82,500 00
Reserve for Federal Income Tax	6,000 00
Secured Gold Notes, 6%, Series "A," 1926-1940	3,000,000 00
Capital Stock:	
Authorized—	
50,000 shares of a par value of \$100 each	\$5,000,000 00
Issued—	
10,000 shares of a par value of \$100 each	1,000,000 00
Earned Surplus	38,168 94
	\$4,128,641 03

COMBINED STATEMENT OF EARNINGS FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1925.

	Combined.	Mack Trucks Inc. and Subsidiaries.	Mack Acceptance Corporation.	Mack Real Estate Subsidiaries
Net profit for year after providing for Depreciation but before providing for Reserve for Federal Taxes	\$11,036,769 70	\$10,903,486 90	\$89,113 86	\$44,168 94
Deduct:				
Reserve for Federal Income Taxes	1,568,500 00	1,550,000 00	12,500 00	6,000 00
	\$9,468,269 70	\$9,353,486 90	\$76,613 86	\$38,168 94

MACK TRUCK, INC., AND SUBSIDIARIES.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF SURPLUS AT DEC. 31 1925.

	Total.	Capital.	Earned.
Surplus at Dec. 31 1924, per Certified Accounts	\$21,355,580 48	\$7,782,325 00	\$13,573,255 48
Add:			
Net Profit for 1925, per accompanying Statement of Earnings	9,353,486 90		9,353,486 90
Additional Common Stock	10,710,447 75	10,710,447 75	
Additional Common Stock Allotted	797,163 81	797,163 81	
	\$42,216,678 94	\$19,289,936 56	\$22,926,742 38
Deduct:			
Cash Dividends on 1st Preferred, 2d Preferred and Common Stocks from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 1925	3,194,380 94		3,194,380 94
Stock Dividend on Common Stock	1,122,065 00		1,122,065 00
Surplus at Dec. 31 1925	\$37,900,233 00	\$19,289,936 56	\$18,610,296 44

COMPARATIVE EARNINGS

FOR NINE YEARS—1917 TO 1925.

Year.	Net Profit after deducting Amortization and Taxes.	Year.	Net Profit after deducting Amortization and Taxes.
1917	\$1,127,093 19	1922	\$3,952,279 05
1918	1,245,771 16	1923	7,003,665 27
1919	1,983,468 72	1924	6,220,272 73
1920	2,644,013 47	1925	9,468,269 70
1921	126,931 26		

MACK ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION

BALANCE SHEET AT DEC. 31 1925.

ASSETS.	
Cash on Hand and in Banks	\$ 59,927 46
Notes Receivable (secured by liens on trucks, &c., sold)	26,721,154 10
Accrued Interest on Notes Receivable	740,780 85
Investments (deposited with New York State Banking Dept.)	1,046 81
Deferred Charges:	
Discount on Gold Notes	255,537 44
	\$27,778,446 66
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL.	
Gold Notes Payable	\$15,743,500 00
Due to Mack Trucks, Inc.	7,545,832 80
Reserve for Federal Income Tax	12,500 00
Capital Stock:	
Issued and Outstanding, 40,000 shares of a par value of \$100 each	4,000,000 00
Paid-in Surplus	400,000 00
Earned Surplus	76,613 86
	\$27,778,446 66

CERTIFICATE OF AUDITORS.

We have audited the books and records of MACK TRUCKS, INC., AND SUBSIDIARIES for the year ended December 31 1925, and have prepared therefrom the accompanying Balance Sheets and Statement of Earnings. The Balance Sheets of Mack Acceptance Corporation and Mack Trucks Real Estate, Inc., are not included on Consolidated Balance Sheet submitted but are attached hereto.

We hereby certify that, in our opinion, the accompanying Balance Sheets and Statement of Earnings correctly set forth, respectively, the financial position of the Corporation and its Subsidiaries at December 31 1925, and the results of their operations for the year ended that date.

[ARTHUR YOUNG & COMPANY,
Members American Institute of Accountants.

New York, February 24 1926.

CHRYSLER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1925.

Detroit, Michigan, March 9 1926.

To the Stockholders of the Chrysler Corporation:

The past year has been one of notable progress and achievement for your business. With an increased volume amounting to 167% of that of the previous calendar year 1924, the net profits of the business for the calendar year 1925 aggregate \$17,126,135.85 after making provision for Federal taxes estimated at \$2,471,000.00. This is nearly four times the net profit earned during the preceding year and reflects the improved position won by Chrysler cars in the automobile trade.

Important changes were effected during the year in the capitalization of your properties. The organization of the Chrysler Corporation and the acquisition by it of the assets of the Maxwell Motor Corporation accomplished a decided improvement in the investment standing of the Preferred Shares by according to them a cumulative preference to dividends, and at the same time increased the desirability of the Common Shares by the elimination of the participating feature of the Class "A" Shares of the Maxwell Motor Corporation. Subsequently a four to one split-up of the Common Shares of the Chrysler Corporation brought the current market value of the new shares to levels more generally acceptable to the investing public. The results of these changes, the details of which have already been communicated to the stockholders by letters addressed to them during the year, supplementing the improvement in earnings, have been reflected in the market values accorded to the securities which represent your property.

During the year \$7,902,636.35 has been expended on developments and additions to your properties, included in which is the acquisition on a very favorable basis of the Detroit property of the American Motor Body Corporation, a most efficient and modern automobile body building plant, and a valuable addition to the facilities of the Corporation.

Dividend payments on your Preferred Stock were inaugurated, and Preferred Stock dividends to the amount of \$1,750,400.00 have been paid.

Net current assets at December 31 1925 stood at \$28,021,131.27, an increase as compared with the previous year of \$11,755,227.11. There is no indebtedness to banks.

Your Corporation has just recently broadened its market by introducing into its line of products the "Chrysler Imperial 80." This car has been designed to meet the requirements of the most discriminating, and will further enhance the prestige which your company's products have already won in the minds of the public. The "Chrysler 58" and the "Chrysler 70" are winning continually wider acceptance in their respective price markets and may already be regarded as firmly established in the esteem of the motor buying public.

Export business is offering increasing opportunities, and this phase of your business is receiving special attention. It is gratifying to report that favorable results are already in evidence, the export business for 1925 being no less than 255% of the export business for the previous year, and the continued development of the export market is expected to make an important contribution to the future stabilization of your business.

Your attention is invited to the Corporation's Balance Sheet as of December 31 1925, the Consolidated Income Summary and the Consolidated Surplus Account, both for the year ending December 31 1925, and all certified to by the Corporation's Auditors, Messrs. Ernst & Ernst.

The new year opens with every promise of continued progress. The extent and character of the Corporation's dealer and distributor representation has shown notable progress and continues to improve. There is every indication that business this spring will pass all previous records of this Corporation.

WALTER P. CHRYSLER,

President and Chairman of the Board.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME SUMMARY CHRYSLER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES (INCLUDING OPERATIONS OF MAXWELL MOTOR CORPORATION) FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1925.

Gross Profit from Sale of Automobiles and Parts.....	\$28,630,037.94	
Interest and Brokerage.....	661,522.88	
Total Income.....	\$29,291,560.82	
Deduct—		
Administrative, Engineering, Selling, Advertising, Service and General Expenses.....	\$9,410,127.04	
Interest Paid and Accrued.....	284,297.93	
	9,694,424.97	
Income before Provision for Federal Taxes.....	\$19,597,135.85	
Less: Provision for Estimated United States and Canadian Income Taxes.....	2,471,000.00	
Net Income for the Year ended December 31 1925.....	\$17,126,135.85	

CONSOLIDATED SURPLUS ACCOUNT CHRYSLER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1925.

Balance January 1 1925 (Maxwell Motor Corporation).....		\$6,782.22
Add—		
Net Profit from Operations for the year ended December 31 1925, after Providing for Estimated Federal Income Tax.....	\$17,126,135.85	
Deduct—		
Cost of Class B Stock of Maxwell Motor Corporation purchased and against which no stock of Chrysler Corporation is issuable.....	\$1,514,750.00	
Dividends Paid and Declared on Preferred Stock.....	1,750,400.00	
	3,265,150.00	
		13,860,985.85
Surplus December 31 1925.....		\$13,867,768.07

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET CHRYSLER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS DECEMBER 31 1925.

ASSETS.		
<i>Current—</i>		
Cash on Hand, in Transit and on Deposit....	\$4,643,100.73	
Marketable Securities.....	13,391,590.01	
Car Shipments against B-L Drafts.....	3,212,997.04	
Customers' Notes Receivable—Secured by Trust Receipts.....	1,439,436.04	
Customers' and Dealers' Accounts, less Allowances.....	1,233,260.45	
Inventories (at the lower of Cost or Market Prices).....	14,812,834.72	
	\$38,733,218.99	
<i>Other Assets—</i>		
Real Estate and Investments, less Allowances	\$125,361.60	
Miscellaneous Notes and Accounts, less Allowances.....	304,674.14	
	430,035.74	
<i>Permanent—</i>		
Land, Buildings, Machinery and Equipment.....	\$29,275,497.99	
Less: Allowances for Depreciation, etc.....	9,112,368.38	
	20,163,129.61	
Good-Will.....		25,000,000.00
Deferred—Prepaid Insurance, Taxes, Royalties, Dies, etc.....		1,276,113.09
		\$85,602,497.43

LIABILITIES.		
<i>Current—</i>		
Accounts Payable.....	\$7,380,034.78	
Dividends Payable.....	439,662.00	
Accrued Interest, Taxes, etc.....	150,195.67	
Distributors' and Dealers' Deposits.....	271,195.27	
Provision for Federal Taxes (Estimated).....	2,471,000.00	
	\$10,712,087.72	
<i>Ten-Year 5½% Serial Gold Bonds—</i>		
Outstanding—Not Matured.....	\$3,150,000.00	
Less: In Treasury.....	442,000.00	
	2,708,000.00	
Reserves for Contingencies, Price Adjustment of January 6 1926, etc.....		2,054,701.68
<i>Capital Stock—</i>		
Invested Capital.....	\$56,259,939.96	
Represented by:		
	—Number of Shares—	
	<i>Preferred</i>	
No Par Value Stock: <i>Series A.</i>	218,536	<i>Common.</i>
Outstanding.....	2,645,342	
Deliverable under the Maxwell Corporation Plan and Agreement dated April 15 1925.....	264	66,298
In Treasury.....	20,900	8,360
Unissued.....	35,300	480,000
Shares Authorized.....	275,000	3,200,000
<i>Surplus—</i>		
*Appropriated—On account of Repurchase of Maxwell Motor Corporation Class A Stock.....	\$2,090,000.00	
Unappropriated.....	11,777,768.07	
	13,867,768.07	
		70,127,708.03

*Upon retirement of this stock this item will become part of the Unappropriated Surplus.

Note A—The Company is reported to be contingently liable as endorser on Notes Receivable discounted in the amount of \$42,427.11.

Note B—Material in Transit not included in either Assets or Liabilities—\$1,492,509.67.

Note C—This Balance Sheet is subject to the comments contained in our "Certificate" included in and made a part of this report.

New York Philadelphia Boston Providence Baltimore Washington Richmond Buffalo Pittsburgh Wheeling Cleveland Cable Address "Ernstaudit," New York ERNST & ERNST Certified Public Accountants Audits and Systems Tax Service Detroit First National Bank Bldg. Toledo Atlanta Minneapolis Chicago St. Paul Cincinnati Milwaukee Indianapolis Louisville Geo. D. Bailey, C.P.A., Resident Partner.

Memphis New Orleans Dallas Fort Worth Houston San Francisco Los Angeles Denver St. Louis Kansas City Omaha

February 8 1926.

Board of Directors and Stockholders, Chrysler Corporation, Detroit, Mich.

Gentlemen:—We have completed our annual audit of the books and records pertaining to the assets and liabilities of the Chrysler Corporation, Detroit, and its subsidiaries at December 31 1925, and submit herewith a Consolidated Balance Sheet, together with Surplus Account and Income Summary.

In the preparation of the Consolidated Balance Sheet included herein we have shown the number of shares of stock of the Chrysler Corporation which were outstanding and deliverable at December 31 1925 under the Maxwell Motor Corporation Plan and Agreement dated April 15 1925. Invested Capital at December 31 1925 is also in accordance with and as defined by this Plan and Agreement.

Cash funds and securities at December 31 1925 were fully verified. Sufficient provision had, in our opinion, been made for doubtful notes and accounts. The inventories were thoroughly tested as to quantities, pricing and clerical accuracy by our representatives and we satisfied ourselves that the inventory valuation has been established upon the basis of the lower of cost or market prices.

Additions to Permanent Assets during the year are, in our opinion, properly capitalized and sufficient provision has been made from earnings for depreciation and amortization.

Full provision has been made, as far as we could ascertain, for all known liabilities of the Company at December 31 1925. The liability for merchandise in transit at that date, however, amounting to \$1,492,509.67 has not been included in either the assets or the liabilities. The provision for Federal taxes is based upon rates effective under the present law.

We hereby certify that, in our opinion, based upon the records examined and information obtained by us the accompanying Balance Sheet sets forth correctly the financial position of the Chrysler Corporation and its subsidiaries at December 31 1925, and that the Consolidated Surplus Account and Income Summary are correct.

Very truly yours,

ERNST & ERNST.

White Motor Co.—Stock Increased—20% Stock Dividend—Rights.—

The stockholders on March 19 increased the capital stock from \$25,000,000 (all outstanding) to \$50,000,000, par \$25. Of this increase \$15,000,000 is to be issued at an early date, \$5,000,000 of which will be paid as a stock dividend to stockholders of record March 25 and the remaining \$10,000,000 will be offered at par to stockholders of record March 25.

Warrants giving the right to subscribe to the \$10,000,000 of new stock will be mailed to stockholders about March 27 and are payable at the Irving Bank-Columbia Trust Co., New York City, transfer agents, on or before April 10.

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years, 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Rows include Oper. profit (after deducting mfg., selling, service & adm. exp.), Discount on purch., int. earned and miscell., other income—net, Total income, Less—Int. & exp. on borrowed money, Estimated Fed. taxes, Net profit for year, Previous surplus, Total surplus, Dividends paid (8%), Adjustments, Provision for prior year's Federal taxes in excess of payment, Surplus Dec. 31.

White Sewing Machine Corp.—Earnings.—

The corporation reports earnings for 1925, after depreciation but before interest and taxes, of \$1,348,797, against \$905,738 in 1924. After deducting interest on the debentures outstanding and taxes at the 13% rate, the balance is equal to \$9 65 per share on the 100,000 shares of preference stock outstanding.

An official of the corporation reports that 1926 business is running considerably ahead of 1925, the first two months of 1926 showing earnings of approximately \$250,000 as against \$155,000 for the same period of 1925, or at the rate of approximately \$1 15 per share of preference stock.

It is expected that the first dividend on the preference stock shall be declared at the directors' meeting early in April and payable on May 1.—V. 122, p. 363.

Wilson Foundry & Machine Co.—Large Order Received.

A dispatch from Detroit says: The Federal Motor Truck Co. has placed an order for 6,000 motors with the Wilson Foundry & Machine Co. This order is estimated to be worth about \$1,500,000.—V. 121, p. 473.

Woodbridge Corp. (100 William Street Corp.), N. Y. City.—Bonds Sold.—P. W. Chapman & Co., Inc., have sold at 100 and int. \$2,500,000 1st (closed) mtge. 5 3/4% sinking fund gold loan.

Dated April 1 1926; due April 1 1941. Principal and int. (A. & O.) payable at New York Trust Co., N. Y. City, trustee. Denom. \$1,000 and \$500*. Red. in part on any int. date upon 30 days' notice, or as a whole at any time upon 60 days' notice to and incl. April 1 1930, at 103 and int.; thereafter to and incl. April 1 1935, at 102 and int.; thereafter to and incl.

Oct. 1 1940, at 101 and int. and thereafter at par and int. Interest payable without deduction of any Federal income tax not in excess of 2%. Refund of the Penn., Conn., Kansas and Calif. taxes not to exceed 4 mills, Maryland 4 1/2 mills tax, Kentucky, District of Columbia and Iowa taxes not in excess of 5 mills, Michigan 5 mills exemption tax, Virginia 5 1/2 mills tax and Mass. income tax not to exceed 6%.

Building.—The Woodbridge Building, located at 100 William St., N. Y. City, is one of the largest and most important office buildings in the downtown insurance district. It occupies about 18,800 sq. ft. of land owned in fee and has a total street frontage on William, Platt and John Sts. of about 430 ft. The front of the building is 13 stories in height while the rear rises to a height of 17 stories. The entire structure contains a total of over 192,000 sq. ft. of rentable area.

Leases.—The Aetna Life Insurance Co. has leased 10 1/4 floors of the building, representing approximately 60% of the net rentable area, for a period extending beyond the maturity of this loan. In addition, the Aetna Life Insurance Co. has assumed the unexpired leases of certain other tenants aggregating over 10% of the total net rentable area of the building. The total space to be leased by the Aetna Life Insurance Co. is over 70% of the rentable area of the building. Other important tenants include: Phoenix Assurance Co., General Accident Co., New York Underwriters, Pacific Coast Borax Co.

Security.—Secured by a first closed mortgage on the land and building, owned in fee, the plot extending about 121.7 ft. on William St., 145 ft. on John St. and 163.7 ft. on Platt St. The property, land and building, has been independently appraised at \$4,315,000.

Earnings.—Building is practically 100% leased and occupied. The Aetna Life Insurance Co.'s lease, which extends for a period beyond the maturity of this loan, is at an annual rental of \$282,760, or an aggregate over the term of the lease of over \$4,300,000. Charles F. Noyes Co. states the annual income as of May 1 1926, based on signed leases of present occupants, to be as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Rows include Oper. exps., maint., ins. & taxes, other than Fed. taxes (est.), Balance, Maximum annual interest charges on this loan.

Sinking Fund.—Mortgage securing this loan will provide for a sinking fund payable quarterly to the trustee, beginning July 1 1926 and continuing during the life of this loan. The operation of this quarterly sinking fund, through purchase in the open market or through retirement by lot at the then call price, will reduce this loan to less than \$1,815,000 at maturity, or an amount less than the present value of the land alone.

Legal or Trust Funds.—This loan represents less than a 58% loan, and these securities are legal for the investment of trust funds under the laws of the State of New York.

Woodmen of the World Building (Woodmen Building Corp.) Omaha, Neb.—Bonds Offered.—H. M. Byllesby & Co., Inc. are offering at 99 and int., to yield about 6.10% \$1,125,000 1st (closed) mtge. leasehold 6% sinking fund Bds.

Dated March 1 1926; due March 1 1944. Interest payable M. & S. Denom. \$1,000, \$500 and \$100 c*. Callable as a whole at any time on 60 days' notice at 102 and int. up to and incl. March 1 1934, and thereafter at 101 and int. Callable in part on any int. date on 30 days' notice at 105 and int. up to and incl. March 1 1934 and thereafter at 105 and int. less 1/2% for each full year or fraction thereof expired after Feb. 28 1934. Interest payable without deduction of that portion of any Federal income tax not in excess of 2%. Refund of Penn., Conn., Kansas and Calif. taxes not to exceed 4 mills, Maryland 4 1/2 mills tax, Kentucky and District of Columbia 5 mills tax, Mich. 5 mills exemption tax, Virginia 5 1/2 mills tax, and Mass. income tax not to exceed 6% to resident holders upon proper application made within 60 days after payment of such tax. Exempt from Nebraska personal property taxes. Principal and interest payable at Continental & Commercial Trust & Savings Bank, Chicago, trustee.

Building.—Is the largest office building in Omaha and one of the best-known office buildings in the Northwest. The main building, erected in 1912, has a ground area of approximately 14,520 sq. ft. and is 19 stories in height, with 2 basements. It is of modern fireproof steel, terra cotta, brick and hollow tile construction. The Annex Building, erected in 1920, directly adjoining and connected with the main building has a ground area of approximately 5,840 sq. ft. and is 6 stories in height. The 2 buildings contain approximately 3,796,530 cu. ft., have a rentable floor area of about 180,101 sq. ft., and have been recently appraised at \$2,600,240.

Security.—These bonds will be secured by a closed first mortgage on the leasehold estate comprising approximately 20,360 sq. ft. of ground area. The lease, which extends to March 1 2025 without right to revaluation, leases the ground and buildings for an annual rental of \$44,000. The leasehold estate has been appraised at \$1,907,200, making this issue approximately a 59% mortgage.

Earnings.—The total gross income for the two calendar years ended Dec. 31 1925 averaged \$337,953. Operating expenses, including maintenance and advertising, reduced the ground rental of \$44,000 per annum, averaged, for the same period, to \$16,450.74. Net income, on the above basis, available for the payment of interest, depreciation and Federal taxes, has averaged \$121,472.26. Net income for the year ending Feb. 28 1927, based on present income and existing leases, has been conservatively estimated at approximately \$135,000, or 2 times the maximum annual interest requirements on this issue of bonds.

Sinking Fund.—The mortgage securing these bonds will provide for a sinking fund payable semi-annually to the trustee, beginning July 1 1926, and continuing throughout the life of this issue. The operation of this sinking fund, through the deposit, purchase in the open market or redemption of bonds, will retire the entire issue before maturity.

Yale & Towne Manufacturing Co.—Annual Report.—

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years, 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922. Rows include Net earnings, Interest received, Total net earnings, Reserve for taxes, Dividends (cash), Balance, surplus, Previous surplus, Adjustments, Stock dividend (100%).

Profit & loss, surplus, \$9,515,112 \$8,944,363 \$8,925,771 \$8,035,148 x After deducting cost of production, operating expenses, incl. \$795,704 for repairs, maintenance, but charged to current expenses; after deducting \$333,282 for depreciation on plant and equipment and after charging all losses to current operations instead of to reserves set up in previous years, but excluding interest earned and taxes accrued but not paid. y Dividends were paid in 1922 at the rate of 5% quarterly for the April, July and October quarters on the old stock of \$100 par value and at the rate of 4% (\$1) for Jan. 1923 quarter on the new stock of \$25 a share after the 100% stock dividend.

Table with 4 columns: Comparative Balance Sheet Dec. 31, 1925, 1924. Rows include Assets: Plant & equipm't, Invest'g. branches and other cos., Tr. mks. & pat'is, Cash, A/c receiv., U. S. securities, Other securities, Mtgs. and loans, Mdse. inventories, Prep. ins., taxes, & c. Liabilities: Capital stock, Accounts payable, Dividend payable, Reserve for taxes, Federal & State, Surplus.

President W. C. Allen says: "During the year the company was offered the physical properties of the Barrows Lock Co., the Sager Lock Co. and the Miller Lock Co., and, after careful consideration, accepted the offers. Included in the plant and equipment account is \$967,482 representing the cost of plant and equipment of the newly acquired branches. Payment for these properties was made by liquidating part of our U. S. securities. These newly acquired plants are now known as Barrows Lock Works, Sager Lock Works, and Miller Lock Works, of Yale & Towne Manufacturing Co.—V. 121, p. 2767.

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, March 19 1926.

COFFEE on the spot was dull and tending downward with increasing supplies of Rio. Santos 4s, 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 23 $\frac{1}{4}$ c., and Rio 7s, 17 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. Maracaibo Trujillo, 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 24 $\frac{1}{4}$ c.; Cucuta, fair to good, 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 26c.; Colombian, Oceana, 24 to 25c.; Bucaramanga, natural, 27 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 28c.; washed, 29 to 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ c.; Honda, 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ c.; Tolima, 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ c.; Giradot, 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ c.; Medellin, 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 31c.; Manizales, 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. The cost and freight market early in the week was steady. For prompt shipment Santos Bourbon 2s were offered at 22.80 to 23.15c.; 3s at 23 $\frac{3}{4}$ c.; 3s-4s at 21.90 to 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; 3s-5s at 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; 4s-5s at 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; 6s at 21.30 to 21.40c.; part Bourbon, 3s-4s, at 21 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 22.30c.; 3s-5s at 21.70 to 21 $\frac{7}{8}$ c.; 4s-5s at 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 21.85c.; 5s-6s at 21.40c.; Santos peaberry, 3s-4s, at 22.30c.; Rio 4s at 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; 7s at 17.90c. to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; Victoria 4s and 5s at 20c. Cost and freight offers though not plentiful on the 18th inst. were lower. Prompt shipment Bourbon Santos 2s here at 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ c.; 3s at 22.60c.; 3-4s at 21.70 to 21.75c.; 3-5s at 21.25c.; 4-5s at 21 $\frac{1}{4}$ c.; 5s at 21c.; 5-6s at 20.80c.; Bourbon grinders 6s, 21.30c.; 7-8s, at 19.80 to 20.30c.; part Bourbon or flat bean 3-4s at 21.30 to 21.45c.; 3-5s at 21.15 to 21.40c.; 4-5s at 21.20c.; 5-6s at 21c.; Rio 7s, 18c. Future shipment equal quantities each month from September to December, Bourbon 4s, 20c. To-day coffee was dull and weak, winding up at 17 $\frac{7}{8}$ c. for Rio 7s, against 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ a week ago.

Futures declined with Brazilian markets lower, Brazil ready to sell freely and liquidation here for home and European account persistent and spot coffee dull and declining. On the 18th inst. the transactions were 61,000 bags or 120,000 bags in two days. On the 16th inst. Santos terme prices fell 50 reis, while exchange was off 1-32d. at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. with the dollar rate 30 reis net higher. Rio was 50 to 150 reis net lower, with exchange off 1-64d. at 7 17-64d. with the dollar rate up 10 reis. Some roasting establishments are said to be buying direct from Brazil. On the 17th inst. Santos was 50 reis lower to 50 reis higher, exchange 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and the dollar rate 10 reis higher. Rio was 100 to 200 reis net higher with exchange off 1-32d. at 7 15-64d. and the dollar rate 30 reis net higher. Switches were with March-May even; March-July 55 points, May-Sept. 100 points and Sept.-Mar. 1927 80 pts. On the 18th inst. both public and private cables were lower with Brazil anxious to sell. Santos was 25 to 175 reis net lower with exchange off 3-64d. at 7 13-64d. and the dollar rate up 30 reis. Rio was 50 to 225 reis net higher with exchange off 1-32d. at 7 13-64d. and the dollar rate 30 reis net higher. Cost and freight offers were noticeably depressed. The New York stock of Brazil was 312,888 bags, against 334,207 a year ago; at New Orleans 113,403 bags, against 116,965 a year ago; in the United States 426,291, against 451,172 last year; afloat from Brazil 404,900 bags, against 362,800 last year; total in sight 831,191 bags, against 813,972 last year. Rio has 225,000 bags, against 241,000 last year; Santos 1,373,000, against 1,908,000 last year. The effects of a dilatory policy in buying is evidently telling.

Brazilians were credited with trying to support the market from time to time, but their efforts have met with no great success. Later they gave it up. With reduced freight rates, slowness of the spot demand and reports that the present Santos crop will be much larger than early estimates, buyers have played a waiting game. It is recalled the official report of stocks of Santos coffee in Government warehouses and railroad stations on Feb. 28, much to the surprise of everybody, showed some increase over the figures for Feb. 15, being 4,214,000 bags. At least fair-sized quantities of coffee, it is inferred, are left on the plantations. With the picking season in Sao Paulo now only some five weeks off and Rio and Victoria close at hand, a general idea as to the size of the next crop may before very long be possible. Some estimated the present Santos crop at about 9,250,000 bags, the next at 9,500,000, to which the surplus

of the last crop, amounting to 1,702,000 bags, must be added; also 3,750,000 and 3,000,000 bags as the probable yields of the present and next Rio crops. Possibly, it is suggested, new supplies to come into sight during the present season may reach 22,850,000 bags and about 20,500,000 next season or a yearly average of about 21,650,000 bags, in contrast with a consumption of about 21,500,000 bags. Some think this line of reasoning tends to confirm buyers in a cautious policy. To-day futures declined 7 to 14 points net with sales of 54,000 bags. Rio fell 25 to 75 reis and Santos 25 to 150. Rio exchange on London was 7 13-64 to 7 7-32d. The dollar rate was 68860. Sao Paulo stocks at interior warehouses and railways on March 10 are said to have been 4,025,000 bags, against 4,214,000 on Feb. 28. For the week there is a decline here of 55 to 65 points.

Spot unofficial	17 $\frac{3}{4}$	May	16.80@	September	15.85@
March	16.90@	July	16.30@	December	15.50@

SUGAR.—After sales last week of 460,000 bags at 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. to 2 9-32c. c. i. f. for Cuban, or 4.02c. duty-paid, demand continued. Refined was in better demand. Raws became stronger. Because of its cheapness, the world's consumption of sugar is the largest ever known. Warm weather will cause a further increase. The Cuban movement to market will soon decrease. Some contended early in the week that the market had turned for the better and looked for improvement in both raws and granulated. They think sugar futures are a good purchase, especially July and September. Willett & Gray said of Cuban production that at all centrals up to March 1 (partly estimated), the total was 2,576,847 tons, against 2,625,146 for the same time last year, less Cuban consumption to date, 28,000 tons, as usual; total, 2,548,847 tons, against 2,597,146. Stocks of new-crop at shipping points, 884,479 tons, against 713,593 last year. Total exports of new-crop, 1,024,122 tons, against 1,260,306 last year. Total receipts of new-crop at shipping ports, 1,908,601, against 1,973,899 last year. Stock of new-crop on plantations and in transit to ports, 640,246 tons, against 623,247 last year. Stock March 12 of new-crop at shipping ports, 884,479, against 713,593 last year; on plantations and in transit, 640,246, against 623,247 last year; total in Cuba, partly estimated, 1,524,725 tons, against 1,366,840 tons last year.

Receipts at Cuban ports for the week were 211,563 tons, against 195,110 in the previous week, 215,562 in the same week last year and 195,532 two years ago; exports 91,503 tons, against 114,954 in previous week, 185,595 in the same week last year and 136,815 two years ago; stock 884,479 tons, against 764,419 in previous week, 713,593 last year and 552,361 two years ago. Centrals grinding numbered 175, against the same number last week, 181 in the same week last year and 176 two years ago. Havana cabled "weather favorable." The uncertainty as regards ultimate Cuban production has had at times an unsettling effect. Cuban ports had 80,000 tons more than a year ago. Cuban sugar was offered freely enough to check any sharp upward turn. When the crest of Cuban production has passed this year the market is expected to respond. Both refined and raw sugars, some declare, are selling at a basis that attracts not only the domestic trade but the entire world. The period of heavy consumption is ahead. Last year's history showed that the consumption of sugar throughout the world is increasing rapidly. Large raw sugar crops have put Cuban prices below the cost of production. Sugar, it is urged, cannot long continue to sell at present prices and increase production. The law of supply and demand will naturally regulate matters in the end. On the 13th and 15th inst., 2 5-16c. c. & f. was paid for 105,000 bags of Cubas, San Domingo and Porto Ricos, mostly for prompt shipment to operators. Early on the 15th inst. 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ c. for Cubas and Porto Ricos was asked but had to ease this later to 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. Later 50,000 bags of Cuban and Porto Rican prompt and late March shipment sold at that price. Holders then tried asking 2 9-32 to 2 5-16c. for a time unsuccessfully and later 45,000 bags sold, including Porto Ricos due March 24 and early April at 4.20c. c.i.f., Cubas prompt shipment at 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. c. & f. Cubas loading to operators at 2.27c. c. & f. Weakness here depressed United Kingdom prices. Two cargoes sold to the United Kingdom, one for April shipment at 10s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and another for May at 11s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Japanese buying on the 17th inst. was reported in London to have exceeded 8,000 tons for March loading at 2.20c. f.o.b. On the 18th inst. 125,000 bags sold at 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. basis. Big supplies of Cuban tell on the price. The Cuban output to March 15 was 2,788,000 tons, against 2,665,896 a year ago.

Futures felt the effects of long liquidation and trade selling. Refined sold heavily at 5c. prompt delivery, cutting down supplies at refineries and consignment points to about the normal level and clearing the statistical outlook. The range of prices was 5 to 5 15c. the highest for 30 days and

5 1/10c. generally the top on local deliveries. Today futures closed 3 to 6 points lower with transactions of 64,500 tons. Spot raws were quiet at 2 1/4c. On the 18th inst. the total sales are now estimated to have been 175,000 bags. Refined was less active today at 5c. for prompt delivery. European markets were off. Cuba for April shipment sold on Thursday at 10s. 9d. c. i. f. Holland. Last prices show a decline for the week in futures of 4 to 11 points the latter on July. Spot raws closed at 2 1/4c. the same as a week ago though some are inclined to quote at 2 7-32c.

Spot unofficial... 2 17-32 May... 2.27@... September... 2.54@nom. March... 2.23@... July... 2.40@... December... 2.63@...

TEA.—In London on March 15 offerings of India teas were 26,300 pkgs. of which 24,000 sold. Prices rather weak. Medium pekoe, 1s. 7 1/2d. to 1s. 9 1/2d.; fine pekoe, 1s. 10d. to 2s. 5 1/2d.; medium orange pekoe, 1s. 8 1/2d. to 1s. 10d.; fine orange pekoe, 1s. 10 1/2d. to 2s. 6d. In London on Mar. 16, of Ceylon teas 17,300 pkgs. were offered and 16,000 sold at steady prices. Medium pekoe, 1s. 9d. to 1s. 11d.; fine pekoe, 1s. 11 1/4d. to 2s. 4 1/2d.; medium orange pekoe, 1s. 9 1/4d. to 1s. 11 1/4d.; fine orange pekoe, 1s. 11 1/2d. to 2s. 5d. In London March 17, of Indian teas 22,900 pkgs. were offered of which 21,000 sold at unchanged prices.

LARD on the spot declined for a time with trade rather poor. Prime Western, 15.35 to 15.45c.; Middle Western, 15.20 to 15.30c.; city, in tierces, 15 to 15 1/2c.; city, in tubs, 15 to 15 1/2c. Compound carlots, in tierces, 13 3/4 to 14c. Refined, Continent, 15 3/4c.; South America, 16 3/4c.; Brazil, 17 3/4c. To-day spot lard was weaker. Prime Western, 15.15c.; refined Continent, 15 5/8c.; South American, 16 5/8c.; Brazil, 17 5/8c. Futures were lower with receipts of hogs large, prices down, cash business unsatisfactory, grain falling, liquidation general and hedge selling by packers not absent. New York cleared 10,309,000 pounds of lard and 4,886,000 pounds bacon last week, the bulk of which represented packers' consignments. Chicago lard stocks increased 596,000 pounds since March 1, a noticeably adverse showing as compared with a decrease of 3,316,000 pounds in the same time last year. Total stocks, however, were only 23,557,000 pounds, against 77,392,000 a year ago. Lard production during February was 126,752,000 pounds, compared with 161,697,000 pounds in February 1925 and a five-year average of 115,684,000 pounds. For the week ended March 13 lard exports were 12,231,000 pounds, against 16,981,000 last year; hams, shoulders and Wiltshires, 860,000 pounds, against 1,796,000 pounds last year; bacon and Cumberlands, 3,826,000 pounds, against 7,436,000 last year; pickled pork, 211,000 pounds, against 413,000 pounds last year. To-day futures declined, partly in sympathy with the grain markets, which broke sharply. Commission houses were selling. Liquidation was general. Cash trade was light. Hogs were irregular in spite of light receipts. The top was \$14 10. Western hog receipts were only 78,000, against 110,000 a year ago. Last prices show a decline in lard for the week of 38 to 58 points.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF LARD FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
March delivery	14.75	14.65	14.57	14.55	14.60	14.37
May delivery	15.05	14.95	14.77	14.77	14.72	14.50
July delivery	15.30	15.17	15.00	15.02	14.95	14.72
September delivery	15.55	15.42	15.20	15.25	15.15	14.92

PORK quiet but steady; Mess \$37; family \$38 to \$40; fat back pork \$28 50 to \$32. Ribs, cash 16c., basis 40 to 60 lbs. average. Beef firm; Mess \$24 to \$26; packet \$21 to 23; family \$25 to \$27; extra India Mess \$45 to \$47; No. 1 canned corned beef \$3; No. 2, \$5 25; six lbs. \$18 50; pickled tongues \$55 to \$60 nominal. Meats higher. Pickled hams 10 to 20 lbs. 22 1/4 to 26 1/4c.; pickled bellies 6 to 12 lbs. 23 to 24c. Butter, lower grades to high scoring 39 1/2 to 44 3/4c. Cheese, flats 26 to 29c. Eggs, fresh medium to extra 26 1/2 to 32c.

OILS.—Linseed shows little change. Buying is only of a hand-to-mouth nature, despite the nearness of the heavy consuming season. Leading crushers were quoting 10.7c. for spot-April raw oil in carlots, coopeage basis, while May-June was held at 10.8c. and July-August at 10.9c. Coconut oil, Ceylon, f.o.b. coast tanks, 10c.; Manila, tanks, coast, spot, 10c.; spot, bbls., 11 1/4 to 11 1/2c.; China, wood, New York, spot, bbls., 12 3/4c.; tanks, 11 3/4c. Corn, crude, tanks, plant, 10 1/4c.; bbls., spot, 11 1/2c. nom. Olive, Denmark, \$1 20 to \$1 25. Soya bean, coast tanks, 10 1/2c.; blown bbls., 14 to 14 1/4c. Lard, prime, 17 3/4c.; extra strained winter, New York, 14c. Cod, domestic, 63 to 64c.; Newfoundland, 65 to 67c. Turpentine, \$1 01 to \$1 05 1/2. Rosin, \$11 25 to \$16 50. Cottonseed oil sales to-day, including switches, 14,200 bbls. P. Crude S.E. nominal. Prices closed as follows:

Spot	c.	12.20a	12.75	May	12.21a	August	12.25a	12.26
March	12.31a	12.32	June	12.20a	12.30	September	12.22a	12.25
April	12.20a	12.35	July	12.21a	12.23	October	11.41a	11.50

PETROLEUM.—Kerosene has been easier with water white offered at 9 1/2c. in bulk at refineries and 10 1/2c. in tank cars delivered to trade. Jobbing demand has been small. Prime white was quoted at 8 3/4c. at refinery and 9 3/4c. in tank cars delivered to trade. In the Gulf water white was firm at 8 1/2c. and prime at 7 1/2c. Gasoline has been weaker. Some shading was reported, but leading producers were quoting 12 1/2c. One report was to the effect that business could be done on a firm bid at 12c. In the Gulf, U. S. motor was weak at 11c. and 64-66 gravity 14 1/2c. Bunker oil was steady at \$1 75 at refinery. Diesel oil was quoted at \$2 30.

In the Gulf, for Grade C bunker oil \$1 60 was asked for bunkering purposes and \$1 55 in cargo lots. Gas oil was firm at 6c. for 36-40 gravity local refineries, while 28-34 was held at 5 1/2c. For 26-28 transparent in Gulf section 5c. was asked but little was offered; 32 plus dark oil 4 3/4c. in bulk. Of late gasoline has sold less readily for export. There were no new features in kerosene. Gas oil has been firm without any very active demand. Lubricating oils remain dull. New York refined export prices: Gasoline, cases, cargo lots, U. S. motor specifications, deodorized, 27.90c.; U. S. motor bulk refinery, 12 1/2c.; kerosene in cargo lots, cases, 18.40c.; petroleum, refined, tanks, wagon to store, 16c.; kerosene, bulk, 45-46-150 W. W. delivered New York tank cars, 10 1/2c.; motor gasoline, garages (steel bbls.), 18c.; up-State, 18c.

Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas—	Elk Basin	\$2.15			
28-28.9	Big Muddy	2.00			
32-32.9	Lance Creek	2.15			
52 and above	Home 35 and above	1.95			
Louisiana and Ark	Caddo				
35-37.9	Below 32 deg	1.85			
38 and above	32-34.9	2.00			
	38 and above	2.20			
Pennsylvania	\$3.65	Buckeye	\$3.30	Eureka	\$3.50
Corning	2.25	Bradford	3.65	Illinois	2.12
Cabell	2.20	Lima	2.23	Crichton	1.85
Somerset, light	2.45	Indiana	2.00	Plymouth	1.65
Rock Creek	2.00	Princeton	2.12	Haysville	1.33
Smackover, 27 deg	1.40	Canadian	2.63	Gulf Coastal A	1.50
		Corsicana heavy	1.15	De Soto	2.05

RUBBER was quiet and steady early in the week. In London the stock increased 1,175 tons last week, being reported on the 15th inst. at 11,681 tons, against 10,506 in the previous week, 9,571 a month ago and 20,534 in the same week last year. At the Rubber Exchange on the 15th inst. May closed at 60.90c., July at 59.70c., October at 58c. and November at 57.30c. Outside closing prices on that day were 62 to 63c. for first latex crepe spot and March 61 to 62c. for April-June, 59 to 60c. for July-September and 58 to 59c. for October-December, 61 to 62c. for ribbed smoked sheets spot and March, 60 to 61c. for April-June, 58 to 59c. for July-September, and 57 to 58c. for October-December. For brown crepe, thin, clean, 58c. was asked and for specky 56c.; amber No. 2, 59c.; No. 3, 58c. Imports of rubber crude through the ports of Boston and New York in February, it is said, were 73,900,000 lbs. Most of it was said to be rubber delivered on contracts made three and four months ago when the price averaged 80.4c. a pound. If current rubber prices had prevailed for the month's imports, it was stated, the value of rubber imports would have been nearly 40% lower. The House Committee on Inter-State and Foreign Commerce has backed Secretary Hoover in his charges of rubber monopoly. The committee says Americans paid \$100,000,000 over a "fair price" in three months. They named seven governments as exercising price control of other materials. Washington wired: "A quiet movement is under way in the House to secure some sort of positive action on the British rubber monopoly. Just what is not stated."

New York on the 18th inst. was quiet but firm. At the Rubber Exchange May closed at 61c., July at 59.80c. Outside closing prices on that day were 62 to 63c. for first latex crepe spot, 61 to 62 1/2c. for March, 61 to 62c. for April-June, 59 to 61c. for July-Sept. and 58 to 59 1/2c. for Oct.-Dec. 60 to 62c. for ribbed smoked sheets spot, 60 to 61 1/2c. for March, 60 to 61c. for April-June, 58 to 60c. for July-Sept. and 57 to 58 1/2c. for Oct.-Dec. 59c. for brown crepe thin clean, 57c. for specky and 56c. for No. 1 rolled. In London on March 18th a sharp rally followed an early decline. It reduced the loss to 1/2d. Spot 30 1/4 to 31d.; March, 30 1/4 to 30 3/4d.; April-June, 30 1/4 to 30 3/4d.; July-Sept., 28 1/2 to 29d.; Oct.-Dec., 28d. to 28 1/2d. Singapore advanced 1/2 to 1/2d. Spot, 29 1/4d.; March, 29 1/4d.; April-June, 28 3/4d.; July-Sept., 28 1/4d. To-day prices here were irregular. An Akron, Ohio dispatch said that rubber manufacturers generally are proceeding with extreme caution in making commitments for their future tire yarn and fabric requirements. Practically no orders for fabric are being taken further ahead than June.

HIDES have been quiet and rather weak. A lot of 4,000 La Plata heavy steers sold at \$36 50 or 16 1/4c. c. & f. Com-dry hides were dull and apparently tending downward. City packer hides were neglected. Common dry prices are nominally as follows: Antioquias 25c.; Orinocos 20 1/2c.; Maracaibo 21c.; Savanillas 21c.; Packer hides, native steers 12c.; butt brands 11 1/2c.; Colorados 11c. Frigorifico steers 16 1/4c. Calfskins last sold at \$1 50, \$2 05 and \$2 70. Ocean freights have been in good supply on berth and as to steamers with rates low. Coal traffic was an outstanding feature.

Charters included sugar from Santo Domingo to Halifax 14c. prompt; coal from Hampton Roads to Para \$3 15 March loading; time charter, 2,041 net round trip in West Coast South America trade, 80c. prompt loading; 972 net, six months West Indies trade, \$1 55 continuation; tankers, 4,339 net from Gulf to North of Hatteras, 30c. option Tampico, 34c. two trips commencing April; 4,463 net clean oil from Gulf to United Kingdom-Continent 27s. April loading; 1,566 net from Black Sea to Alexandria 14s. 6d. two trips prompt; coal from Hampton Roads to Rio de Janeiro \$3 25 prompt; grain from New York to Rio de Janeiro 18s. 6d. March 15 cancelling sugar from St. John, N. B., to Marseilles 18s. prompt loading; oil cake from New York to Rotterdam 12c. March loading; crushed stone from north of Hatteras to Florida \$1 free load and discharge; phosphate rock from Tampa to Wilmington, N. C., \$2 25 March loading free load and discharge; coal from Hampton Roads to Rio de Janeiro \$3 15 April loading; from Hampton Roads or Baltimore to Ancona and Venice \$2 65 option one port West Italy, \$2 40 late March loading; from Hampton Roads to Santos \$3 75 April loading; sulphur from Galveston to Hamburg or Harburg \$2 40 March loading; nitrate from Chile to Galveston-Boston range \$4 25 June loading; barley from Atlantic range to Bremen 8c. prompt loading; grain from Atlantic range to West Coast Italy basis 11c. March loading; sugar from Cuba to United Kingdom-Continent 13s. 6d. March loading; time charter 1,434 net round trip West Indies trade 75c. delivery north of Hatteras prompt loading; 2,337 net delivery North Pacific, re-delivery north of Hatteras \$1 35 March loading; coal trade with Brazil is larger.

TOBACCO.—New business has been slow. Hopes are entertained of a better business in cigars before long. But at the moment business is slow. Sumatra wrappers are said to sell rather readily, but they are not at all scarce. The demand is not large enough to infuse any great strength into prices. Connecticut has been in fair demand and steady. Nominal prices: First remedios, \$1 to \$1 05; 2d remedios, 88 to 92c.; Pennsylvania broadleaf, filler, 8 to 13c.; broadleaf binder, 15 to 20c.; Porto Rico, 65 to \$1 10; Connecticut; top leaf, 18 to 22c.; No. 1 sec., 60 to 75c.; seed fillers, 15c.; medium wrappers, 65 to 75c.; dark wrappers, 35 to 45c.; light wrappers, 90c. to \$1 25.

COAL.—Bunker prices have shown a downward tendency. Nominal bunker quotations are said to be cut now and then 50 cents. Some retail dealers ignore hard coal as much as possible until they can get rid of coke, soft coal, &c., but for all that hard coal is coming forward more freely from terminals to consuming points here. On the 15th inst., for instance, the movement from terminals to consuming points was 1,124 cars of hard coal, compared with 888 cars on the 8th inst. Standing cars of anthracite coal amounted to 3,909. The general tendency of prices is believed to be downward, especially as within the last two days the weather has been milder.

COPPER has been steadier at 14.20c. delivered in the Valley. There was a good domestic demand. Not a few producers were holding for 14.25c. London was higher, and this with other metals advancing and optimistic reports from the steel industry helped considerably in lifting the price. Shipments from the Lake district are heavy. It is said that only 20% is going abroad, the bulk going to Mid-Western consumers. Spot standard in London on the 17th inst. advanced 2s. 6d. to £59 5s. and futures rose 5s. to £60 5s. Latterly copper has been rather less active with 14.25c. delivered in the Valley asked and 14.20c. f.a.s. New York; April, 14.20c. delivered. February statistics were rather bearish. Spot standard in London late in the week was £59 5s.; futures 2s. 6d. lower at £60 2s. 6d.

TIN has been higher at 66c. for spot Straits and 63½c. for July. Premiums are now paid for prompt shipments. The situation as regards supplies has become so tight that the form of contract in the Far East is being changed. Producers expect prices to go higher and are therefore holding their tin as long as possible. Spot standard in London on the 17th inst. advanced £1 7s 6d. to £229 and futures rose 12s 6d. to £289 7s 6d. Prices have latterly weakened in London £3 12s 3d. to £5 and New York fell 1c. Spot Straits sold at 65c., April at 64¾c.; May at 64 and June at 63c. London spot standard £294; futures £285 15s.

LEAD has been in fair demand and firmer. A few carloads of lead were reported sold by Middle Western producers at 8.35c. New York. The American Smelting & Refining Co. quoted 8.20c. The leading producer in the West was selling at 8c. East St. Louis, but some other producers were said to be obtaining a little above that price. London on the 17th inst. was up 8s. 9d. on the spot to £32 7s. 6d., and futures advanced 3s. 9d. to £32 12s. 6d. Business this week has been the largest for some little time. March delivery is not easy to buy. The big company is quoting 8.20c. New York. London fell 5s. late in the week; spot, £32 2s. 6d. futures £32 7s. 6d.

ZINC advanced to 7.45c. to 7.50c., East St. Louis, on the 17th inst. on good buying by dealers and galvanizers. London was also higher. Spot and April there on the 17th inst. advanced 2s. 6d. to £33 17s. 6d. and £34 5s. for futures. Latterly trade has not been at all brisk. East St. Louis, 7.50c. Brass special is 10 to 12½ points premium. Demand has not followed the recent advance readily. That is an outstanding fact. New York settling price, 7.85c. London advanced 1s. 3d. late in the week. Spot, £33 18s. 9d.; futures, £34 3s. 9d.

STEEL has not been oversteady, with production large and reports that the March output may be something beyond precedent for this month. In Chicago especially the March production is heavy. It is supposed that nothing has equalled it in the history of the steel business there. A steady demand comes from railroads, auto companies and construction concerns. But outside of this the trade is only moderate at best, where it is not actually dull. There is as a rule not much forward buying. At any rate the general understanding is that the purchases are mostly for prompt delivery. The fact is not lost sight of that the tendency of pig iron and scrap and possibly of coke is apparently downward. Forging billets have dropped it seems to \$40 a ton a decline of \$1. Finished floor plates have it is stated declined \$4 at the mills and \$6 at the warehouses. This excites no surprise in the light of the very heavy production of steel. Cast iron pipe is said to be selling very well with some of the makers engaged ahead for 3 months. Prices for such material are reported to be firmer. According to talk in some directions the attempt to advance prices for the second quarter has been practically abandoned at least for the time being. It looks as though the first quarter quotations would be maintained wherever possible in the second quarter.

PIG IRON is said to be meeting with a little more inquiry, but actual sales are not believed to be large. Inquiries, it is

said, comprise about 15,000 tons here; but buyers are inclined to insist on some decline in prices for the second quarter of the year. And the belief in some quarters is that the tendency is towards some easing of prices. Nominal quotations for Eastern Pennsylvania are \$22 to \$22 50, and for Buffalo \$21 to \$22. It is believed, rightly or wrongly, that in some cases these prices are shaded. This idea is here mentioned for what it is worth. In general the inquiry is light. Production is large and pig iron is made to sell. Just now the trade is in a state of transition. In such circumstances there is naturally more or less sharp competition for business. Virginia iron is quoted at nominally \$23 to \$24. Chicago \$22 50 to \$23 and the Valleys at \$20 50 to \$21. These are wholly nominal quotations, however. What could be done on a worth-while order is a matter of conjecture, with foreign iron still a competitor.

WOOL has been dull and lower, regardless of recent firmness in London. In this country demand is poor, neutralizing any favorable foreign features. Goods business is bad. That is the big drawback. Some early-shorn Idaho mixed wool sold at 34c. Arizona generally 38 to 40c. for the best wools. Rail and water shipments of wool from Boston from Jan. 1 1926 to Mar. 11, inclusive, were 49,393,000 lbs., against 35,936,000 for the same period last year. Receipts from Jan. 1 1926 to Mar. 11 inclusive were 85,123,900 lbs., against 75,089,500 lbs. for the same period last year.

Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces delaine unwashed, 50c.; ½ blood combing, 50c.; ¾ blood combing, 49 to 50c.; ¼ blood combing, 49 to 50c.; fine unwashed, 45c. Michigan and New York fleeces: Delaine unwashed, 47 to 48c.; ½ blood combing, 48c.; ¾ blood combing, 49c.; ¼ blood combing, 49c.; fine unwashed, 43 to 44c. Wisconsin, Missouri and average New England, ½ blood, 45 to 46c.; ¾ blood, 47c.; ¼ blood, 46 to 47c. Scoured basis, Texas fine 12 months (selected), \$1 18 to \$1 20; fine 8 months, \$1 05 to \$1 08; California Northern, \$1 15 to \$1 18; Middle County, \$1 05; Southern, 95c. Oregon, Eastern No. 1, staple, \$1 20 to \$1 22; fine and fine medium combing, \$1 10 to \$1 15; Eastern clothing, \$1 00; Valley No. 1, \$1 to \$1 05. Territory, Montana and similar fine staple choice, \$1 20 to \$1 25; ½ blood combing, \$1 08 to \$1 10; ¾ blood combing, 93c. to 95c.; ¼ blood combing, 83 to 85c.; Pulled delaine, \$1 23 to \$1 25; A, \$1 15; to \$1 20; fine A supers, \$1 08 to \$1 10; A supers, \$1 to \$1 05. Mohairs, best combing, 75 to 80c.; best carding, 65 to 70c.

In Liverpool, England, on March 12 East India wool auctions closed quiet; prices about the same as earlier in the sale. In London on March 12 sales 10,401 bales. Selection better. Demand good. Inferior dull and often withdrawn. Details:

New South Wales, 2,373 bales: scoured merinos, 20 to 42½d.; crossbreds, 12 to 39d.; greasy merinos, 15½ to 25d.; crossbreds, 6½ to 19d. Queensland, 2,072 bales: scoured merinos, 28 to 38½d.; crossbreds, 20 to 38d.; greasy merinos, 17 to 25½d.; crossbreds, 10½ to 21d. Victoria, 1,521 bales: scoured merinos, 25 to 45d.; crossbreds, 18 to 37½d.; greasy merinos, 16 to 37½d.; crossbreds, 13 to 15½d. South Australia, 819 bales: Scoured merinos, 20 to 24½d.; greasy merinos, 14 to 27½d.; greasy crossbreds, 9 to 14½d.; West Australia, 569 bales: scoured merinos, 28 to 38d.; crossbreds, 18 to 36½d.; greasy merinos, 16 to 25½d.; crossbreds, 10 to 17½d. Tasmania, 2,458 bales: scoured crossbreds, 11 to 29d.; greasy merinos, 16 to 22½d.; crossbreds, 7½ to 20d. New Zealand, 402 bales: Scoured merinos, 30 to 40d.; greasy merinos, 14 to 21½d.; Cape Colony, 187 bales: Greasy crossbreds, 10 to 17½d.; slips, 8 to 22d.

In London on March 15 sales 9,778 bales; supply small. Demand better; prices steady. Details:

New South Wales, 1,013 bales: Scoured merinos, 20 to 35d.; crossbreds, 12 to 30d.; greasy merinos, 15 to 24½d.; crossbreds, 7 to 24½d. Queensland, 2,247 bales: scoured crossbreds, 22 to 27½d.; greasy merinos, 16 to 23d.; crossbreds, 8½ to 23d. Victoria, 396 bales: scoured merinos, 22 to 40d.; crossbreds, 17 to 37d.; greasy merinos, 14½ to 29d.; crossbreds, 11½ to 23½d. South Australia, 1,439 bales: Greasy merinos, 13½ to 21½d.; crossbreds, 10 to 20½d. Tasmania, 1,363 bales: Scoured merinos, 25 to 34d.; crossbreds, 12 to 30½d.; greasy merinos, 16 to 23d.; crossbreds, 10 to 18d. Cape Colony, 219 bales: greasy merinos, 8½ to 17d. River Plate, 4,051 bales: Greasy merinos, 14 to 21d.; crossbreds, 5½ to 17½d. Punta Arenas, 340 bales: Greasy crossbreds, 10 to 18d.

In London on March 16 sales, 9,939 bales. Prices steady. Selection extensive. Demand better for crossbreds.

New South Wales, 1,293 bales: Scoured merinos, 20 to 38½d.; crossbreds, 15½ to 35d.; greasy merinos, 15 to 27d.; crossbreds, 7 to 20d. Queensland, 2,818 bales: Scoured merinos, 30 to 39d.; crossbreds, 20 to 32d.; greasy merinos, 17½ to 27½d.; greasy crossbreds, 8½ to 24½d. Victoria, 784 bales: Scoured crossbreds, 17 to 31d.; greasy merinos, 14 to 28d.; crossbreds, 9 to 24d. South Australia, 1,282 bales: Scoured merinos, 25 to 33d.; crossbreds, 16 to 29½d.; greasy merinos, 15 to 27½d.; crossbreds, 7½ to 22d. West Australia, 656 bales: Scoured merinos, 26 to 40d.; crossbreds, 16 to 34d.; greasy merinos, 18 to 25d.; crossbreds, 10 to 19½d. Tasmania, 91 bales: Greasy merinos, 28 to 32½d.; crossbreds, 18 to 27½d. New Zealand, 1,127 bales: Scoured merinos, 25 to 40½d.; crossbreds 15 to 36½d.; greasy merinos, 12 to 25½d.; crossbreds, 8 to 20½d. Cape Colony, 888 bales: scoured merinos, 28 to 38d.; crossbreds, 20 to 29d.; greasy merinos 12 to 21d.; crossbreds, 9 to 13d.

In London on March 17 sales, 10,669 bales. Demand good, especially for fine greasy merinos. High limits:

New South Wales, 664 bales: Scoured merinos, 30 to 41d.; crossbreds, 15½ to 30d.; greasy merinos, 14 to 26½d.; crossbreds, 8½ to 20d. Queensland, 1,984 bales: Scoured merinos, 33 to 46½d.; crossbreds, 23 to 37½d.; greasy merinos, 16 to 28½d.; crossbreds, 14 to 22d. Victoria, 2,289 bales: Scoured merinos, 28 to 41½d.; crossbreds, 14½ to 32½d.; greasy merinos, 14 to 28d.; crossbreds, 11½ to 25d. South Australia, 56 bales: Scoured crossbreds, 18 to 28d.; greasy crossbreds, 12 to 21d. New Zealand, 5,243 bales: Scoured merinos, 30 to 49½d.; crossbreds, 16 to 29½d.; greasy merinos, 18 to 23d.; crossbreds, 10 to 22½d. Cape Colony, 262 bales: Scoured merinos, 33 to 40d.; scoured crossbreds, 33 to 40d.; greasy merinos, 14 to 18½d. River Plate, 171 bales: Greasy crossbreds, 12 to 18½d.

In London on March 18 sales, 10,515 bales. High grade greasy merinos were 5 to 10% and fine greasy crossbreds, 5% above January prices. Demand good. Details:

New South Wales, 1,988 bales: Scoured merinos, 20 to 43d.; crossbreds, 16½ to 36d.; greasy merinos, 15 to 34½d.; crossbreds, 8½ to 21½d. Queensland, 1,412 bales: Scoured merinos, 36 to 41d.; crossbreds, 26 to 36½d.; greasy merinos, 17 to 28d.; crossbreds, 14 to 24½d. Victoria, 539 bales: Greasy merinos, 16 to 30d.; crossbreds, 13½ to 25d. South Australia, 285 bales: Greasy merinos, 12 to 27c. West Australia, 15 bales: greasy crossbreds, 10 to 16d. Tasmania, 161 bales: Greasy merinos, 23 to 35d.; crossbreds, 9½ to 23½d. New Zealand, 1,534 bales: scoured crossbreds, 14 to 35d.; greasy merinos, 15 to 23d.; greasy crossbreds, 9 to 19½d. Punta Arenas, 4,581 bales: Greasy merinos, 14 to 20d.; crossbreds, 7 to 19½d.

London cabled March 17th that the next wool sales at Adelaide, Australia, will open on April 1st when 25,000 bales will be offered with an additional 12,000 bales scheduled for the April 22nd series. At Dunedin, N. Z. on March 12th most of the 26,500 bales offered sold. Demand good and

NEW YORK QUOTATIONS FOR 32 YEARS.

Table with columns for years 1926-1919 and prices for 30c, 15c, and 8c. Includes rows for 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920, 1919.

MARKET AND SALES AT NEW YORK.

Table with columns: Spot Market Closed, Futures Market Closed, SALES (Spot, Contr't, Total). Rows for Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Total.

AT THE INTERIOR TOWNS the movement—that is the receipts for the week and since Aug. 1, the shipments for the week and the stocks to-night, and the same items for the corresponding periods of the previous year, is set out in detail below:

Large table with columns: Towns, Movement to March 19 1926, Movement to March 20 1925. Sub-columns include Receipts, Shipments, Stocks. Lists towns like Ala., Birmingham, Eufaula, Montgomery, Selma, etc.

The above total shows that the interior stocks have decreased during the week 50,850 bales and are to-night 866,052 bales more than at the same time last year.

OVERLAND MOVEMENT FOR THE WEEK AND SINCE AUG. 1.—We give below a statement showing the overland movement for the week and since Aug. 1, as made up from telegraphic reports Friday night.

Table with columns: Mar. 19, 1925-26, 1924-25. Rows include Shipped (Via St. Louis, Via Mounds, etc.), Total gross overland, Deduct Shipments, Total to be deducted, Leaving total net overland.

* Including movement by rail to Canada. The foregoing shows the week's net overland movement this year has been 3,760 bales, against 16,068 bales for the week last year, and that for the season to date the aggregate net overland exhibits a decrease from a year ago of 202,025 bales.

Table with columns: 1925-26, 1924-25. Rows include In Sight and Spinners' Takings, Receipts at ports to Mar. 19, Net overland to Mar. 19, Southern consumption to Mar. 19, Total marketed, Interior stocks in excess, Excess of Southern mill takings over consumption to Mar. 19, Total into sight during week, Total in sight Mar. 19, North spinners' takings to Mar. 19.

* Decrease.

Movement into sight in previous years:

Table with columns: Week, Bales, Since Aug. 1, Bales. Rows for 1924-Mar. 21, 1924-Mar. 22, 1923-Mar. 21, 1923-Mar. 22.

QUOTATIONS FOR MIDDLING COTTON AT OTHER MARKETS.—Below are the closing quotations for midding cotton at Southern and other principal cotton markets for each day of the week:

Table with columns: Week Ended Mar. 19, Closing Quotations for Middling Cotton on— (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday). Lists cities like Galveston, New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah, Norfolk, Baltimore, Augusta, Memphis, Houston, Little Rock, Dallas, Fort Worth.

NEW ORLEANS CONTRACT MARKET.—The closing quotations for leading contracts in the New Orleans cotton market for the past week have been as follows:

Table with columns: Date, Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Rows for March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December, January, February.

SELECTS COTTON FOR STAPLE STANDARDS.—Ten bales of cotton to be used in preparing practical forms of the Official Cotton Standards of the United States (American Upland), length of staple 3/8 inch, established by the Secretary of Agriculture July 31 1925 and effective Aug. 1 1926, were selected by representatives of cotton exchanges and associations meeting with Department of Agriculture officials at Washington March 15.

The order of the Secretary last July followed a conference of representatives of leading organizations of cotton growers, merchants and spinners with Department officials at Washington, July 27 1925, at which original representations of the Official Cotton Standards for length of staple, to be kept by the Department at Washington, were considered and recommended.

The present conference was to enable representatives of the cotton industry to participate in selecting the actual bales from which practical forms of the standard for 3/8-inch staple are to be made for public distribution.

Delegates of the various organizations represented were: G. M. McIntyre, Mississippi Farm Bureau Cotton Association; T. A. Parlon, New England Cotton Buyers' Association; R. L. Francis, New Orleans Cotton Exchange; H. L. Goss, New York Cotton Exchange; W. D. Maxwell, Oklahoma State Cotton Exchange; T. R. Wells, Staple Cotton Co-operative Association; R. H. Gilbert and Joseph Walker, representing the Atlantic Cotton Association, Atlanta Commercial Exchange, Augusta Cotton Exchange, Montgomery Cotton Exchange, Norfolk and Portsmouth Cotton Exchange and the Savannah Cotton Exchange; A. S. Taylor and H. H. Lawler, representing the Texas Cotton Association, Dallas Cotton Exchange, Fort Worth Cotton Exchange, Galveston Cotton Exchange, Houston Cotton Exchange; J. C. Lutz, representing the Memphis Cotton Exchange and Southern Cotton Shippers' Association; J. B. Hiltzheim, representing Little Rock Cotton Exchange and Arkansas Cotton Trade Association, and R. L. Crittenden, representing the Arkwright Club and National Association of Cotton Manufacturers.

CENSUS REPORT ON COTTONSEED OIL PRODUCTION DURING FEBRUARY.—Persons interested in this report will find it in our department headed "Indications of Business Activity" on earlier pages.

CENSUS REPORT ON COTTON CONSUMED AND ON HAND IN FEBRUARY, &C.—This report, issued on March 13 by the Census Bureau, will be found in full in an earlier part of our paper under the heading "Indications of Business Activity."

WEATHER REPORTS BY TELEGRAPH.—Reports to us by telegraph this evening indicate that west of the Mississippi River the weather during the week has continued generally favorable for farm work, but in other sections cold weather and too wet soil have delayed work. Arkansas is well advanced with field work and some cotton has been planted in the southwestern portion of Arizona.

Texas.—In the lower coast sections of this State some cotton is up, but planting has been stopped by unfavorable weather.

Mobile, Ala.—Farm work has made good progress in the uplands, but the lowlands have been too wet.

Table with columns: Rain, Rainfall, Thermometer. Rows for Texas-Galveston, Abilene, Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Del Rio, Palestine, San Antonio, Taylor.

and northern sections. On the morning of the 13th light snow was reported as far south as the north-central portions of the east Gulf States.

Chart II shows that rainfall was heavy in parts of Texas and was substantial in amount in most sections from that State and eastern Oklahoma eastward. Moderate amounts were reported also from the central valley States and parts of the far Southwest. Otherwise, precipitation was generally light, with little or none in the more western States, except locally in northern districts. Sunshine was almost continuous in California and some districts to the east, but there was an unusually large amount of cloudy weather in the central valley States.

The freezing weather in Southeastern States caused considerable damage to truck crops, and early fruit was harmed in some sections, but, in general, the damage to fruit has not been definitely determined. Cold, wet weather in this area was also unfavorable for growth and for field work, and very little additional preparation for spring planting was accomplished. Outdoor operations were likewise again practically suspended from the middle and upper Mississippi Valley eastward because of the prevailing unfavorable weather.

Over the Great Plains States from Texas northward conditions were more favorable and work made satisfactory advance in most sections, though more soil moisture is needed over much of this area. The planting of potatoes and seeding of spring grain advanced in the southern Great Plains, with early gardens being made as far north as Kansas. In the Southwest, light to moderate precipitation was helpful to the range, particularly in much of Arizona, but, in general, it is still dry and rain is needed over most of the area. In other sections west of the Rocky Mountains the warmth and abundance at sunshine were generally favorable for stock interests, and vegetation made rapid advance in the milder Pacific coast districts. Early fruit trees are blooming in the Pacific Northwest where the season is well ahead of the average.

SMALL GRAINS.—Due to the low temperatures, small grains east of the Rocky Mountains made little progress during the week, while in Michigan and portions of the Ohio Valley, winter wheat suffered some damage by ice from lack of snow cover. Although growth has been slow, the condition of wheat continues mostly fair to good, and it is stooling in advanced fields in the eastern half of Kansas. In the more western portion of the country wheat is advancing satisfactorily and is in good to excellent condition. Rye is doing well in North Dakota, Arkansas, and Tennessee, but conditions have been unfavorable for this crop in much of the East. The sowing of oats and barley is almost finished in Kansas and the progress and condition of oats are good in west Gulf districts, but not so favorable in the east Gulf States.

CORN AND COTTON.—Early corn made slow growth in Florida, and, while preparations for this crop advanced in the lower Mississippi Valley and some corn was planted, germination was slow in Louisiana, as was also the case in Alabama. Progress and condition were only fair in Texas and planting was stopped by cold, wet weather. This work is becoming general in Oklahoma. In all of the northern portions of the Corn Belt the weather was wet and cold, precluding the preparation of ground for planting, and work was practically at a standstill, though slight progress was made in parts of the Plain States.

Some cotton was up on the lower coast of Texas, but further planting was stopped by unfavorable weather. Preparations for planting are further advanced than usual in Arkansas. Only a small amount of plowing was done in the extreme lower Mississippi Valley, and preparations for seeding were retarded by rain, cold weather, and wet soil in all parts of the Cotton Belt east of the Mississippi River. Some cotton was planted in the southwestern portion of Arizona.

The Weather Bureau also furnishes the following resume of conditions in the different States:

Virginia.—Richmond: Abnormally cold and precipitation moderate; general snows latter part of week. Farm work backward in most sections account cold. Tobacco beds mostly made. Plowing and potato planting delayed. Winter grains good condition. Pastures and meadows greening. Favorable for fruit.

North Carolina.—Raleigh: Hard freeze to coast on 14th; lowest temperature of record at Raleigh and Charlotte for so late in season. Incomplete reports show considerable damage to hardy truck, though most of recently-planted nut yet up and fruit apparently not far enough advanced for serious damage. Farm work practically at standstill.

South Carolina.—Columbia: Unseasonably cold and raw, with freezing to coast on 14th. Fruit-bud damage rather serious in east-central and south where blooms rather profuse, but too early to estimate damage in northwest where buds are more backward. Winter cereal and truck growth at standstill. Intermittent precipitation and wet soil retarded spring plowing. Cabbage, onions, and spinach rather plentiful; young beans on coast killed.

Georgia.—Atlanta: Rain Wednesday and Thursday rendered soil too wet to plow and little work accomplished. Cold, unfavorable weather, with frost several mornings and severe freeze on Sunday, caused much damage to fruit and truck; temperature fell to 19 degrees in Fort Valley district with considerable damage to peaches. Tobacco in beds protected. Some sugar cane killed. Cereals, truck, and pastures made little growth.

Florida.—Jacksonville: Week mostly dry and sunny; mean temperature almost unprecedentedly low for season. Berry and peach bloom and truck killed or seriously damaged in north and west, and locally in central division. Citrus bloom in north not advanced and probably escaped damage. Early-planted corn and melons slow growth. Shipping beans and other truck continued from south, but rain badly needed on coast for citrus, pineapples, and trucking.

Alabama.—Montgomery: General, locally heavy rains at beginning; remainder mostly fair. Unseasonably cold with severe freeze Sunday morning. Little farm work accomplished; some corn planted in south. Oats doing well in coast region; elsewhere mostly poor. Freeze killed unprotected tender vegetation in coast region, but cabbage crop there apparently not seriously affected. Too early to estimate damage to peach, pear, and plum trees.

Mississippi.—Vicksburg: Moderate to heavy rains throughout; light in north and central. Seasonable farm activities hindered by wet soil. Truck somewhat damaged by unseasonable cold Saturday and thereafter. Pastures mostly poor progress.

Louisiana.—New Orleans: Too wet at beginning and cold last half unfavorable for farm work and growing crops. Freezing in many interior sections on 14th, but only slight damage reported. Germination of corn and spring gardens retarded; some damage to strawberry bloom, but fruit apparently unharmed. Only small amount of plowing or planting accomplished. Pastures improving rapidly.

Texas.—Houston: Wet and cold with frost nearly to coast on 14th; damage slight. Farm work made fair progress in western half, but prevented by wet soil in eastern. Progress and condition of pastures, wheat, oats, and winter truck good; some damage to spring truck by cold and heavy rains in eastern half. Progress and condition of corn only fair and planting stopped by unfavorable weather. Some cotton up in lower coast section where germination fair; planting stopped.

Oklahoma.—Oklahoma City: Cold and mostly cloudy; heavy to killing frost and freezing from 13th to 15th; light to moderate precipitation, but more rain needed. Planting oats and potatoes completed; corn planting becoming general in southern portion. Wheat and oats made slow growth, but condition generally fair to good. Pastures fair and improving.

Arkansas.—Little Rock: All work delayed and growth of vegetation slow due to cold, wet weather and lack of sunshine, but preparations for planting corn and cotton further advanced than usual; some corn planted in central and southern portions. Wheat, rye, oats, meadows, pastures, and truck good; some peas still being sown. Peaches and plums damaged in some central portions.

Tennessee.—Nashville: Temperatures below normal; warmest period first of week. Early-sown wheat made little progress; winter oats in east frozen; spring oats coming up. Rye holding well with slow growth. Fruit trees ready to bloom. Livestock in good condition.

Kentucky.—Louisville: Continued cold with freezing and thawing. Early wheat mostly maintaining fairly good condition, but some further injury from lifting. Precipitation light, but soil still wet; no plowing. Little progress in sowing tobacco plant beds; other outdoor work practically at standstill.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

Friday Night, Mar. 19 1926.

There has been little in the way of new developments to change the attitude of buyers in the markets for textiles during the past week. For the most part buyers continued

to operate on a hand-to-mouth basis, ordering only limited quantities for either immediate or near-by delivery. Despite the fact that Easter is but two weeks away, trade has continued slack, owing to a number of developments of an adverse nature. The latter included the European settlement, declining stock market, the strike at Passaic against wage reductions, the slow departure of winter and the completion of income tax reports which in many instances disclosed meagre or disappointing earnings. On the other hand, expectations of a spring increase in general business, reviving activity in retail circles and the arrival of planting time throughout the country were cited as influences which might stimulate better trade. In the meantime, the raw markets were still more or less unsettled and buyers were waiting for the development of a more definite trend. Illustrative of this was the silk division, where price concessions and unloading have become quite general. Raw silk has dropped steadily and has declined fully 15% since Jan. 1. However, the decline in raw material values has not been responsible for the unsettlement of the silk markets, but a combination of over-production, unfavorable weather and too early opening of spring lines were claimed to be the real reasons. Another example can be found in the woolen division. On Tuesday the American Woolen Co. opened their fall women's wear lines at prices which showed a decline of from 5 to 18% below last year's levels, reflecting lower wool and labor costs. Thus far these lower prices have failed to stimulate buying equal to expectations.

DOMESTIC COTTON GOODS: Markets for domestic cotton goods continued to rule irregular and somewhat less active during the week. Except for the fact that neither buyers nor sellers were very aggressive, underlying conditions showed little change. As during the previous week, business centred more in prints, percales, wash goods and gingham, while the heavier goods remained neglected with a further price easing noticeable in certain directions. Buying of the latter class of goods has been very light for some weeks past and when any business comes into sight keen competition leads to lower prices. For instance, nothing much has been done in the heavy colored cotton goods, despite the fact that they are several cents a yard cheaper than they were at this time last year. Buyers' lack of interest can be directly traced to expectations of lower prices following a gradual decline in raw cotton quotations. Sheetings, however, have been an exception to the general rule. Prices for the latter were revised downward about seven weeks ago and mills are said to have booked sufficient business to make further price concessions unnecessary. In regard to finished goods, prints and gingham continued in active demand. The call for percales and other printed cottons gave no sign of diminishing, in spite of the large volume of business already booked. In many respects records have been established on business done in merchandise of this kind. During the week a number of Southern manufacturers opened their fall gingham season. The new lines, which covered deliveries from June to September, were said to be most comprehensive as to colorings and patterns. Buyers' response to the new showings were stated to be most encouraging. Print cloths, 28-inch, 64 x 64's construction, are quoted at 6½c., and 27-inch, 64 x 60's, at 5½c. Gray goods in the 39-inch, 68 x 72's construction, are quoted at 9¼c., and 39-inch, 80 x 80's, at 12¼c.

WOOLEN GOODS: Interest in the markets for woolens and worsteds centred in Tuesday's opening of fall women's wear fabrics by the American Woolen Co. Reflecting lower wool and labor costs, prices showed a decline of from 5 to 18% below last year's levels on both woolen and worsted coatings, suitings and skirtings. Actual price reductions per yard ranged from 7½ to 57½ cents. The offering consisted of ninety-five staples and six hundred fancies produced by nineteen mills of the organization. The color range was also large, totaling seventy-eight different shades. Subdued colors replaced the former brilliant hues, with browns, blues and greens conspicuous. As far as the goods themselves were concerned, the feature was the prominence accorded pile sheen coatings, more commonly known as bolivias.

FOREIGN DRY GOODS: Markets for linens presented a firm appearance and demand continued moderately active. Although operations were largely confined to small lots covering immediate needs, these were received in satisfactory volume. Demand for damasks was one of the features with interest noted for both the cheap and finer grades. Stocks of these goods in the hands of importers were said to be comparatively light. Dress linens were likewise in better call, especially the finer fabrics. The handkerchief division continued in a healthy condition, with retailers requesting merchandise for the Easter season. The largest volume of business was received both in the plain styles and the new printed effects. Whereas lace borders have heretofore been in popular demand, prints have now assumed the leadership in retail sales. Burlap prices continued their downward course owing to substantial stock accumulations, both here and in Calcutta, which tend to make consumers wary. Light weights are quoted at 6.50c. and heavies at 9.25c.

guineness by the First National Bank, Boston. Their legality will be approved by Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins, whose opinion will be furnished the purchaser.

Financial Statement March 1 1926.

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Includes Assessed valuation for year 1925 (\$43,414,437 00), Bonded debt (Bridge bonds \$340,500 00, Fire department bonds 149,000 00, etc.), and Sinking fund (\$267,817 71).

NEWPORT, Newport County, R. I.—TEMPORARY LOAN.—On March 11 Salomon Bros. & Hutzler, of Boston, were awarded a \$100,000 temporary loan on a 3.77% discount basis, plus a premium of \$7.

NEWPORT FIRST RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Newport), Washington County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.—On March 13 the \$58,000 5 1/2% school bonds offered on that date...

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT, Campbell County, Ky.—BOND SALE.—The \$325,000 4 1/2% school bonds offered on Mar. 8—V. 122, p. 1059—were awarded to Bred, Elliott & Harrison of Cincinnati, at a premium of \$1,852.50...

NEWTOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, Jasper County, Iowa.—BONDS OFFERED.—Maude McMurray, Secretary of Board of Education, received sealed bids until 7:30 p. m. April 12 for \$170,000 4 1/2% school bonds...

NILES SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Niles), Berrien County, Mich.—BONDS OFFERED.—Sealed bids were received until Mar. 17 by the Superintendent of Schools for \$35,000 4 1/2% school bonds...

NOBLES COUNTY (P. O. Worthington), Minn.—BOND SALE.—The \$125,000 coupon Judicial Ditch No. 9 bonds offered on March 15—V. 122, p. 1353—were awarded to the Wells-Dickey Co. of Minneapolis...

NORTH ADAMS, Berkshire County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.—On Mar. 12 the First National Bank of Boston purchased a \$100,000 temporary loan on a 3.69% discount basis plus a premium of \$4.

OAKFIELD UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Oakfield), Genesee County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.—On March 16 the \$325,000 4 1/2% school bonds offered on that date...

OCEAN SPRINGS, Jackson County, Miss.—BOND DESCRIPTION.—The \$75,000 water works bonds awarded on Dec. 31 to the Hibernia Securities Co. of New Orleans as 5 1/4 at 101.04 (V. 121, p. 3159)...

Financial Statement. Actual value of taxable property \$2,500,000; Assessed value of taxable property 1925 1,367,041; Total bonded indebtedness (including this issue) 76,000; Water works bonds (this issue) 75,000; Net bonded indebtedness 1,000.

OIL CITY, Venango County, Pa.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 4:30 p. m. Mar. 29 by W. W. Holt, City Treasurer, for \$175,000 4 1/4% coupon (with privilege of registration) bonds...

OLEAN SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Olean), Cattaraugus County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 8 p. m. March 26 by the Clerk, Board of Education, for \$195,000 school bonds.

OMAHA SCHOOL DISTRICT, Douglas County, Neb.—BIDS REJECTED.—TO BE RE-OFFERED.—All bids for the \$1,000,000 4 1/2% school bonds offered on Mar. 18 (V. 122, p. 1353) were rejected...

ONEIDA COUNTY (P. O. Utica), N. Y.—BOND SALE.—On March 16 the \$420,000 coupon jail bonds offered on that date—V. 122, p. 1508—were awarded to Sherwood & Merrifield, Inc., of New York...

ONEIDA COUNTY (P. O. Rhinelander), Wis.—BOND ELECTION.—The proposition of issuing \$60,000 poorhouse bonds will be submitted to the voters at the regular April election.

ORANGE COUNTY (P. O. Paoli), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until April 5 by William B. Lashbrooks, County Treasurer, for the following two issues of 4 1/2% coupon road bonds...

OTTUMWA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, Wapello County Iowa.—BOND SALE.—The \$300,000 4 1/2% coupon school bonds offered on Mar. 10—V. 122, p. 1059—were awarded to Geo. M. Bechtel & Co. of Davenport at a premium of \$6,165, equal to 102.05...

Bidders. Iowa Nat. Bank, Des Moines \$4,225; National City Co., Chicago 6,160; Phoenix Trust Co., Ottumwa 5,860; Ringheim & Co., Des Moines 4,900; White-Phillips Co., Davenport 4,920.

PALISADES PARK, Bergen County, N. J.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 8 p. m. March 23 by Joseph E. Kosinski, Borough Clerk, for an issue of 5 1/4% coupon temporary impt. bonds...

Prin. and semi-ann. int. (M. & S.) payable at the Palisades Park National Bank, Palisades Park. Due on Sept. 1 as follows: \$13,000, 1926; \$22,000, 1927; \$32,000, 1928, and \$55,000, 1929.

PALMETTO SPECIAL TAX SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 16, Manatee County, Fla.—BOND SALE.—The \$100,000 school bonds offered on Jan. 25—V. 122, p. 378—were awarded to Vandarsal & Co. and W. L. Slayton & Co., both of Toledo, jointly as gs, at 95.63, a basis of about 6.9%...

PASADENA, Los Angeles County, Calif.—BOND OFFERING.—Bessie Chamberlain, City Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 10:30 a. m. March 23 for \$25,000 4 1/4% relief work bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Due Feb. 15 1927. Principal and interest (F. & A.) payable at the City Treasurer's office or at the National City Bank, New York City...

PERRY, Lake County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.—On March 13 the \$8,400 6% coupon sidewalk bonds offered on that date—V. 122, p. 1207—were awarded to A. E. Aub & Co. of Cincinnati at a premium of \$266, equal to 103.16, a basis of about 4.65%...

PERTH AMBOY, Middlesex County, N. J.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 2 p. m. April 5 by Richard J. Galvin, City Treasurer, for an issue of 4 1/2% coupon or registered water, series W bonds, not to exceed \$1,200,000, no more bonds to be awarded than will produce a premium of \$1,000 over \$1,200,000...

PHENIX CITY, Lee County, Ala.—BOND SALE.—The \$130,000 6% coupon paving bonds offered on March 5—V. 122, p. 1207—were awarded to the Barlow-Gortly Construction Co. at par. Date April 1 1926. Denom. \$1,000. Due April 1 1936. Int. payable annually April 1.

PLACER UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Auburn), Placer County, Calif.—BOND OFFERING.—A. S. Fleming, Clerk Board of County Supervisors, will receive sealed bids until 10 a. m. April 6 for \$225,000 5% school bonds. Dated April 1 1926. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$10,000 1927 to 1936, incl.; \$15,000 1937 to 1944, incl., and \$5,000 in 1945. Interest payable A. & O. A certified check for 5% of bid required.

PLATTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 14 (P. O. Sunrise), Wyo.—BOND OFFERING.—Herman Wolfe, Clerk Board of School Trustees, will receive sealed bids until 2 p. m. April 1 for \$45,000 5% school bonds. Date April 1 1926. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$5,000, 1928 to 1936 incl. Int. payable semi-annually. A certified check for \$2,500 required. Notice of the offering of these bonds appeared in V. 122, p. 1353, but under the incorrect caption "Platte County School District No. 4, Wyo."

PLATTSMOUTH, Cass County, Neb.—BOND DESCRIPTION.—The \$20,000 4 3/4% coupon interconnection paving bonds awarded to Burns, Brinker & Co. of Omaha at 100.50—V. 122, p. 1353—a basis of about 4.64%, are described as follows: Date Mar. 1 1926. Denom. \$1,000; Due \$2,000, Mar. 1 1927 to 1936 incl. Int. payable M. & S. Date of award Feb. 23.

PLATTSMOUTH, Cass County, Neb.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on April 6 for the purpose of voting on the question of issuing \$35,000 funding bonds. J. Clويد, City Clerk.

POCATELLO, Bannock County, Idaho.—BOND ELECTION.—On April 6 an election will be held for the purpose of voting on the question of issuing \$469,530 water bonds.

POCATELLO, Bannock County, Ida.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on April 8 for the purpose of voting on the question of issuing \$150,000 6% paving bonds. These bonds were purchased by J. E. Edgerton Co. of Pocatello—V. 122, p. 1353—subject to their being voted at this election.

POLK COUNTY (P. O. Des Moines), Iowa.—BOND OFFERING.—Allen Munn, County Treasurer, will receive sealed bids until 2 p. m. April 1 for \$335,000 4 1/4% coupon road refunding bonds. Due May 1 as follows: \$85,000 1940 and \$50,000 1941 to 1945, inclusive. Legality approved by Chapman, Cutler & Parker, of Chicago. A certified check for \$10,000 required. These are the bonds originally offered on March 15—V. 122, p. 1065.

PUEBLO SOUTH SIDE SEWER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (P. O. Pueblo), Pueblo County, Colo.—BOND DESCRIPTION.—The \$250,000 5% coupon sewer bonds purchased by N. S. Walpole of Pueblo—V. 122, p. 1354—at 99, a basis of about 5.05%, are described as follows: Date Mar. 1 1926. Denom. \$1,000. Due Mar. 1 1946. Interest payable M. & S. Date of award Feb. 20.

QUAY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53 (P. O. Tucumcari), N. Mex.—BOND ELECTION.—On April 3 an election will be held for the purpose of voting on the question of issuing \$31,500 school bonds.

RAVENNA, Portage County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 12 m. Mar. 23 by W. A. Root, City Auditor, for \$25,547.43 5% (special assessment) North Prospect Street bonds. Denom. \$1,000, except 1 for \$547.43. Date Mar. 15 1926. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (M. & S.) payable at the Second National Bank, Ravenna. Due on Sept. 15 as follows: \$1,547.43, 1927 and \$3,000, 1928 to 1935 incl. Certified check for \$350 payable to the City Treasurer, required.

REEDER, Adams County, Mo. Dak.—CERTIFICATE OFFERING.—H. J. Horp, Village Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 2 p. m. April 3 for \$2,500 7% certificates of indebtedness. Dated April 5 1926. Due Oct. 5 1927. A certified check for 5% of bid required.

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Earl Park), Ind.—BOND SALE.—On Feb. 13 the \$80,000 4 1/2% school bonds offered on that date—V. 122, p. 918—were awarded to the Fletcher Savings & Trust Co. of Indianapolis at a premium of \$1,128.80, equal to 101.41. Dated Feb. 1 1926. Due in 1 to 15 years.

RICHMOND UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT, Contra Costa County, Calif.—BOND DESCRIPTION.—The \$885,000 5% school bonds awarded to a syndicate composed of the Bank of Italy, R. H. Moulton & Co. and the Anglo-London-Paris Co., all of San Francisco, the National City Co. of N. Y. City, and E. H. Rollins & Sons of Boston at 104.81 (V. 122, p. 646), a basis of about 4.67%, are described as follows: Dated Dec. 1 1925. Denom. \$1,000. Due Dec. 1 as follows: \$4,000, 1926 and 1927; \$10,000, 1928 and 1929; \$20,000, 1930 and 1931; \$10,000, 1932; \$15,000, 1933 to 1935 incl.; \$20,000, 1936 to 1940 incl.; \$25,000, 1941 to 1955 incl.; \$28,000, 1956 to 1961 incl.; \$30,000, 1962 to 1964 incl., and \$29,000 in 1965. Prin. and int. (J. & D.) payable at the office of the County Treasurer. Legality approved by Goodfellow, Eells, Moore & Orrick of San Francisco.

RIVERSIDE, Riverside County, Calif.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk until March 30 for the following 5% improvement bonds aggregating \$500,000: \$258,000 water bonds; 200,000 auditorium and soldiers' home bonds; 42,000 fire department bonds.

ROCHESTER, Olmsted County, Minn.—BOND OFFERING.—A. F. Wright, City Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 7:30 p. m. March 31 for \$75,000 4 3/4% sewage disposal plant bonds. Dated Sept. 1 1924. Denom. \$1,000. Due Dec. 1 as follows: \$8,000, 1928 to 1930 incl.; \$4,000, 1931 to 1940 incl.; \$3,000, 1941 to 1943 incl. and \$2,000 in 1944. Prin. and int. A. & O. payable at the City Treasurer's office. A certified check payable to the City Treasurer, for 2% of amount of bid, required.

ROCKWELL CITY, Calhoun County, Iowa.—BOND SALE.—The White-Phillips Co. of Davenport recently purchased an issue of \$10,700 4 3/4% funding bonds. Dated Mar. 1 1926. Denom. \$500 and \$100. Due Nov. 1 as follows: \$1,700, 1927; \$2,000, 1928 to 1931 incl., and \$1,000, 1932. Prin. and int. (M. & N.) payable at the City Treasurer's office. Legality approved by P. C. Duncan of Davenport.

Due on Sept. 1 as follows: \$1,000, 1928 to 1933 incl.; \$1,500, 1934 to 1939 incl., and \$2,000, 1940 to 1945 incl.

WASHBURN, McLean County, No. Dak.—BONDS VOTED.—At a recent election the voters authorized the issuance of \$20,000 sewer bonds by a count of 171 to 62 against.

WATERTOWN, Middlesex County, Mass.—LOAN OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 3:30 p. m. March 22 by the City Treasurer for the purchase on a discount basis of a \$250,000 temporary loan. Due Dec. 15 1926.

WAUWATOSA, Milwaukee County, Wis.—BOND SALE.—The \$50,000 4½% storm sewer bonds offered on March 16—V. 122, p. 1509—were awarded to the Continental & Commercial Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago at a premium of \$925, equal to 101.85, a basis of about 4.29%. Date March 15 1926. Due March 15 as follows: \$2,000, 1927 to 1936, incl., and \$3,000, 1937 to 1946, incl.

WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (P. O. Greeley), Colo.—BOND ELECTION—SALE.—An election will be held on April 8 for the purpose of voting on the question of issuing \$350,000 school bonds. These bonds have been purchased by Bosworth, Chanute & Co., and the International Trust Co., both of Denver, jointly, at 100.16—V. 122, p. 1509—subject to the outcome of this election.

WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 19 (P. O. Fort Lupton), Colo.—PRE-ELECTION SALE.—Bosworth, Chanute & Co. of Denver have purchased an issue of \$18,000 4¼% school bonds subject to their being voted at a coming election.

WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 23 (P. O. Greeley), Colo.—PRE-ELECTION SALE.—Benwell & Co. of Denver have purchased an issue of \$15,000 4½% school bonds at 99.90, subject to their being voted at a coming election. Due serially.

WHITE COUNTY (P. O. Monticello), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 10 a. m. March 30 by C. O. Downey, County Treasurer, for \$24,000 4½% Princeton Township road bonds. Denom. \$1,200. Dated March 15 1926. Int. M. & N. Due \$1,200 May and Nov. 15 1927 to 1936, incl.

WILCOX, Kearney County, Neb.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on April 6 for the purpose of voting on the question of issuing \$12,000 town hall bonds.

WILDWOOD, Cape May County, N. J.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 2:30 p. m. March 30 by C. A. Heil, Jr., City Clerk, for an issue of 5% coupon (with privilege of registration as to principal only or as to both principal and interest) school bonds not to exceed \$275,000, no more bonds to be awarded than will produce a premium of \$1,000 or over, \$275,000. Denom. \$1,000. Date April 15 1926. Prin. and semi-ann. int. (A. & O.) payable in gold coin at the Marine National Bank, Wildwood. Due on April 15 as follows: \$10,000, 1927 to 1931, incl., and \$15,000, 1932 to 1946, incl. Cert. check on an incorporated bank or trust company for 2% of the amount of bonds bid for, payable to Robert J. Kay, City Treasurer, required. Legality approved by Caldwell & Raymond of New York. Bonds will be delivered to the successful bidder at the office of the City Treasurer, at 2:30 p. m. April 15 1926 or as soon thereafter as they may be prepared.

WINDOM, Cottonwood County, Minn.—BOND ELECTION.—On April 6 an election will be held for the purpose of voting on the question of issuing \$10,000 land purchase bonds.

WYLIE, Collin County, Texas.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on March 27 for the purpose of voting on the question of issuing \$40,000 school bonds.

YORK, York County, So. Caro.—BOND SALE.—The \$100,000 water and sewer bonds offered on March 16—V. 122, p. 1355—were awarded to Ryan, Sutherland & Co. of Toledo as 5¼s, at a premium of \$1,556, equal to 101.55. Due in 30 years.

ZAVALLA-DIMMIT COUNTIES WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Batesville), Texas.—BOND ELECTION.—An election will be held on March 29 for the purpose of voting on the question of issuing \$70,000 6% water bonds.

CANADA, Provinces and its Municipalities.

BARTON TOWNSHIP (P. O. Hamilton), Ont.—BOND SALE.—On March the \$8,131 5¼% 10-year straight term road and sidewalk bonds offered on that date (V. 122, p. 1510) were awarded to Harris, MacKeen & Co., of Toronto, at 103.55—a basis of about 5.04%.

BASIN OF CHAMBLY, Que.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received up to 6 p. m. March 23 for the purchase of \$70,000 5% 30-year serial bonds, dated Feb. 1 1926, and in denom. of \$100, \$500 and \$1,000 each. R. Perrault, Secretary-Treasurer.

DALHOUSIE PARISH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Dalhousie), Restigouche County, N. B.—BOND SALE.—On March 11 the \$60,000 5½% coupon school bonds offered on that date—V. 122, p. 1062—were awarded to R. L. Daly & Co. of Toronto for \$62,442, equal

to 104.07. Denom. \$1,000 and \$500. Date March 1 1926. Int. M. & S. Due serially from March 1 1927 to 1951 inclusive.

EDMONTON, Alta.—BOND SALE.—Wood, Gundy & Co., Cochran, Hay & Co., McLeod, Young, Weir & Co., Macneill, Graham & Co., McDonagh, Somers & Co., C. H. Burgess & Co., and Gairdner, Clarke & Co., all of Toronto, purchased the following 13 issues of bonds aggregating \$237,785 34 as follows:

- \$2,002 31 grading streets bonds. Due in 8 years.
- 3,096 92 bituminous walks bonds. Due in 10 years.
- 69,205 38 bituminous walks bonds. Due in 10 years.
- 2,000 00 bridges bonds. Due in 15 years.
- 921 04 plank sidewalks bonds. Due in 5 years.
- 16,250 43 sidewalk construction bonds. Due in 10 years.
- The above issues were sold at 100.50.
- \$7,000 00 Alberta Ave. paving bonds. Due in 20 years.
- 13,807 03 curb and gutter bonds. Due in 20 years.
- 1,560 24 concrete walks bonds. Due in 20 years.
- 1,041 99 widening 122nd St. bonds. Due in 20 years.
- The above issues were sold at 101.
- \$90,800 water works extension bonds. Due in 30 years.
- 18,100 sewer construction bonds. Due in 30 years.
- 12,000 sewer construction bonds. Due in 30 years.
- The above issues were sold at 101.37.

NOVA SCOTIA (Province of).—BOND OFFERING.—E. H. Rhodes, Provincial Treasurer (P. O. Halifax), will receive bids until not later than 3 p. m. standard time) March 23 for the purchase of \$5,000,000 4% or 4½% coupon bonds to be issued for the following purposes:

Legislation to be issued under an Act of the present session of the Province of the Province for the purpose of paying and retiring two Treasury Bills of \$750,000 each, entered into as from Jan. 2 1926, and issued to pay and retire bonds of the Province which matured Jan. 1 1926.

1,500,000 bonds to be issued under an Act of the present session of the Legislature to provide for defraying certain charges and expenses of the Public Service of the Province, towards paying and retiring bonds of the Province maturing April 1 1926.

2,000,000 bonds to be issued under an Act of the present session of the Legislature to provide for defraying certain charges and expenses of the Public Service of the Province, for the purpose of paying off existing obligations.

Bonds will be dated April 1 1926. Int. payable semi-annually. Definitive bonds may be registered as to principal at the office of the Provincial Treasurer. Interim bonds without coupons, authorizing the holders to delivery of definitive bonds when engraved, to the amount specified in the interim bonds, will be ready for delivery April 1 1926. Definitive bonds will be engraved as soon as possible. Interim and definitive bonds to be delivered to purchaser and payment for same to be made at the Agency of the Royal Bank of Canada or the agency of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, New York. Bids are requested to be made for the full amount of bonds offered under the following four propositions:

- 20-year bonds, prin. & int. payable in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto or N. Y.
 - 10-year bonds, prin. & int. payable in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto or N. Y.
 - 3-year bonds, prin. & int. payable in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto or N. Y.
 - 2-year bonds, prin. & int. payable in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto or N. Y.
- The total amount of bonds to be issued as above mentioned will be for a sum sufficient to realize \$5,000,000.

PEMBROKE, Ont.—BOND SALE.—On March 15 the following two issues of 5% bonds, aggregating \$60,515 22, offered on that date (V. 122, p. 1510) were awarded to H. R. Bain & Co., Ltd., of Toronto, at 99.53: \$54,224 31 local improvement bonds. Due in 1936.

6,290 91 water-works extension bonds. Due in 1956. Date April 15 1926. Other bidders were:

Bidders—	Rate Bid.	Bidders—	Rate Bid.
Harris, MacKeen & Co.	99.41	Fry, Mills, Spence & Co.	99.031
Bell, Gouinlock & Co.	99.40	Roberts, Cameron & Co., Ltd.	99.03
Bank of Nova Scotia	99.27	Wood, Gundy & Co., Ltd.	98.95
R. A. Daly & Co.	99.255	McLeod, Young, Weir & Co., Ltd.	98.81
Matthews & Co., Ltd.	99.18		
Gairdner & Co., Ltd.	99.132	Dymont, Anderson & Co.	98.78
C. H. Burgess & Co.	99.13	Toronto Bond Exchange, Ltd.	98.71
Municipal Bankers Corp., Ltd.	99.124	Royal Securities Corp., Ltd.	98.27
Macneill, Graham & Co.	99.07	MacKay-MacKay	98.00

SALABERRY DE VALLEYFIELD, Que.—BOND OFFERING.—Bids will be received up to 7 p. m. March 24 for the purchase of \$175,000 5% 30-year serial bonds, dated Nov. 1 1926, and payable at Valleyfield and Montreal. Bonds are in denom. of \$500 and multiples. L. J. Boyer, Clerk.

SASKATOON, Sask.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received up to 12 o'clock noon April 8 for the purchase of \$109,731 5% 10, 15, 20 and 30-year local improvement bonds. Alternative bids are asked for bonds payable in Canada only, and payable in Canada and New York Andrew Leslie, City Commissioner.

TORONTO, Ont.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 12 m. March 25 by Geo. H. Ross, Commissioner of Finance, for \$4,995,000 4½% city bonds. Payable in Canada and London. Legality approved by J. B. Clarke of Toronto.

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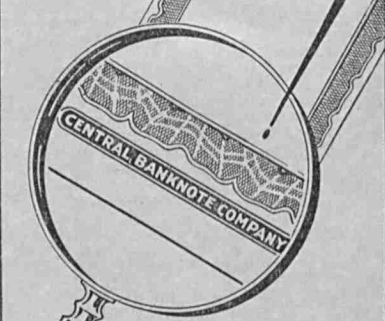
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