

# The Commercial & Financial Chronicle

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Railway & Industrial Compendium  
State & Municipal Compendium

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Railway Earnings Section

Bank and Quotation Section  
Bankers' Convention Section

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### The Financial Situation.

Few clouds are discernible on the financial horizon and the news developments of the week have been generally favorable. Chief among these is the further substantial increase in the income tax payments on March 15, which are thought to approximate \$600,000,000, or about \$100,000,000 more than the payments for March 15 1926. This means, firstly, debt reduction of upwards of \$1,000,000,000 for the year, including the sinking fund payments, and, secondly, the great likelihood of another tax revision at the December session of Congress with material decreases in income tax rates. The Treasury, it is said, will recommend that the corporation tax be reduced from the present excessive rate of 13½%, while rates on individuals can also be revised downwards. Such reductions in the cost of government to the business community will be heartily welcomed.

Motor car sales by the General Motors Co. in February far surpassed those of the corresponding month last year, dealer sales increasing 50% and sales by dealers to customers even more. The General Motors Corporation, however, stands in a class all by itself and there is uneasiness as to the intentions of Mr. Ford. The United States Steel Corporation reports production of steel ingots proceeding at more than 99% of capacity, though part of this excellent showing is understood to be due to the stepping up of operations recently as a precaution against the possibility of a coal strike. The Census Bureau announcement of cotton consumption in February also was distinctly favorable, exports exceeding last year's showing in February by 454,322 bales, and home takings increasing 25,339 bales, both consuming branches thus continuing the trend of the last seven months.

Not all of the developments were favorable, the Bureau of Railway Economics announcing that the

net income of the 189 Class 1 railroads of the country in January of this year showed a return of only 4.2% on the property investment, as against 4.59% in January last year. Three additional Florida banks failed to open their doors Monday morning, all located in Palm Beach County.

Nevertheless, the developments were sufficiently favorable to stimulate further the wave of speculative activity in the securities markets. Sales on the New York Stock Exchange have been in the neighborhood of 2,000,000 shares each day this week and in the downward reaction yesterday went above 2,200,000 shares. Prices were irregular on Monday, with advances more emphatic than declines; on Tuesday the market sagged slightly as a whole. Sharp upswings on Wednesday, attended the reduction on that day of the rate for call money to 3½%, the lowest figure recorded for demand funds since June 17 1926. The rate rose again the following day, but activity continued unchecked, resulting finally in rather sharp declines in individual issues yesterday. The bond market has followed a roughly parallel course, with Treasury 3¾s and 4¼s advancing to new high levels. The more important bond issues of the week were offered Wednesday, when \$21,000,000 in South American bonds and an equal amount in domestic issues were placed on the market.

Loans on stocks and bonds to brokers and dealers by reporting members of the Federal Reserve Bank in New York for the week ending March 9 increased \$6,066,000 from the previous week. This makes the third successive week in which an increase has occurred and undoubtedly reflects increased public participation in the stock market. The total of such loans reported was \$2,819,111,000, as against \$2,718,634,000 for the week of Feb. 16. The highest total of brokers' loans reported by the Reserve Board for New York member banks was \$3,141,125,000 on Jan. 6 1926 and the low point \$2,408,430,000, the latter occurring on May 19 1926. It is worthy of note that whereas outstanding credits of this sort three weeks ago were \$420,000,000 less than at the same date in 1926, they stood last week only \$66,000,000 below the total of a year ago. In effect, the speculative community has been reversing the corrective operation of a year ago, and this fact will make the thoughtful investor pause. There can be no doubt that Stock Exchange speculation has latterly again been assuming an unhealthy aspect, and the sharp downward reaction of yesterday must, in that sense, be looked upon as a welcome development.

Merchandise exports from the United States last month were valued at \$373,000,000, these figures

comparing with \$420,005,000, the value of exports in January, and with \$352,905,000 in February of last year. Imports, on the other hand, were valued at only \$312,000,000, against \$357,268,000 in January and \$387,306,000 a year ago. The decline in the value of both exports and imports in February of this year from the preceding month is due wholly to the fact that February is a short month. There is an increase in the February exports as compared with the corresponding month last year of \$20,000,000. Of this amount cotton contributed \$10,862,600 increase. Cotton exports last month were very heavy, totaling 1,010,507 bales, nearly double the exports of a year ago. Imports, on the other hand, in February of this year were much the lowest in value of any month since November 1924.

The decline in imports from February a year ago is \$75,306,000, an unusually heavy loss. It is announced that imports of sugar in February of this year were greatly reduced. There was also a sharp decline in sugar imports in January. For that month a year ago the value of sugar imports was \$12,126,100, while for February 1926 it was \$22,605,900. Just how much the loss for February this year will be has not yet been announced. Rubber imports a year ago were also exceptionally large, owing to the very high price of rubber at that time, imports of rubber now being only about one-half of the value reported in the early months of 1926. In February of last year rubber imports were \$58,733,000. The February 1927 figures are not as yet available, but are expected to show a considerable loss.

The balance of trade for February continues on the export side, the amount for that month being \$61,000,000. For January this year it was \$62,737,000, but for February of last year there was a balance on the import side amounting to \$34,401,000, this having been one of the results of the heavy merchandise imports at that time, which continued for several months. For the eight months of the current fiscal year ending with February, merchandise exports were \$3,394,811,000 and imports \$2,798,120,000, an excess of exports of \$596,691,000. The corresponding figures for eight months of the preceding fiscal year were exports, \$3,296,269,000, and imports, \$2,966,891,000, an excess of exports of \$329,378,000. Exports have increased in value for the eight months of the current fiscal year \$98,542,000, while imports for the current year to date show a decline of \$168,771,000.

Exports and imports of gold last month diminished considerably, both as compared with the preceding month and with February a year ago. Gold exports in February this year were \$2,414,000 and imports \$22,302,000. For eight months of the current fiscal year gold exports have amounted to \$91,276,000 and imports to \$174,638,000—an excess of imports of \$83,362,000. For the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year the excess of imports was \$53,733,000. Silver exports last month were \$6,233,000 and exports \$3,853,000.

Foreigners in China are beginning to bow to the inevitable. In the past week practically all colleges and mission boards have submitted to Chinese control, the foreign administrators generally accepting the situation with good grace. Missionaries from the interior to the number of 800 are said to be in Shanghai. Formal occupation by the Cantonese of

the British concession at Hankow took place March 15, in accordance with the agreement between Eugene Chen, the Nationalist Foreign Minister, and Owen St. C. O'Malley, British Charge d'Affaires. The concession hereafter will be administered jointly by Chinese and British. This was called in a Shanghai dispatch the "first tangible victory in the Chinese struggle with foreign Powers," and it is generally regarded as a forerunner to the relinquishment by the Powers of practically all interior concessions. "China, both North and South," said Ziangling Chang, Chinese Consul-General in New York, "has made up her mind to get back all the sovereign rights vital to her existence as an independent nation and as a respectable member in the family of nations." The depth of this movement is well recognized by experienced observers. Professor Henry K. Norton in a recent article in the New York "Times" said: "The Chinese students have carried the cry of anti-foreignism up and down the land. It has served to arouse the Chinese people as they have seldom been aroused before. It has given them a new sense of national consciousness quite foreign to their own traditions. It has borne in upon them the necessity for internal reorganization if they are to remain an independent nation among the nations of the world. For the first time they have begun to think as Chinese instead of as members of this or that family."

A striking corollary of the determination of the Chinese to oust the foreigners from their privileged positions is the care with which it is being carried out. The persons of foreigners are being respected to an extraordinary degree. The Chinese are, however, employing the boycott with telling effect, particularly against the British. Foreign educated Chinese are directing the movement on both sides; Russian Communists in addition aiding the Southerners. The unanimity in the foreign policies of Eugene Chen and Wellington Koo, Foreign Ministers, respectively, of the Nationalist and the Northern factions, has frequently been commented on. The Jersey City "Journal" summarized it wittily, remarking that though "Italy is the only country shaped like a boot, China is the only country acting like one."

A few unfortunate instances of violence were, however, reported during the past week. The American destroyer "Preble" was fired on early in the week while in the Yangtze near Wuhu. The bridge of the vessel was struck several times and the fire was returned. The Commander of the "Preble" reported that Northern troops did the firing. In Shanghai itself 200 troops of the same faction tried to march across the International Settlement on March 12, but were turned back by British guards. Foreign factories also are subject to strikes and sabotage, some 12,000 Chinese being on strike early in the week, chiefly to show sympathy with the Nationalist cause.

The struggle for Shanghai between the Nationalist and the Northern factions is still in progress, but the movements of the opposing forces are in doubt. Vague and unreliable reports have reached Shanghai of actual fighting in Honan Province between troops of Chang Tso-lin, the Northern Dictator, and semi-independent troops. This is far to the northward of the Yangtze. Close to Shanghai minor con-

tacts have occurred between the opposing troops, but the battle for which Shanghai waits has not yet materialized. Instead, the Southern troops are systematically raiding the trunk railroad northward from Shanghai. They tear up the rails and vanish, seriously disrupting communications. To make transportation additionally difficult for the "defenders" of Shanghai, Chinese railway employees with Southern leanings are deserting their posts. Nor are the actions of the Northern military leaders calculated to make them more acceptable to the native population of the great treaty port. "Chinese financial circles here," says an Associated Press dispatch of March 12 from Shanghai, "are greatly perturbed at Chang Tsung-chang's demand for a large sum of money from the local bankers and Chambers of Commerce to meet his military expenses. The sum demanded is reported to be 10,000,000 taels, or about \$6,000,000." On March 13 the same press association reported that "a state of virtual panic prevails among the Chinese shopkeepers of the native city of Shanghai, who are feeling the heavy hand of the Shantung soldiery, whose tactics are believed to be doing much to swing native business men over to the Nationalist cause." The Northern squadron of ancient and ineffective ships lying near Shanghai changed its allegiance early in the week, going over to the Southern side, probably because the crews were no longer being paid by the Northerners. The incident had no effect on the military situation.

The difficult question of the policing of the Sarre Valley was settled at Geneva March 12 just as the forty-fourth session of the Council of the League of Nations drew to a close. French troops are to be withdrawn from the Sarre in three months. The question of policing the area was brought forward last Saturday, when Major George W. Stephens of Canada, President of the Sarre Valley Governing Commission, presented his recommendation that an inter-Allied force of 800 men act as a special railway defense corps. This force would remain in the area until 1935, when a plebiscite will determine whether the Sarre will go under permanent German or French sovereignty. Dr. Gustav Stresemann, the German Foreign Minister, opposed the plan, declaring that the local gendarmerie would give sufficient protection to transport. Foreign Minister Aristide Briand, however, insisted upon adherence to the recommendations of the Commission, and after a lengthy debate, this finally was agreed to by the German delegation. The settlement was hailed as another triumph of the League in conciliation, Dr. Stresemann being given due credit for having made it possible. His decision, Dr. Stresemann said, was taken on his own responsibility and not on instructions from his Government. He added that he was acting in the matter "more as a League man than as a German."

A practical solution was also reached by the League Council of the perplexing problem which had arisen over the German minority schools in Polish Upper Silesia. German is taught in these schools and the closing of some of them by the Polish authorities and wholesale expulsions from others had brought about a situation which caused endless friction between Berlin and Warsaw. The League solution supports the German contentions on every point except as to the right of children speaking only the

Polish tongue to enter the minority schools. No account is taken in the League solution of the legal arguments of the Poles, but here again their acceptance is declared in accord with the League spirit, which puts practical solutions above legal niceties.

The concessions made by Dr. Stresemann in Geneva on the policing of the Sarre raised a storm of criticism in Germany. This was quickly dispelled, however, after the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday when, with President von Hindenburg in the chair, unanimous approval of his actions was forthcoming. The Foreign Minister, says a dispatch of March 15 to the New York "Times," showed his colleagues the relative unimportance of last week's Geneva settlements in the general scheme of things. He demonstrated that any attitude other than one of extreme conciliation would have placed a barrier in front of the negotiations with France for the evacuation of the Rhineland that might have required many months to surmount. He asked the Cabinet, in effect, whether it would have preferred to have had him sacrifice highly important future considerations for insignificant matters of the moment. Painting the picture of the international situation as a whole, he stressed the danger of Germany incurring enmity in any quarter at a time when Britain's conflict with Russia is keeping the whole world on tenterhooks. The aim of the Reich, he added, is to free its soil from foreign troops, and to attain that paramount goal his concessions at Geneva were unavoidable.

Premier Poincare, after a debate which occupied eight successive Fridays in the French Chamber of Deputies, received a sweeping vote of confidence from that body on March 11, indicating general satisfaction with his policies. Unemployment and currency stabilization are the main internal problems of France. The only real criticism of the Government, says a dispatch of March 11 to the New York "Times," has come from the stabilizationists, who twice attempted to get the Premier to make a definite promise that he would stabilize the franc legally at something like the present figure within a fairly short period. Such assurances M. Poincare has persistently declined to give. No attempt at legal stabilization, he maintains, should be made until many outside factors, such as the foreign debt situation, have been cleared up. To the business men and importers, however, he gave assurances repeatedly that the Treasury and the Bank of France have enough foreign money on hand to prevent at any time a serious drop in the value of the franc. The rise in the value of the franc has, it is claimed, caused business to slacken, lowering both internal consumption and export trade. The Premier has, nevertheless, been able to point to the general improvement which has taken place since the franc recovered and he maintains stoutly that trade will improve again when prices, which rose when the franc fell last summer, are reduced to their real value. Unfortunately, the reduction process is slow, food prices in particular remaining excessive. The position of the French Treasury has shown great improvement under the Poincare regime, the Premier announcing in the Senate on March 15 that the budget for 1926-27, for the first time since the war, showed a "notable excess" of receipts over expenditures. He remarked further: "When I came into

power we started by obtaining a credit of 930,000,000 francs from big concerns, but this was repaid to the last centime by Sept. 30, and to-day the Government has a credit available at the Bank of France of seven and one-half billion francs."

A treaty of amity between Russia and Latvia was signed March 10 and is generally regarded in Europe as a diplomatic victory for the Soviet. Despite emphatic denials by Sir Austen Chamberlain, British Minister for Foreign Affairs, that a British plot is hatching for the encirclement of Russia with a ring of enemies, European Chancelleries persist in believing that such a movement is on foot. The present treaty insures neutrality between the Soviet and Latvia in the event of attack by a third Power, and Russia is considered to have gained by it a slight offset to the recent Italian ratification of the Paris pact of 1920 whereby Rumania receives the former Russian province of Bessarabia. The agreement is similar to the Treaty of Berlin between Germany and Russia, both parties agreeing not to enter any coalition directed against the territorial integrity or political independence of the other. In Geneva it is understood that the document goes so far as to prevent Latvia even joining in an economic blockade. As this is contrary to the letter and spirit of Article XVI of the League Covenant, no little concern was expressed in Geneva over the treaty.

A second treaty, also concluded, provides for an arbitration commission under a neutral president. Differences still exist with the Soviet over Latvia's obligations as a member of the League of Nations. The Latvian Foreign Minister, says a Riga dispatch of March 11 to the New York "Evening Post," advances the view that it is time for an international conference of Northeastern Europe wherein Russia, Germany, France and England would participate with the object of maintaining the *status quo* in the Baltic by a series of similar treaties.

Rapid progress is being made in the drafting of a permanent commercial treaty between France and Germany, says a report of March 13 to the New York "Times." The first formal session of the resumed negotiations was held last Saturday and on Sunday it was already announced that the delegates were in substantial agreement on the main lines of the accord. The only remaining issue of importance was the question of the admission of French wines into Germany on an equal customs basis with those of Italy and Spain. At present French wines are taxed 80% in Germany, whereas other wines enter at 15%, to which figure France wants the tax on her own product reduced. The Germans are considering this request and are expected to meet it in a satisfactory manner. The accord is considered somewhat disturbing to American business men in France, as Germany will receive under it the most favored nation treatment; a friendly concession which will permit Germany, it is thought, to sell many of her products in France at much more attractive prices than Americans can. This, coupled with the new French protective tariff, will, it is feared, put a serious handicap upon American commercial interests in that country. The French, adds the "Times" representative, "are frankly hoping these considerations will influence the American Government to seek a Franco-American commercial

treaty. In return for certain concessions for her perfumes, silks and other luxury products, France would gladly extend the most favored nation clause to the United States and thereby remove the disabilities which the new tariff, plus German competition, unquestionably will place on American goods." The new treaty will probably go into effect before August, the time originally set when the negotiations began. A temporary trade arrangement is functioning meanwhile under which every facility has been extended to German salesmen by France, the Germans naturally making full use of the opportunity.

Heavy customs duties on German food importations are foreshadowed in Berlin. Martin Schiele, the Minister of Agriculture in the Reichstag, who is understood to have a free hand in manipulating the duties on food, said Wednesday that increased tariff protection is necessary for the salvation of German agriculture and for the amelioration of the unemployment problem. American agricultural interests will be seriously affected by the increased rates, as Germany now imports yearly 4,000,000,000 marks worth of food. A Berlin dispatch of March 16 to the New York "Herald Tribune" reports Minister Schiele as saying that "the German economic system could not stand the continued strain of combined reparations payments, interest payments on foreign loans, unemployment doles and the imported food bill." That manufactures will not be neglected in German tariff increases is indicated by a recent customs orders which advances the duty on automobile parts and accessories to the prohibitive level prescribed for completed cars. This, it is pointed out by the New York "World," may make it impossible for American manufacturers of motor cars to operate assembling plants in that country.

The opportunity for a personal investigation of the affairs of Haiti was denied United States Senator William H. King by the Haitian President, Louis Borno, according to Washington dispatches of March 12. The Haitian Minister in Washington had received informal advices that Mr. King intended to proceed to Haiti and communicated with his Government, which promptly replied that it considered Mr. King "undesirable and that access to the territory of Haiti is forbidden to him." Two reasons were given by Haiti for its exclusion of Senator King: "First, Mr. King has publicly uttered in the United States a false and offensive declaration against the President of Haiti and his coadjutors who are faithfully carrying out the treaty of 1915 voted by the Senate of the United States and by the legislative body of Haiti; second, Mr. King has made himself in the United States the agent of the worst element of disorder in Haitian politics. His presence in Haiti would provoke a political agitation on the part of these elements which would create a general feeling of unrest and insecurity the consequence of which would be disastrous to the population which now is accustomed to peace and labor." The particular utterances of Senator King that Haiti objects to are to the effect that "Borno is a mere figurehead, a creature of our Government and that he acts only as General Russell tells him to act. Our Government is now keeping hundreds of marines in Haiti at a cost annually of several millions of dol-

lars to the United States. General Russell is there in control of Haiti and our marines act under his orders." Senator King's exclusion is the more noteworthy as he has long championed in Congress the right of Haiti to go along about its own business without the kindly offices of American marines to help it. The American Department of State promptly acquiesced in President Borno's action, maintaining that it could do nothing in the circumstances, and Senator King on Wednesday announced that he would not try further to gain entry into the negro republic. The incident is closed until the Senate reconvenes.

Sanguinary fighting was resumed in Nicaragua during the past week. The Liberal forces under General Moncada having rejected the peace overtures made last week, were attacked at Muy Muy by the Conservatives, nominally in control of the country. The number of men actually engaged in the warfare is uncertain, but an Associated Press report of March 16 gives 8,000 as the strength of the Conservatives against 6,000 Liberals. The Conservatives are being aided by two American aviators. Despite their assistance, the Government forces were repelled from Muy Muy, the Liberals remaining in possession of the village. Casualties were given as 300 in a dispatch of March 15 to the Chicago "Tribune," which adds that "casualties in Central American revolutions mean mostly deaths." Other than this engagement, the activities consist chiefly of looting and raiding expeditions, a number of these on the part of the Liberal forces being reported.

Damage to the property of foreigners is again being complained of, several British subjects having lodged protests with Harold Pattenon, the British Charge d'Affaires at Managua. The injuries complained of were sustained at the hands of the loyal Government troops, according to the correspondent of the New York "Herald Tribune." In one case the neutral zone established by the American marines was violated.

Official discount rates at leading European centres have not been changed from 7% in Italy; 6% in Belgium and Austria; 5½% in Paris and Denmark; 5% in London, Berlin and Madrid; 4½% in Sweden and Norway, and 3½% in Holland and Switzerland. In London open market discounts were steady and still unchanged, at 4¾@4 7-16% for short bills and 4 5-16@4¾% for three months bills, the same as last week. Money on call in London was firmly held and ruled at 4%, though closing lower, at 3½%, against 4% a week ago. At Paris the open market discount rate has been reduced to 4¼, against 4¾%; but at Switzerland the 2¾% rate remains without change.

The Bank of England in its weekly statement of March 16 showed a small decrease in gold holdings, namely £17,005. Total gold holdings now amount to £150,736,021, against £145,561,670 last year, and £128,618,554 the year previous (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). Reserve of gold and notes in the banking department increased £333,000, there having been a decrease in notes in circulation amounting to £350,000. The proportion of reserve to liability advanced to 28.29% from 27.85%, the ratio

last week. Public deposits expanded £3,025,000, but "other" deposits fell off £1,743,000. Loans on Government securities increased £1,435,000, while loans on the "other" securities decreased £459,000. Note circulation stands at £130,706,000, against £141,206,640 in 1926, and £124,073,935 in 1925. The Bank's official discount rate of 5% remains unchanged. Below we give a detailed comparative statement back to 1923:

	1927.		1926.		1925.		1924.		1923.	
	March 16.	March 17.	March 17.	March 18.	March 18.	March 19.	March 19.	March 21.	March 21.	March 21.
	£		£		£		£		£	
Circulation.....	136,706,000	141,206,640	124,073,935	124,905,370	123,198,570					
Public deposits.....	19,183,000	19,812,755	13,752,406	23,997,491	24,128,920					
Other deposits.....	100,179,000	100,202,646	108,508,333	105,795,098	102,643,570					
Govern't securities	32,658,000	38,020,328	39,891,830	48,357,455	48,529,200					
Other securities....	73,230,000	76,176,864	76,349,459	76,748,003	72,435,936					
Reserve notes & coin	33,779,000	24,105,030	24,294,619	22,949,676	24,062,950					
Coin and bullion..a	150,736,021	145,561,670	128,618,554	128,105,046	127,511,520					
Proportion of reserve to liabilities.....	28.29%	20.08%	19¾%	17¾%	19%					
Bank rate.....	5%	5%	5%	4%	3%					

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.

The important changes in the Bank of France's weekly statement as of March 16 were the reduction in note circulation of 490,822,030 francs, carrying the total down to 52,273,350,065 francs. At the same time a year ago the total notes outstanding stood at 51,698,934,615 francs, against 40,880,024,375 francs in 1925. The State repaid 400,000,000 francs more to the bank, and this brought the total amount down to 28,900,000,000 francs as compared with 36,250,000,000 francs last year and 21,800,000,000 francs in 1925. Gold holdings remained the same at 5,547,828,350 francs as against 5,548,291,867 francs and 5,545,904,836 francs in 1926 and 1925, respectively. Changes that occurred in other items were: Silver holdings increased 57,440,000 francs and general deposits 535,836,576 francs. Treasury deposits diminished 37,944,097 francs, bills discounted 213,401,850 francs, and trade advances 43,507,328 francs. Comparisons of the various items in this week's return with the statement of last week and with corresponding dates in 1926 and 1925 are as follows:

	Changes for Week.	Status as of		
		Mar. 16 1927.	Mar. 17 1926.	Mar. 18 1925.
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Gold Holdings—				
In France.....	Unchanged	3,683,507,443	3,683,970,959	3,681,583,928
Abroad.....	Unchanged	1,864,320,907	1,864,320,907	1,864,320,907
Total.....	Unchanged	5,547,828,350	5,548,291,867	5,545,904,836
Silver.....Inc.	57,440,000	342,107,018	329,699,287	307,470,325
Bills discounted....Dec.	213,401,850	2,723,052,028	3,236,909,347	5,756,010,134
Trade advances....Dec.	43,507,328	1,935,801,290	2,487,381,671	3,053,305,745
Note circulation....Dec.	490,822,030	52,273,350,065	51,698,934,615	40,880,024,375
Treasury deposits....Dec.	37,944,097	20,832,927	48,651,471	13,136,553
General deposits....Inc.	535,836,576	3,895,753,625	2,673,310,783	2,040,737,096
Advances to State....Dec.	400,000,000	28,900,000,000	36,250,000,000	21,800,000,000

The German Reichsbank's weekly statement as of March 15 showed a decrease in note circulation of 203,099,000 marks reducing the total amount to 3,143,778,000 marks against 2,604,506,000 marks in 1926 and 1,947,732,000 marks the previous year. Other daily maturing obligations increased 104,492,000 marks, other liabilities 32,074,000 marks. On the asset side of the account the majority of items showed increases. Gold and bullion holdings rose 46,000 marks and reserve in foreign currencies 22,008,000 marks. Silver and other coin increased 8,703,000 marks, notes on other German banks 4,966,000 marks, other assets 19,459,000 marks, while investments decreased 35,000 marks. Advances

diminished 26,694,000 marks, while bills of exchange and checks decreased 94,986,000 marks. Gold and bullion now stands at 1,834,921,000 marks against 1,427,936,000 marks and 985,223,000 marks in 1926 and 1925 respectively. Below we give a detailed comparative statement back to 1925.

## REICHSBANK'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

Assets—	Changes for			
	Week.	Mar. 15 1927.	Mar. 15 1926.	Mar. 14 1925.
	Reichsmarks.	Reichsmarks.	Reichsmarks.	Reichsmarks.
Gold and bullion.....Inc.	46,000	1,834,921,000	1,427,936,000	985,223,000
Of which dep. abr'd. Unchanged		93,007,000	220,453,000	264,369,000
Reserve in foreign currencies.....Inc.	22,008,000	224,143,000	475,978,000	328,407,000
Bills of ex. & checks.....Dec.	94,986,000	719,334,000	1,167,320,000	1,582,892,000
Silver & other coin.....Inc.	8,703,000	138,028,000	93,969,000	63,848,000
Notes on other German banks.....Inc.	4,966,000	19,965,000	28,040,000	18,624,000
Advances.....Dec.	26,694,000	19,532,000	8,230,000	8,475,000
Investments.....Dec.	35,000	57,765,000	235,391,000	111,828,000
Other assets.....Inc.	19,459,000	407,314,000	908,441,000	1,375,248,000
<b>Liabilities—</b>				
Notes in circulation.....Dec.	203,099,000	3,143,778,000	2,604,506,000	1,947,732,000
Other daily maturing obligations.....Inc.	104,492,000	628,720,000	874,544,000	991,989,000
Other liabilities.....Inc.	32,074,000	191,711,000	557,650,000	1,220,327,000

The weekly statements of the Federal Reserve Banks' issued on Thursday afternoon, indicated heavy shifting of funds arising out of the large payments made by the U. S. Treasury and the preparations for meeting the quarterly income tax payment. The outstanding feature of the reports was a sharp reduction in rediscounting operations and also in open market dealing. For the banks as a group there was a decline in rediscounts of all classes of bills of approximately \$85,400,000, while holdings of bills bought in the open market fell \$45,800,000. Holdings of Government securities increased 168,400,000 owing to the issuance by the U. S. Treasury of \$177,000,000 of temporary certificates pending the collection of the income taxes. Of this amount the Federal Reserve Bank took \$111,000,000. Total bills and securities (earning assets) were augmented \$37,200,000, while deposits increased \$62,300,000. Member bank reserve accounts also increased, \$74,200,000. Gold holdings registered a gain of \$11,100,000. At New York a loss in gold of \$14,800,000 occurred. Here also material reduction was shown in rediscounting. In bills secured by Government obligations there was a drop of \$55,300,000 and in "other" bills a shrinkage of \$8,300,000. Bill buying in the open market dropped \$33,700,000. Expansion took place in each of the following items: Total bills and securities \$19,600,000, deposits \$2,600,000 and member bank reserve accounts \$16,500,000. The amount of Federal reserve notes in actual circulation, however, was reduced locally as well as nationally, the reduction being \$500,000 and \$12,600,000, respectively. The additions to deposits were sufficient to bring about decreases in reserve ratios, regardless of the movement of gold. For the System as a whole the ratio of reserve declined 0.7%, to 79.0%, while at New York there was a drop of 1.4% to 82.8%.

Striking changes were also shown in last Saturday's return of the New York Clearing House banks and trust companies. These included an increase in actual surplus of more than \$66,000,000, in the face of heavy expansion in deposits; an increase in loans and an addition to member bank reserves at the Federal Reserve Bank of well over \$71,000,000. Loans and discounts increased \$30,446,000. Net demand deposits rose \$42,176,000 to \$4,412,944,000. This total is exclusive of \$22,163,000 of Government deposits. Time deposits, on the other hand, fell \$2,342,000 to \$667,397,000. Cash in own vaults of

members of the Federal Reserve Bank increased \$1,445,000, but this does not constitute reserve. State banks and trust company reserves in own vaults fell off \$161,000; in the reserves kept in other depositories there was a nominal increase, namely \$3,000. As indicated above, member banks added to their reserves in the Federal Reserve Bank no less than \$71,681,000, which of course was sufficient to offset larger deposits and, after wiping out last week's deficiency in reserve of \$5,909,970, left excess reserves of \$60,136,790—an increase for the week of \$66,046,760. The figures here given for surplus are on the basis of legal reserve requirements of 13% against demand deposits for member banks of the Federal Reserve System, but do not include \$43,883,000 cash in vault held by these members on Saturday last.

An abundance of funds in the money market brought the call loan rate down to 3½% last Wednesday, this being the first time the rate has dropped so low since June 17 1926. The rate of 4% prevailed on Monday and Tuesday, unchanged from the previous week. With the decline on Wednesday speculative activity on the stock market was stimulated, carrying the list into new high ground. The low rate ruled most of the day. Completion of Government financing operations incidental to March 15 payments was said in banking circles to account for the unusual ease in the money market. Demand loans advanced again on Thursday to 4%, where they remained yesterday without further tendency downward. The Federal Reserve Board's condition statement as of March 9 again showed an increase in brokers' loans by New York member banks. The increase was \$6,066,000 over the preceding week and marked the third successive enhancement. Little attention was paid to it in the stock market. The week's gold movement was very light, the chief item being the receipt of \$1,000,000 from Canada.

As to specified rates for money loans on call have been all but motionless this week. With the exception of Wednesday when there was a decline for a brief period to 3½%, the only figure named during the four other business days of the week, that is, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, was 4%, this being the high, the low and the renewal basis on each of these days. The range for the week therefore was 3½@4%, which compares with 4% a week ago.

In time money trading is still inactive, with funds in liberal supply. Toward the latter part of the week easier conditions prevailed and as a result sixty and ninety day money was quoted at 4¾%, against 4¾@4½%; the longer maturities—four, five and six months—remain at 4¾@4½%, the same as last week. Trading was inclined to be listless. According to bankers, the prevailing ease in the money market was surprising, in view of the recent strain of meeting heavy mid-month financing requirements.

Commercial paper was in demand, but offerings of the best names were still restricted; hence trading was only moderately active. Four to six months' names of choice character have not been changed from 4%, with names not so well at 4¼%, the same as heretofore. New England mill paper and the shorter choice names continue to pass at 4%.

Banks' and bankers, acceptances were steady and still unchanged. Trading was quiet, and the week's

turnover again reached moderate proportions with large buyers taking only a limited interest in the acceptance market. For call loans against bankers' acceptances, the posted rate of the American Acceptance Council remains 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 days and 90 days, 3 7/8% bid and 3 3/4% asked for 120 days, and 4% bid and 3 7/8% asked for 150 and 180 days. Open market quotations follow:

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 18 1927.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK.	Paper Maturing—					
	Within 90 Days.				After 90 Days, but Within 6 Months.	After 6 Months but Within 9 Months.
	Com'rcial Agric'l & Live-stock Paper. n.e.s.	Secured by U. S. Govern't Obligations.	Bankers' Acceptances.	Trade Acceptances.	Agricul. and Live-stock Paper.	Agricul' and Live-stock Paper. 1
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

Activity and strength developed in the sterling exchange market this week and trading was liberal in volume and at the highest levels attained in quite some time. Almost from the start a broadening in inquiry was noted, and it was not long before it became evident that the market was shaking off its apparent lethargy and indifference and commencing to function briskly. Persistent buying, accompanied by comparatively light offerings of commercial bills, soon drove prices upward, until demand bills advanced nearly 1/2 of a cent to 4.85 1-16. This figure is well above the levels recently prevailing and the advance aroused considerable comment. While it is true that in the ordinary course of events sterling rates should move upward with the turn of the year until well into the spring, the tendency up till a week or so ago had been toward lower levels, so that a sudden shift in direction at this time was looked upon as a development of some importance. According to bankers in close touch with the situation, the rise was not due to any increase in the movement of funds to London, but was largely in response to the inauguration of urgent buying by rubber interests who were said to be making settlement through London for recent purchases of rubber made in India.

It is undoubtedly true that movements in the sterling exchange market during the past few months have defied all attempts at analysis. Depression with declining levels has prevailed at times when normally the market should be advancing, while,

conversely, advances have been recorded when general expectations were of a decline. The explanation for these abnormal tendencies will undoubtedly be found in the British coal strike, which for many months so completely disorganized British industrial conditions and left behind it untoward influences not even yet completely removed. Developments in the Far East had no influence one way or the other on market sentiment and the feeling appeared to be one of confidence, not to say buoyancy, on the ground that the outlook is for improvement in economic and financial affairs generally.

As to quotations in greater detail, sterling exchange on Saturday last was steady and still unchanged, at 4.84 3/4 (one rate) for demand and 4.85 1/4 for cable transfers; trading was of the usual half-day session variety, very dull. On Monday rates advanced partly in sympathy with strength in some of the Continental exchanges and partly as a result of improved buying, and the range for demand was 4.84 3/4 @ 4.84 29-32 and for cable transfers 4.85 1/4 @ 4.85 13-32; slightly more activity developed. Brisk buying induced added firmness on Tuesday and prices rose to 4.84 7/8 @ 4.84 31-32 for demand and to 4.85 3/8 @ 4.85 15-32 for cable transfers; the volume of business transacted was larger than for some time. Wednesday's market was strong and active and there was a further advance that carried demand up to 4.85 @ 4.85 1-16 and cable transfers to 4.85 1/2 @ 4.85 9-16. Although a slightly reactionary trend set in on Thursday, prices were maintained at 4.85 @ 4.85 1-16 for demand and 4.85 1/2 @ 4.85 9-16 for cable transfers. On Friday prices were steady; demand bills again ranged between 4.85 and 4.85 1-16 and cable transfers at 4.85 1/2 @ 4.85 9-16. Closing quotations were 4.85 1-16 for demand and 4.85 9-16 for cable transfers. Commercial sight bills finished at 4.84 15-16, sixty days at 4.80 15-16, ninety days at 4.78 13-16, documents for payment (sixty days) at 4.81 3-16, and seven-day grain bills at 4.84 11-16. Cotton and grain for payment closed at 4.84 15-16.

No announcements of gold engagements were received, other than the fact that the Japanese Government has shipped another \$2,000,000 in gold to San Francisco on the SS. Siberia. The Bank of England exported small amounts of the precious metal to Spain and to India. \$1,000,000 was received from Canada during the week.

The Continental exchanges were strong, excited and higher, and here also good gains were recorded in a number of the leading currencies. As a matter of fact no less than four currencies established new high records for the current year. These were lire, Swedish crowns, pesetas and yen. Trading, though still a trifle irregular, has been quite active with buying generally predominant. Italian lire showed marked strength and the quotation rose to 4.60 1/2, a gain of 15 points and the highest level since 1923, under the stimulus of a wave of buying which was attributed almost wholly to non-speculative sources. For the past two weeks or more, inquiry for lire has been gathering momentum and the expectation has been of an advance in rates. This buying was said to be due to foreign purchases of Italian stocks, the turning over of the proceeds of Italian loans floated abroad and widespread improvement in Italy's foreign trade position. It is claimed that there is practically no outstanding short account in lire and that the gains shown in the Italian foreign trade balance have been

brought about in large measure by the Fascist program for stimulating exports and reducing imports. An additional factor in the rise is said to be pending Italian financing; in bond circles it is estimated that somewhere around \$100,000,000 in new loans for Italy are to be floated in this market during the course of the next few weeks, to be utilized primarily for the purpose of strengthening the foreign currency reserve of the Bank of Italy. In the late dealings there was a setback and the close was at 4.59.

There is very little to report as regards other of the major European currencies. French francs continue steady at or very close to 3.90, on light trading. Antwerp belgas moved similarly. Reichsmarks, though inactive, are still showing a disposition to firmness and hovered around 23.73. Greek exchange continued at close to 1.28, while in the minor Central European group there were no changes of importance.

The London check rates on Paris closed at 124.01 which compares with 124.03 a week ago. In New York sight bills on the French centre finished at 3.90½, against 3.90⅜; cable transfers at 3.91½, against 3.91⅜, and commercial sixty days at 3.89½, against 3.89⅜ last week. Antwerp belgas closed the week at 13.90 for checks and at 13.91 for cable transfers against 13.89½ and 13.90½. Final quotations for Reichsmarks were 23.72 for checks and 23.73 for cable transfers, against 23.70¼ and 23.71¼ a week earlier. Austrian schillings have not been changed from 14⅛. Italian lire closed at 4.59 for bankers' sight bills and at 4.60 for cable transfers. This compares with 4.44½ and 4.45 1-2 last week. Exchange on Czechoslovakia finished at 2.96⅜, (unchanged); on Bucharest at 0.60, against 0.61; on Poland at 11.50, (unchanged), and on Finland at 2.52½, (unchanged). Greek drachmae closed at 1.28 for checks and 1.29 for cable transfers, unchanged from the preceding week.

As to the Continental exchanges, formerly designated as the neutral exchanges, considerable activity prevailed and in the main the trend was upward in line with movements at other leading European centres. Attention again centred upon the gyrations in Spanish pesetas, which shot up as a result of active speculative buying to 17.56, another new high record (the highest figure since 1920), and an advance of 31 points for the week. Later a part of this was lost because of profit taking sales, but the close was at the top. Guilders and Swiss francs were firmly held but not essentially changed. In the Scandinavian division, pronounced strength developed in Swedish krona and there was an advance to 26.77, a new high point for the year, although there was no particular activity to account therefor. Norwegian krone, on the other hand, opened strong, then receded slightly, with the extremes for the week 26.15 and 26.07. Danish kronen remained at or near 26.64. Trading in all of these was inclined to be erratic and a good deal confused at times owing to the numerous up and down movements in prices.

Bankers' sight bills on Amsterdam finished at 40.00½ (unchanged); cable transfers, 40.01½ (unchanged), and commercial sight bills, 39.99½ (unchanged). Swiss francs closed at 19.23 for bankers' sight bills and 19.24 for cable transfers, against 19.23¼ and 19.24¼ a week ago. Copenhagen checks closed at 26.64 and cable transfers at 26.65, against 26.63@26.64. Checks on Sweden finished at 26.76 and cable transfers at 26.77, against 26.71@

26.72, while checks on Norway closed at 26.13 and cable transfers at 26.14, against 26.16@26.17 a week earlier. Spanish pesetas finished the week at 17.56 for checks and at 17.57 for cable remittances, which compares with 17.25 and 17.26 last week.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES CERTIFIED BY FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS TO TREASURY UNDER TARIFF ACT OF 1922, MARCH 12 1927 TO MARCH 18 1927, INCLUSIVE.

Country and Monetary Unit.	Noon Buying Rate for Cable Transfers in New York. Value in United States Money.					
	Mar. 12.	Mar. 14.	Mar. 15.	Mar. 16.	Mar. 17.	Mar. 18.
<b>EUROPE—</b>						
Austria, schilling	14075	14074	14071	14069	14073	14081
Belgium, belga	1390	1390	1390	1390	1390	1390
Bulgaria, lev	007240	007245	007250	007245	007250	007233
Czechoslovakia, krone	029615	029618	029616	029617	029617	029619
Denmark, krone	2664	2664	2664	2664	2664	2664
England, pound sterling	4.8523	4.8529	4.8536	4.8549	4.8547	4.8544
Finland, markka	025203	025201	025199	025203	025202	025203
France, franc	0391	0391	0391	0391	0391	0391
Germany, reichsmark	2371	2372	2373	2373	2373	2372
Greece, drachma	012872	012879	012884	012895	012894	012898
Holland, guilder	4001	4001	4001	4002	4001	4001
Hungary, pengo	1751	1750	1750	1751	1749	1750
Italy, lira	0446	0453	0455	0455	0459	0460
Norway, krone	2615	2615	2610	2608	2612	2613
Poland, sloty	1140	1134	1134	1133	1138	1134
Portugal, escudo	0513	0512	0512	0512	0511	0511
Rumania, lei	006040	006010	005997	006003	006002	005998
Spain, peseta	1736	1733	1730	1732	1746	1755
Sweden, krona	2673	2673	2675	2676	2676	2676
Switzerland, franc	1924	1924	1924	1924	1924	1924
Yugoslavia, dinar	017601	017599	017588	017593	017595	017589
<b>ASIA—</b>						
<b>China—</b>						
Chefoo, tael	6313	6246	6208	6242	6231	6254
Hankow, tael	6221	6154	6121	6154	6138	6171
Shanghai, tael	6007	5932	5913	5952	5929	5980
Tientsin, tael	6354	6275	6246	6279	6273	6296
Hong Kong, dollar	4839	4809	4791	4816	4802	4829
Mexican dollar	4366	4309	4319	4350	4325	4363
Tientsin or Pelyang dollar	4267	4242	4238	4263	4258	4271
Yuan, dollar	4238	4213	4208	4233	4233	4242
India, rupee	3634	3635	3636	3637	3636	3635
Japan, yen	4912	4919	4918	4925	4925	4920
Singapore (S.S.), dollar	5596	5596	5596	5596	5596	5596
<b>NORTH AMER.—</b>						
Canada, dollar	998097	998074	998056	998079	998277	998906
Cuba, peso	1.000688	1.000750	1.000594	1.000594	1.000469	1.000531
Mexico, peso	470067	470100	470067	470067	470067	470067
Newfoundland, dollar	996250	996000	996000	995813	996188	996563
<b>SOUTH AMER.—</b>						
Argentina, peso (gold)	9586	9587	9598	9614	9614	9606
Brazil, milreis	1185	1185	1182	1185	1183	1184
Chile, peso	1199	1198	1198	1198	1200	1201
Uruguay, peso	1.0088	1.0118	1.0119	1.0112	1.0126	1.0119

Continued firmness attended dealings in the South American exchanges, and Argentine pesos, still the most active feature of the list, were again marked up, this time to 42.36, with the close at 42.22 for checks and at 42.27 for cable transfers, as against 42.12 and 42.17 last week. Brazilian milreis have evidently fallen into a rut and for the third consecutive week hovered within a range of 2 or 3 points, finishing at 11.80 for checks and at 11.85 for cable transfers, in comparison with 11.83 and 11.88 a week ago. Chilean exchange was strong with the close 11.96, against 11.91 the week previous. Peru ruled firm, closing at 3.68, the same as last week.

As to the Far Eastern exchanges, Japanese yen came to the front and attracted very favorable attention by reason of the surprising firmness that characterized movements in this currency. Despite earthquake developments the yen finished at 49.20 and 49.25, against 49 3-16@49⅜ a week ago. All of this led to the belief that the recent lowering in the discount rate of the Bank of Japan was in reality a preliminary to declaration of a return to the gold standard in the very near future. The Chinese currencies displayed uneasiness and some irregularity on a sharp setback in the silver market. Hong Kong closed at 48⅝@48¾, against 49¼@49⅜; Shanghai, 60¼@60⅜, against 59¼@59⅜; Manila, 49 15-16@50⅛, against 49.75@50; Singapore, 56⅛@56⅜ (unchanged). Indian exchange was firmly held, presumably on the favorable progress through the Indian Parliament of the gold standard and rupee stabilization bills. The close was 36½@36 9-16 for Bombay, against 36½@36⅝, with Calcutta 36½@36 9-16, against 36½@36⅝.



The New York Clearing House banks, in their operations with interior banking institutions, have gained \$5,120,830 net in cash as a result of the currency movements for the week ended March 17. Their receipts from the interior have aggregated \$5,914,025, while the shipments have reached \$793,195 as per the following table:

CURRENCY RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS BY NEW YORK BANKING INSTITUTIONS.

Week Ended March 17.	Into Banks.	Out of Banks.	Gain or Loss to Banks.
Banks' interior movement.....	\$5,914,025	\$793,195	Gain 5,120,830

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. 12.	Monday, Mar. 14.	Tuesday, Mar. 15.	Wednesday, Mar. 16.	Thursday, Mar. 17.	Friday, Mar. 18.	Aggregate for Week.
\$ 87,000,000	\$ 98,000,000	\$ 101,000,000	\$ 183,000,000	\$ 126,000,000	\$ 135,000,000	Cr. 730,000,000

Note.—The foregoing heavy credits reflect the huge mass of checks which come to the New York Reserve Bank from all parts of the country in the operation of the Federal Reserve System's par collection scheme. These large credit balances, however, reflect only a part of the Reserve Bank's operations with the Clearing House institutions, as only the items payable in New York City are represented in the daily balances. The large volume of checks on institutions located outside of New York are not accounted for in arriving at these balances, as such checks do not pass through the Clearing House but are deposited with the Federal Reserve Bank for collection for the account of the local Clearing House banks.

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

Banks of	March 17 1927.			March 18 1926.		
	Gold.	Silver.	Total.	Gold.	Silver.	Total.
England	£ 150,736,021	£ -----	£ 150,736,021	£ 145,561,670	£ -----	£ 145,561,670
France a	147,340,268	13,680,000	161,020,268	147,358,839	13,160,000	160,518,839
Germany b	87,093,400	c994,600	88,088,000	55,211,750	994,600	56,206,350
Spain	103,378,000	27,499,000	130,877,000	101,475,000	26,451,000	127,926,000
Italy	45,741,000	4,243,000	49,984,000	35,687,000	3,410,000	39,097,000
Netherl ds	34,912,000	2,314,000	37,226,000	35,870,000	2,122,000	37,992,000
Nat. Belg	17,900,000	1,138,000	19,038,000	10,954,000	3,658,000	14,612,000
Switzerl d	17,914,000	3,004,000	20,918,000	16,685,000	3,709,000	20,394,000
Sweden	12,589,000	-----	12,589,000	12,763,000	-----	12,763,000
Denmark	11,202,000	834,000	12,036,000	11,623,000	842,000	12,465,000
Norway	8,180,000	-----	8,180,000	8,180,000	-----	8,180,000
Total week	636,885,689	53,706,600	690,592,289	581,369,259	54,346,600	635,715,859
Prev. week	636,188,089	53,838,600	690,026,689	581,162,973	54,514,600	635,677,573

a Gold holdings of the Bank of France are exclusive of gold held abroad, amounting the present year to £74,572,866. b Gold holdings of the Bank of Germany are exclusive of gold held abroad, the amount of which the present year is £4,650,350. c As of Oct. 7 1924.

**From Compromise to Encroachment—Some Recent Decisions of the League Council.**

The recent meeting of the Council of the League of Nations afforded another illustration of the relative lack of interest in the League and its proceedings when the nationalistic spirit is moving strongly among the member States. Public interest in what was said or done at Geneva was largely overshadowed, save at one or two points, by reports or rumors of alliances and political realignments apparently fraught with important consequences for Europe, at the same time that the increasingly serious situation in China, the preparations for a naval arms conference, and the announcement by France of an elaborate program of military preparedness, naturally cast such routine matters as the regulation of the international drug traffic, the settlement of a land controversy in Hungary, and the arrangements for a loan to the Free City of Danzig, very much into the shade.

The appearance of Dr. Stresemann, the German Foreign Minister, in the capacity of President of the Council, and the delivery of his opening address in German, were of themselves interesting incidents, and Dr. Stresemann himself won deserved commen-

ation by a graceful yielding of a German contention in what seemed at the moment a critical matter. None of the items of the agenda, however, appeared to be of first-rate importance. The most vexatious, considering the truculent attitude of one of the parties, was the question of the German minority schools in Upper Silesia. Out of a maze of legal technicalities, involving the interpretation by the Polish Government of the Geneva Convention relating to the schools, there appeared the broad fact that more than 7,000 German children in the region had been excluded from the minority schools in which the German language was used, some 5,000 of them on the ground that their parents had declared the mother tongue to be either Polish, or German and Polish, and 1,300 others on the ground that no answers to official inquiries had been given by the persons responsible for the children's education. The curious result was accordingly presented of the children in question not attending any school, at the same time that their parents or guardians were being prosecuted by the Polish authorities for disobeying the compulsory school laws. The Council, wisely deciding that a reference of the question to the World Court would only mean indefinite delay, cut the Gordian knot by deciding that the ability of a child to speak a language should determine his right to attend a minority school, and by appointing a Swiss expert to assist the Mixed Commission in determining the status of children whom the Polish authorities had excluded.

A question of more importance, because of the old war bitterness which beset it, concerned the policing of the Sarre Basin, the rich coal area which was taken from Germany by the Treaty of Versailles and placed for fifteen years under the supervision of France, pending its final disposition through a plebiscite. The Treaty provided for the organization in the Sarre of a local gendarmerie, but the organization of the stipulated force, owing to French opposition, has only lately been completed, and in the meantime French troops have occupied the region, ostensibly to guard the railways and the coal trains. The German Government contended that since the organization of the gendarmerie had been accomplished, the French troops should now be withdrawn. The French, in turn, insisted that since the Sarre had been placed under French control, as reparation for the destruction of French coal mines by the Germans during the war, they could not properly be asked to leave the railways unguarded. Confronted by what appeared to be an impasse, Dr. Stresemann yielded the point, and accepted a solution, proposed by the Sarre Commission, under which the French troops will be replaced by an international force of 800 men. It was reported that the acceptance of the compromise was largely due to the interposition of Sir Austen Chamberlain, the British Foreign Secretary, who in this instance had to deal with M. Briand as well as with Dr. Stresemann.

None of these peaceable compromises, however, served to banish the thought of war which hovered about the proceedings of the Council. On Feb. 25, ten days before the Council met, the development by France of "a new flying boat of the monoplane type, with five Jupiter air-cooled engines of a total horsepower of 2,100," was announced, the additional information being given that the plane was "said to be the world's largest flying boat, and was built

to carry a gross weight of more than 3,600 pounds, making it the most formidable bomber in the world." The authorization by the French Parliament of a naval program drawn up three years ago, calling, among other things, for the construction of at least two cruisers and other light craft, was announced on March 1 as impending, together with a plan for the complete reconstruction of the frontier defenses from Dunkirk to Belfort. The latter plan, which involves an expenditure of 7,000,000,000 francs over a period of years, contemplates a line of "strongly fortified positions" equipped with "every modern defense against attack by land and air."

Dr. Stresemann, in an interview which he gave out on March 10, declared that world economics "cannot be brought to normal if 150,000,000 people entrench themselves in Eastern Europe and reduce consumption." The reference was to Russia, which is not a member of the League, and which has declined to take part in the forthcoming International Economic Conference, on which Dr. Stresemann was about to present a report to the Council. Two days before he spoke, the Italian representative in the Council had announced the ratification by Italy of the Bessarabian Treaty of October 1920, already ratified by Great Britain and France, recognizing the union of Bessarabia with Rumania. It is well known that Russia has consistently refused to recognize the enforced transfer of Bessarabia to Rumania, and the Russian Ambassador at Rome has labored hard to prevent the ratification of the treaty which deprives Russia of territory which it regards as its own, but the treaty is nevertheless now in force. We shall know later the price that Rumania paid, and the effect of the ratification upon the explosive political situation in the Balkans and the ambitions of France for a preponderant political influence in Eastern Europe, but it is clear enough that the transaction will only strengthen Russia in its determination to have nothing to do with the League, at the same time that it emphasizes the serious potentialities of Mussolini's expansion program for Italy.

It was, perhaps, because of the disturbed political situation that the Council, toward the close of its session, turned its attention to the question of League intervention in the case of a threatened war. A committee report which was before it, and to which it gave a second reading, declared that no attempt had been made in the report to classify all the possible events that might arise, or to interpret fully Article XI of the Covenant. Nevertheless, certain practical suggestions were offered, quite the most important being a proposal for the use of naval and air forces in making a demonstration against a recalcitrant Power. The suggestion had something of the effect of a bomb upon the proceedings of the Council. When Viscount Cecil urged that civil airplanes might be used to drop propaganda material within the territory of a recalcitrant State, calling attention to the danger of war if the course of the State were not altered, the Italian representative promptly retorted that civil airplanes, once they cross a frontier, "become military airplanes," and that such action as had been proposed might make the situation worse rather than better; while the Colombia delegate objected that since only the larger States could furnish the means for either a naval or an air demonstration, the League would be dependent upon their co-operation.

The objectionable passage in the report was finally made to read that "it is possible that air demonstrations might, within a reasonable limit, be employed," but the change of language seems negligible. Taken in connection with a further declaration of the report, to the effect that the League may rightfully act in cases between member and non-member States, or even between non-member States, with a view to preserving peace, the incident affords further proof of the wisdom of the United States in avoiding membership in the League. If the League, in its zeal for enforcing peace, is to mix at its discretion in the internal affairs of member and non-member States alike, attacking public opinion in a country by scattering from airplanes propaganda material directed against the Government, or mobilizing naval and air forces for a so-called demonstration, it is well that such an encroachment upon the sovereign rights of a State should be challenged at once, and that such an assumption of authority as the report before the Council seems to contemplate should be repudiated. The League has already had to contend, on the whole unsuccessfully, with the dominating influence exercised by the Great Powers over its policies and acts. It has now to contend, apparently, with a proposed policy of meddling.

The high aim of the League to preserve peace is worthy of all commendation, and every reasonable effort which it may make in that direction is entitled to support. One would gladly believe, too, that such elaborate proposals as those for the defense of the French frontier are, as the Minister of War, M. Painleve, has declared them to be, nothing more than reasonable measures of national protection, and carry no aggressive intent. It is clear enough, however, that between the large plans of the League for universal peace, and the nationalistic fears and ambitions of particular Powers, there is still a wide gulf, and that the "moral disarmament" which M. Painleve hoped would continue to go on is still far from its goal. As long as such opposition of interests exists, any decisions or acts of the League looking to direct intervention in the political affairs of a State, especially if the State happen to be one too small or weak to resist, would seem almost certain to aggravate the danger rather than allay it. It would be well if that part of the committee's report which appears to contemplate such intervention were quietly allowed to be forgotten.

#### **Compulsory Voting.**

Senator Capper of Kansas proposes, through an amendment to be offered to the tax-revision bill, to provide "that citizens of the United States who are legally qualified to vote shall pay an additional tax of 1% of their gross yearly incomes after 1927 unless it can be shown that they have voted in the last preceding election of President, Congressmen or United States Senator or were prevented from doing so by unavoidable absence from their homes, by sickness or by other serious disability." In summing up reasons and benefits the Senator says: "Just as the imposition of unjust taxes gave impetus to the birth of our nation, it is likely that Mr. Average Citizen, compelled to vote or to pay an additional tax of 1% of his total yearly income, will suddenly realize he is an integral part of the Government and must do his duty at the ballot box. Not only will he vote,

but he probably will insist upon a shorter ballot, and less frequent elections. And when the politicians know there will be a full vote they will have to discuss real issues, not mere vote-getting ones; they will have to drop personalities and discuss principles. Less money will be required to "bring out the vote," and there will be less need to solicit or to accept corrupting cash donations from those seeking unjust advantages. These would be great steps toward clean, honest and more intelligent elections."

We would like to think that good would flow from a law of this kind, if it can constitutionally be enacted, but we have grave doubts in the matter. In the first place it is in contradiction to our theory of government. A forced vote is not a free vote. Only the latter can erect a free government out of the exercise of a civic right. The lash of the law cannot be construed as a means to the taking of a proper interest in government. Such a vote, without the voluntary study of principles, parties and candidates must be a perfunctory one. If the casting of a ballot be not done through a sense of responsibility and duty, it will be an empty form, and therefore can have no real determining value. Done through fear of the penalty it will be irksome, haphazard and distasteful. It is truly unfortunate and deplorable that only about half of those entitled to vote go to the polls. But if democracy on trial proves itself merely an inert mass, incapable of sufficient interest in the perpetuity and perfection of government, what, then, shall we say of the value of liberty? Compulsory voting by its very nature creates an autocracy—the law is stronger than the law-maker. If an individual becomes an actual and active citizen by the exercise of suffrage, he becomes a civic slave when he is made to vote. Government, free, sustains itself by force. Driven to the polls by tax penalties, the freeman loses respect for freedom.

You can lead a horse to water but you cannot make him drink. You can lead a man to the polls but you cannot make him take an interest in the election. Casting a ballot is a solemn obligation. He is truly a slacker who will not vote, under proper circumstances. But a vote with no thought, study, patriotism, or devotion back of it must increase the dangers that already beset free Governments. Ignorance is not banished by fear. Love of law and liberty under law are not increased by a fine. Will compulsion turn the slacker into a patriot? It is too true that disgust with politics and despair of administration rule does drive some good men away from the polls. They say, and it is not a valid excuse, that the one vote counts little against the eager suffrage of thousands who are after the loaves and fishes. But before we can count upon the final effect of compulsory voting we must separate the wise and patriotic among the non-voters from the ignorant and indifferent. It is by no means certain that of the half who do not vote a majority are fit to vote. We are apt to think of the busy business man as the one who would swell the intelligence of republican rule, but women now vote and it is no disrespect to say that many of them are so far unlearned in politics and civics. Is government, then, to be advantaged by a mere increase of the unprepared voters?

There are so many objections to the form in which this proposal is put that we can only mention some of them without discussion. What is the connection

between a penalty added to an income tax and a system of voting that is *not* based on a property qualification that they should thus be linked together? Can there be justice in fining the "under five thousand" class the same percentage as the million class in the upper brackets while the gradations continue? Or to turn the proposition around since a man can cast but one vote, should the man with a million be fined more heavily than one with ten thousand? And can real, patriotic interest be brought about by the weight of the penalty? If "big business" votes because of a fine will little business vote that has no fine to fear? Penalties are usually in proportion to the offense, or at least that is the theory of the law; does a man with a huge gross income commit a greater offense by not voting than one with a small income? Since parties strive primarily for self-interest in "getting out the vote" and only secondarily for the good of government, that, of course, being the belief and hope of party principles advocated, will compulsory voting relieve them from this custom or merely increase the burden? And since the baneful use of money in primaries is for the purpose of nominating certain candidates for office, and the infamous use of money in buying votes at elections is for the purpose of electing candidates and ensuring party success, will a full electorate prevent this nefarious practice or merely make it more costly? And what has a long or short ballot to do with the number of voters?

There may be something in the effect of a "full vote" upon the politicians. And anything that will put the fear of God in their hearts is a good thing. But that they will necessarily discuss "real issues" is only upon the presumption that the non-voters are wise and patriotic. And that they will "drop personalities and discuss principles" can only be predicated on the belief that a full vote will free elections from the personal fitness of opposing candidates and present a front by each party in which there will be no choice between men. Under this law, if as asserted it is constitutional, a man fearing a fine could vote for candidates for Congress and refuse to vote for candidates for the State Legislature. A clash between State and nation is sure to occur. And what a beautiful bureau will be created to look after the recalcitrant voters! A census of the population will have to be taken every four years, before the election, if not every two years. Registration will become as important as the election. The "round up" at branding time will employ many men—records of births and deaths will have to be carefully consulted. All the records of the internal revenue tax bureau will have to be open for inspection, for a fine based on gross income must be accurately assessed, and the overcrowded dockets of the Federal courts will have a new grist to grind. A man without income can now vote—but it will cost as much per capita to run him down as it will to snare a million-dollar income—only there will be profit to the Government that in the latter case no guilty man escape.

Senator Capper says: "Failure to vote might not constitute a serious menace were it not that citizens who should be best informed to vote intelligently, and best circumstanced to vote unselfishly, are the very ones who abstain from voting. The gang wards in any large city always cast the highest percentage of votes. It is in the sections where the middle class

and wealthy live that votes are scarcest." This may be true in cities, is it true in farming districts? Unfortunately for the efficiency of democracy, perhaps, the gangster is entitled to vote, though he is a negligible quantity as a revenue producer in fines. And if the object is quantity votes regardless of quality the gangster and the illiterate must be forced to the polls or we shall have a Government based on the property of those who vote to escape a fine, in so far as this proposed law affects results. Thus in trying to sustain democracy by forcing out a full vote we shall only thwart democracy by an oligarchy of the rich.

This is a very grave problem. Political economists of all shades would be glad to see it solved. But it will seem to many that it can only be solved by popular adult education in patriotism and not by law. If the old New England town meeting could be invoked during our campaigns, bi-partisan and non-partisan meetings, for the purpose of arousing citizens to their duty, much good might be accomplished. The party workers themselves might aid by pre-election drives to bring out the full vote were it not for the fact that next to securing a vote for the one party, is the fact that a vote known to favor the other side which does not reach the ballot box is that much gain. Above all, the perpetuity of the Republic in the end must rest upon an intelligent and an honest vote. The "very rich," who, as alleged, do not vote, are not thereby without influence in civic affairs, but the ignorant man who has nothing but his vote is a menace before and after voting.

#### ***The Annual Report of the United States Steel Corporation.***

The present is the twenty-fifth annual report of this great industrial corporation—"great" not merely as concerns the size of the company and the magnitude of its operations, but great in many other respects, more particularly as regards the sound and broad-minded policy pursued in its management. The policy referred to has been a distinctive feature of the Steel Corporation, and as applied to industrial corporations, had in the first instance, an element of novelty in it, which, however, from the standpoint of novelty alone does not signify as much as might be supposed, since when the Steel Corporation was organized, over a quarter of a century ago, industrial organizations of the huge size which have now become quite common, were then unknown.

It is a mistake, though, to term this policy the Gary policy, as Ida Tarbell does in her panegyric of Judge Elbert H. Gary, who has been Executive Chairman during the whole term of existence of the company. The Steel Corporation was the creation of the late J. P. Morgan, though Mr. Gary was very helpful and played a prominent part in its organization. And in the administration of the property Mr. Morgan insisted upon the application of the same methods and principles which he had always applied with such pre-eminent success in the reorganizations of the railroads, with which the house of Morgan was so prominently identified during the last quarter of the Nineteenth century. The Morgan name has always been the synonym for sound finance and it has been no less the token for the fullest publicity regarding corporation affairs. Mr. Morgan always made that an imperative requirement. Con-

cealment was foreign to his nature. He insisted on full and comprehensive reports and he may be said to have set the standard in that respect for the railroads.

And Mr. Morgan in his identification with the railroads did not rest satisfied by giving security holders merely a report once a year, but saw to it that the management gave out monthly reports and even weekly reports of estimated gross earnings where he was in absolute control and could enforce compliance with a requirement of that kind. The Southern Railway Company furnishes a case in point. The Southern Railway was the creation of the late J. P. Morgan, just as the United States Steel Corporation was. It represented the reorganization of a lot of bankrupt roads scattered over the South, the leading links in the system having been the Richmond & Danville, the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia and the Richmond & West Point Terminal—a task which he assumed when one reorganization committee after another had failed in the undertaking and had given up the job as hopeless. This prominent railroad has given out weekly reports of earnings for all the roads in the system uninterruptedly since the day of its organization. And these reports were continued even during the period of the war, when the roads were under Government control, the Southern Railway being one of the very few companies that kept up the practice at that time. Mr. Morgan was dead then, but the practice he had initiated was maintained.

The Steel Corporation by giving out quarterly reports of income and monthly returns of unfilled orders undertook to carry the same enlightened methods into the industrial field. Mr. Morgan in his control of the railroads also always insisted that large amounts of earnings should be turned back into the properties for their improvement and development, just as has been done in the case of the Steel Corporation, and the Southern Railway has achieved success through the application of these principles no less than the Steel Corporation.

Both these great properties—one in the railway world and the other in the industrial field of enterprise—are monuments to the genius and the wisdom of Mr. Morgan. Mr. Gary could never have gained the favor and the confidence of Mr. Morgan if he had not given undeviating adherence to these methods and principles. The policy originated with Mr. Morgan, not with Judge Gary, as Miss Tarbell would have us believe. The policy, indeed, might be called the Morgan-Baker policy, for George F. Baker of the First National Bank has always been associated with the Morgan house in all its great enterprises and the two men always acted together in full accord. It does not detract in any way from the fame of Judge Gary that he made the Morgan-Baker policy almost a part of his being and carried it loyally and faithfully into execution, but simple justice to the dead requires that this statement should be made here, since Miss Tarbell in her exuberance gives credit to Judge Gary for everything and conveys the impression that Mr. Morgan had nothing to do with the development and success of this great industrial concern except to exercise the function of the banker in connection with it.

The Steel Corporation, having in 1926 completed a quarter century of existence—its organization actually dates from April 1 1901—the board of direc-

tors, as if to signalize the occasion, voted on Dec. 16 last to recommend to the stockholders at the annual meeting of the Corporation to be held on Monday, April 18, the distribution to the common stock holders of a 40% stock dividend. The annual report will be studied with particular reference to that fact. The report furnishes some figures with reference to the subject that bear striking testimony to the wonderful success and prosperity which the company has achieved. We might note at the outset that the balance sheet shows accumulated surplus for the period from April 1 1901 to Dec. 31 1926 of no less than \$528,502,399, after the appropriation of \$270,000,000 to cover capital expenditures set aside for investment in the property. But that, after all, tells only part of the story.

From the special statement now inserted in the report to elucidate the subject, it appears that the surplus actually earned during the 25 years and 9 months of the company's existence to Dec. 31 1926 really exceeded a full billion dollars, the exact amount being \$1,005,254,086. And this surplus remains, be it remembered, after the distribution of cash dividends aggregating 180 $\frac{1}{4}$ % on the preferred stock and 131 $\frac{1}{4}$ % on the common stock. This immense surplus, we are told, has been largely reinvested in fixed property of the organization, the amount so applied having been \$705,353,624, consisting (1) of \$476,751,687 formally appropriated to finance net expenditures for extensions, additions, improvements and permanent investments, and (2) of \$228,601,937 similarly applied but still carried in undivided surplus account. After deducting this \$705,353,624 there still remained \$299,900,462 of undivided surplus represented by increases in net working assets, \$84,488,101 of the increase being found in actual cash and \$209,403,022 in inventories.

In the relation of current liabilities to current assets, the company shows the same position of impregnable strength as in all the recent past—reinforced, of course, by the additional amounts added to surplus during 1926. In other words, current liabilities Dec. 31 1926 (including \$6,304,919 for the preferred stock dividend payable Feb. 26 1927 and \$8,895,294 for the common stock dividend payable March 30 1927) were only \$121,121,925, while, as against this, the current assets at the same date stood at the huge figure of \$589,598,166. In this latter amount is included \$132,536,950 of actual cash in hand and on deposit with banks, bankers and trust companies subject to check; also time and other special bank deposits of \$8,072,745, besides \$72,615,282 of what are called "sundry marketable securities" (including part of United States Government securities owned), the use of the word "part" here having reference to a change made in the balance sheet in 1922 by the transfer of \$75,000,000 (par) of United States Liberty Loan bonds from current assets to the group of assets termed "sinking and reserve fund assets." The inventories included in the \$589,598,166 of current assets are \$281,255,461; the other items included are accounts receivable, \$86,428,934; bills receivable, \$7,341,120, and agents' balances, \$1,347,674.

There is one other feature of great strength in the company's condition to which we have made repeated allusion in the past, but which deserves additional emphasis now. We allude to the fact that new capital expenditures are continued year after

year, while at the same time the aggregate indebtedness of the corporation and its subsidiaries is being steadily reduced. In 1926 the record in that particular was carried a step further. In other words, during 1926 the capital expenditures by all companies for the acquisition of additional property, new plant, extensions and improvements, including stripping and development expense at mines, aggregated no less than \$76,080,520. Yet there was a net decrease of \$16,776,225 during the year in the bonded and mortgage debt of the Steel Corporation and its subsidiaries through sinking fund operations and other processes for retiring debt. In 1925 the capital expenditures reached \$70,893,944 while net debt was reduced \$1,774,852. In 1924 the capital expenditures amounted to \$79,619,986 and were coincident with a debt reduction of \$15,886,800. Similarly in 1923 the new capital outlays were \$60,762,920, while indebtedness diminished \$12,580,538. In 1922 with new capital expenditures of \$29,571,662, the net decrease in debt was \$1,124,500. In 1921, in face of new capital expenditures of \$70,091,866, the net indebtedness was reduced in the sum of \$14,163,865. In 1920, when the capital expenditures amounted to \$102,956,133, there was a decrease in net debt of \$13,870,450. And in 1919, when the capital expenditures aggregated \$87,091,515 net debt diminished \$13,921,885. The balance sheet, as already stated, shows an undivided surplus Dec. 31 1926 of \$553,502,399 (including \$25,000,000 of capital surplus provided at the time of organization) after the appropriation of no less than \$476,751,687 for payment of capital expenditures and special charges during the period of the Corporation's existence since April 1 1901.

As to the income account for the year, this, of course, has been accurately foreshadowed in the company's quarterly statement. The net earnings of the Corporation and its subsidiaries after full allowance for all expenses of operations and for repairs and maintenance as well as for taxes (including in the latter item the Federal income tax on corporations) amounted in 1926 to \$207,345,153, which compares with \$173,783,424 in 1925, \$161,183,467 in 1924 and \$187,953,667 in 1923. After deducting in 1926 all interest and other fixed charges and setting aside no less than \$53,171,075 for depletion and depreciation and \$11,049,835 for sinking funds on the bonds of the United States Steel Corporation there remained available for distribution no less than \$116,667,404. The requirements for dividends at the rate of 7% on both classes of stock were only a little more than half of this, taking \$60,800,852 and leaving a surplus on the operations of the year over and above dividends and everything else in the large sum of \$55,866,552. After the distribution of the 40% stock dividend there will be \$200,332,100 more of common stock outstanding, but 7% dividends on this would call for only a little more than \$14,000,000 per annum. Out of the surplus net income for 1926 of \$55,866,552 after the payment of dividends the company appropriated \$30,000,000 on account of additions, improvements and betterments to plant and property, leaving even then a surplus of \$25,866,552.

During 1926 the company did the largest business it has ever done in peace time, though gross receipts (because of lower prices) did not come fully up to those reached in 1923. Gross sales and earn-

ings for the twelve months of 1926 aggregated \$1,508,076,090, which compares with \$1,406,505,195 for the twelve months of 1925 and with only \$1,263,711,469 for the twelve months of 1924, but with \$1,571,414,483 for the twelve months of 1923, this latter having been an exceptionally active and prosperous period. The report tells us that the very favorable conditions which prevailed in the steel industry in the opening quarter of 1926, mentioned in the previous year's annual report, were not wholly maintained during the entire year. The volume was, however, of such sufficient proportions of total capacity to admit of economical operations and to produce generally satisfactory results for the year. In the first quarter the operations of the subsidiary companies, as reflected by their tonnage output of rolled and finished products for sale, was 94% of capacity, while for the entire year the average was 88%, compared with 78.4% in 1925. The increase in output compared with 1925 fluctuated widely, it is stated, with respect of the different classes of finished products for sale, very large increases being shown for rails, track fittings and car wheels, tubing and pipe, sheets and tin plate and finished structural work, while in the other classes of output the increases were relatively small or nominal.

Gross shipments of all classes of products and materials except cement in 1926 were 14,434,629 tons, against 13,439,184 tons in 1925 and 11,172,762 tons in 1924, but comparing with 14,019,613 tons in 1923. Shipments of cement reached 15,101,788 bbls. in 1926, against 14,753,487 bbls. in 1925; 14,941,143 bbls. in 1924 and 14,329,295 bbls. in 1923. The foregoing has reference to the domestic shipments. The export business was the largest in any year since 1920, as far as tonnage is concerned, amounting to 1,473,339 tons, against 1,184,368 tons in 1925, 1,152,018 tons in 1924 and 1,286,264 tons in 1923. The aggregate tonnage of rolled and finished steel products shipped to both domestic and export trade was 14,297,929 tons in 1926, against 13,388,846 tons in 1925; 11,526,890 tons in 1924 and 14,373,822 tons in 1923.

Prices in 1926 were fairly stable but not altogether satisfactory, the trend towards lower levels experienced in previous years continuing. The report states that average prices received for the total tonnages of rolled and other finished products shipped, netted on the domestic shipments \$1.12 per ton less than the average received per ton for an equal tonnage of similar products respectively shipped in 1925; and as to export shipments, the per ton price netted \$2.82 less than the average secured in the preceding year. The average price received for domestic and export tonnage combined was \$1.28 per ton less than in 1925. These declines in 1926 must be considered in connection with the antecedent declines in order to get the full measure of their significance. In 1925 the statement was that average prices on rolled and finished steel products shipped to the domestic trade had been \$3.80 per ton less than in 1924 and in respect of export shipments \$4.38 per ton less. It was then pointed out that these reductions when extended against the total tonnage shipped in 1925 represented an aggregate decrease in gross sales proceeds of approximately \$51,500,000.

Carrying the comparisons further back we find that for 1924 it was stated that prices received for

the total tonnage of rolled and finished steel products shipped to the domestic trade had netted \$3.17 per ton more than the average price received in 1923 for an equivalent tonnage of similar products, though in the case of the export business the average price received was \$0.74 less per ton than the 1923 average for a similar tonnage of the respective products shipped in 1924. For 1923 the statement was that "the prices received in 1923 for the 13,196,298 tons of rolled and other steel products shipped to the domestic trade netted an average of \$8.87 more per ton than the average price received per ton in 1922 on an equivalent tonnage of similar products shipped; and in respect of the 1,177,524 tons of export shipments the 1923 prices received netted \$10.13 more per ton than the average price obtained in the previous year." This last, however, followed huge declines the preceding year and in presenting the 1922 results the report was obliged to note that the prices received in that year for rolled and other finished steel had netted \$30.52 less per ton than in 1921 on domestic business and \$19.70 less on export business. It is thus apparent that the big loss sustained in 1922 in the matter of prices was never more than partially recovered in the immediately succeeding years and in 1925 and 1926 was followed by new dips downward.

The experience of the wage earners in the employment of the corporation and its subsidiaries has been quite the reverse of this and that certainly is a point worth noting. The average earnings per employee per day for the year 1926 in the case of the entire body of employees (including the general administrative and selling force) was 5.94, which compares with \$5.88 the average in 1925 and \$5.85 the average in 1924. There were no general changes in wage rates in either of these three years. On the other hand, on April 6 1923 an increase of about 11% was made in the wage rate paid employees of the subsidiary manufacturing and iron ore mining companies. This was on top of an increase of about 20% in wage rates made the previous Sept. 1 (1922). Not only that, but a further increase in the labor outlay to the company was occasioned during 1923 and 1924 through the elimination of the twelve-hour day. The revision was put into effect Aug. 16 1923 and Chairman Gary in the report for 1923 said that rapid progress had been made in effecting the change and that by Dec. 1 1923 the twelve-hour turn had been, broadly speaking, totally eliminated by all the subsidiary companies except one and in the last instance the change was inaugurated in February 1924. In 1923 the average salary or wage per employee per day was \$5.83 and in 1922 only \$4.91. Thus the employees have had the double advantage of a shorter workday and a concurrent increase in their wages per day. From every standpoint, therefore, the record of the Steel Corporation is a notable one. It should be added that the average number of employees in the service of all companies in 1926 was 253,199, against 249,833 in 1925, 246,753 in 1924, 216,786 in 1923 and 214,931 in 1922.

#### *The Inherent Rights of the Citizen.*

Yale University is publishing a series of lectures on the various aspects of citizenship of which the latest, just issued by the University Press,\* is by Professor Carl Brinkmann of Heidelberg.

\*"Recent Theories of Citizenship," by Carl Brinkmann. Yale University Press.

Its primary aim is to secure for political science the same thorough study which prevails in physical science and also to show how national differences may make for international harmony and at the same time leave ample place for national characteristics. The recent conversion of General Herzog, the inveterate advocate of Boer independence, to loyal acceptance of union with the British Empire may be set alongside the unexpected return of the world to a patriotic nationalism, as significant of the complex political situation.

Turning, then, to our author, he gives America the credit of restoring the conception of a science of politics. Europe has developed separate departments of study of public law and history, and a new group of social sciences, but has made no effort to unite them in relation to the State as the central fact. American democracy has produced a body of rules and practice which are united in what he calls the "mother discipline of America." He holds that the conception of the State as a giant, superhuman and super-moral, which led to the German Empire of Bismarck, has been overthrown. Democracy, on the other hand, has gained a truer interpretation. Equality is seen to mean absence of legal privilege and the reality of co-operation which constitutes citizenship. Equality involves liberty of the individual in the exercise and enjoyment of all that pertains to himself.

The revolt of the American colonies in 1776 was in support of the idea of the citizen versus the subject, against autocratic government, which has been the common tradition of Europe leading to the main principles of modern democracy. It appears in the long series of revolutions undertaken by the Puritans, the Huguenots and the Spanish Catholics, and was the starting point of the teaching of great political philosophers like Calvin, Grotius and Rousseau. It was the old principle of Comradeship as opposed to the Roman autocratic corporative government; and is represented in the pride of the religious communities, Protestant, Independent and Catholic, which have taken root in America. Out of it has come the modern conception of the mutually active and responsible social and political Combination rather than a mere Community. It has created the stream of living influence that produces political intelligence, the education of the masses and political liberty, as the safeguard of the State.

Long experience of certain individual rights which have come down through the ages has established their place. They carry their own validity, whether found in the Bill of Rights or the unwritten law. The consciousness of their existence gives democracy its vogue to-day. Liberty of association, the right of property, freedom of speech and of the press, are examples. Restriction of their use continually occurs as circumstances change and new evils arise against which there is need of protection. The discipline of the army and the emphasized system of the great corporation or manufactory instance the one, as legislation against any prevailing vice does the other. Strenuously maintained rights of the individual are at times optimistically interfered with in behalf of the public welfare. This is not new; it may be found in European legislation of a century ago. Mutual limitation of opposing interests has long been found necessary in the development of political society. Checks and balances of various kinds

have been devised. America presents it in the high place given to the judiciary; while Europe has set up for finance and economics courts of final authority.

The fact is that even with the recognition of inherent rights and established precedent political realities must ever be faced as resulting from the counterplay of institutions and the human will. The remedy for abuse is always within reach if citizens will learn that the highest of their rights is co-operation in a united whole of which they cannot cease to be parts.

It must therefore be pressed with constant energy that the citizens are not only bound to obey the law, but that the State by enacting it is assumed to have promised legally to execute this and no other law. In dealing with other States it must also be regarded as able to enter into legal engagements in the same way as its own citizens do among themselves. The State therefore must be recognized as something beyond and other than the person or persons forming its Government at any particular time. It must have a continuous existence which embodies the historic life of its citizens and which is of necessity to be seen in those who exercise its functions.

In this sense the United States, for example, is a great moral and political fact. It gathers up in itself the history of its people living together and co-operating for their common good; it embodies their line of action and their hopes and prospects for the future. It cannot avoid binding those who may succeed to its administration in the future, for it transmits to them its inheritance of principles and rights and possessions as affected by what itself may do from time to time. This is the inevitable condition of its growth and usefulness. It is in fact organic; to live it must take up and use such productive and contributive material as comes within its reach. It is something more than an accident, and far more than the result of a struggle of classes, as the Socialists would have it. The instruction of its children in the nation's history, the salute of the flag, or certain fixed requirements for citizenship and the assumption of office, are witness to the underlying political and social realities existing in the State which are readily recognized by its citizens. These have produced the *mores* on which Professor Sumner laid such emphasis and which are the peculiar possessions of nations.

We are equally bound, therefore, to pay similar regard to similar existences as they appear in other nations, even when we may have the habit or disposition to show small respect for them when we come in contact with outside communities. Because their ways differ from ours is no reason for overlooking what these may mean to their own people and in their historic life. We are certainly justified, on the contrary, in restricting our official recognition to the existence of "constitutional government," or that form which represents the historic life of a people, over against what may be only a revolutionary outbreak. All this does not imply that the institutions and underlying conceptions of our nation may not be better than those of another, and that this may be reason for the desire of mutual adjustment. The conception of a common humanity implies progressive growth toward unity of life and interest. But that unity will come only by recognition of the individual nation, and the existence in all

of what in each group are their own fundamental features. This applies to-day to our relations to China, to Mexico, to the Central American States and even to Turkey and Soviet Russia. These, whether more or less, will be in fact their contribution to the whole developing humanity.

A common speech, which is the visible bond in a nation, is more than a convenient and useful instrument in the common life of its inhabitants, it is the preserver of those historical recollections and traditions which enter largely into the composition of the nation. It makes possible, as diversity of speech prevents, the intercourse of the people and is inevitably required as the national language in use by the authorities of the State. It has long been recognized in connection with common traditions, a common religion and the occupancy of a definite territory, as the distinctive marks of a nation, and nationality is what with surprising emphasis we are to-day discovering may not only be preserved in the new internationalism, but may prove a vital and constructive part in any new union with others which may be reached for the peace of the world.

The question of international citizenship and of international law lie outside of our immediate purpose. For these as for a fuller setting forth of the whole subject we must refer our readers to the book itself, which is a splendid contribution to the public discussion and understanding of the chief political questions of to-day, in the intelligent solution of which lie all the good hopes of the future.

#### *The Country's Foreign Trade in 1926.*

There are only two years in the history of the United States when the aggregate value of the foreign commerce of the United States was in excess of that for last year. These two years were 1919 and 1920, when prices were so enormously inflated. It is doubtful, however, whether in any year prior to 1926, merchandise exports and imports, measured in quantities, were equal to the volume of our foreign shipments in the year just closed. Prior to the war in Europe, the value of merchandise exports and imports was less than one-half of that reported for last year. Perhaps 1910 or 1911 may be considered the latest years affected in no material way by preparations for that great calamity. In no year prior to 1911 was the total value of the foreign trade of the United States as high as it was in that year. In 1926 its value was more than 150% higher than it was in 1911. The after effects of the war were chiefly responsible for the excessively high prices prevailing in 1919 and 1920, and it was chiefly due to these high prices that the value of the foreign commerce of the United States was swollen to such an unusual amount as it was in those two years. Measured by quantities, the merchandise movement to and from the United States last year was larger than in 1919 and 1920, and both as to quantity and value of last year's foreign trade was in excess of any year since 1920.

Exports of merchandise from the United States for 1926 were valued at \$4,808,465,005. This compares with 4,909,847,511 for the preceding year, a decline in value last year of \$100,382,516. This loss was entirely due to the greatly reduced value of exports of raw cotton. The actual exports of cotton last year were larger than in 1925—in fact, they were in excess of any year back to 1913. Further-

more, most of the other leading articles that contribute heavily to our export trade also increased last year over the preceding year, both in value and quantity. Merchandise imports in 1926 were valued at \$4,430,890,381, as against \$4,226,589,263 for 1925. The value last year was in excess of any preceding year in the country's history excepting only the year 1920, to which reference has already been made.

#### U. S. MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS (CALENDAR YEARS).

Cal. Year.	Exports.		Imports.		Excess.		Total Trade.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1902-----	1,360,685,933	969,316,870	Exp. 391,369,063	2,330,002,803			
1903-----	1,484,753,083	995,494,327	Exp. 489,258,756	2,480,247,410			
1904-----	1,451,318,740	1,035,909,190	Exp. 415,409,550	2,487,227,930			
1905-----	1,626,990,795	1,179,144,550	Exp. 447,846,245	2,806,135,345			
1906-----	1,798,243,434	1,320,501,572	Exp. 477,741,862	3,118,745,006			
1907-----	1,923,426,205	1,423,169,820	Exp. 500,256,385	3,346,596,025			
1908-----	1,752,835,447	1,116,374,087	Exp. 636,461,360	2,869,209,534			
1909-----	1,728,198,645	1,475,520,724	Exp. 252,677,921	3,203,719,369			
1910-----	1,866,258,904	1,562,904,151	Exp. 303,354,753	3,429,163,055			
1911-----	2,092,526,746	1,532,359,160	Exp. 560,167,586	3,624,885,906			
1912-----	2,399,217,993	1,818,073,055	Exp. 581,144,938	4,217,291,048			
1913-----	2,484,018,292	1,792,596,480	Exp. 691,421,812	4,276,614,772			
1914-----	2,113,624,050	1,789,276,001	Exp. 324,348,049	3,902,900,051			
1915-----	3,554,670,847	1,778,596,695	Exp. 1,776,074,152	5,333,267,542			
1916-----	5,482,641,101	2,391,635,335	Exp. 3,091,005,766	7,874,276,436			
1917-----	6,233,512,597	2,952,467,955	Exp. 3,281,044,642	9,185,980,552			
1918-----	6,149,087,545	3,031,212,710	Exp. 3,117,874,835	9,180,300,255			
1919-----	7,920,425,990	3,904,364,932	Exp. 4,016,061,058	11,824,790,922			
1920-----	8,228,016,307	5,278,481,490	Exp. 2,949,534,817	13,506,497,797			
1921-----	4,485,031,536	2,509,147,570	Exp. 1,975,883,786	6,994,179,106			
1922-----	3,881,777,469	3,112,746,833	Exp. 719,030,636	6,944,524,302			
1923-----	4,167,493,080	3,792,065,963	Exp. 375,427,117	7,959,559,043			
1924-----	4,590,983,845	3,609,962,579	Exp. 981,021,266	8,200,946,424			
1925-----	4,909,874,511	4,226,589,263	Exp. 683,288,248	9,136,433,774			
1926-----	4,808,465,005	4,430,890,381	Exp. 377,574,624	9,239,355,386			

The cotton movement dominates in a very marked way our export trade. Last year cotton exports were 9,048,312 bales; these figures compare with 8,532,243 bales in 1925, an increase in the quantity exported of 6.0%. In value, last year's cotton exports totaled \$814,429,305, and for the preceding year \$1,059,751,151, a decrease for 1926 of \$245,321,846, or 23.2%. Deducting the value of cotton exports, all other merchandise exports in 1926 amounted to \$3,994,035,700 and in 1925 to \$3,850,096,360, an increase of \$143,939,340, or 3.7%. With an actual increase in exports of raw cotton last year over 1925 of 6.0% and for all other merchandise exports a gain of 3.7%, it is apparent that the steady gain in exports, which has characterized the returns of export trade in recent periods, was not interrupted in 1926.

In other important respects the value of merchandise exports in 1926 does not represent the increase in the actual movement of commodities for that period. Exports of breadstuffs in 1926 were slightly larger in value than in 1925. Exports of wheat and corn constitute more than 60% of the total of all breadstuffs. The value of the exports of these two important products in 1926 exceeded the value shown for the preceding year by 36%; in quantity the increase last year over 1925 was 62.5%. Petroleum products have become more and more important in our export trade. Refined petroleum, which constitutes 90% of the total value of all exports of petroleum products, shows a gain of 15.4% last year over 1925, as to quantity. In machinery lines, including vehicles, automobiles, etc., exports last year were considerably larger than in the preceding year; also in chemicals. Coal exports were very much larger last year, due mainly to the great foreign demand for coal caused by the coal miners' strike in Great Britain. The value of bituminous coal exports in 1926 was no less than \$155,838,572, as compared with but \$68,402,668 in 1925. Anthracite exports were also heavier, the value of these exports being \$41,085,593 in 1926, as against \$31,760,627 in 1925. These various classifications, including cotton, breadstuffs, petroleum, machinery and chemicals constitute more than one-half the total export trade of the United States, and the movement abroad last year was considerably larger than



in the preceding year. There is a miscellaneous division, embracing about 30% of the value of all merchandise exports, in which the movement abroad last year, measured in value, was nearly 5% larger than in the preceding year. Exports of provisions show a reduction in value last year as compared with 1925 and the same is true of minerals and ores. The three sections last mentioned cover many different classifications. As to quite a number of these, exports are not large, but in the aggregate the totals are heavy, and as to most of them the movement abroad last year was in excess of that of the preceding year.

In the following table the changes from year to year in a number of leading staple articles of export such as cotton, breadstuffs, provisions, petroleum, ores, machinery and chemicals are shown, also the relation that each of these articles bears to the total movement from this country to foreign ports. The compilation covers four years:

Exports.	1926.		1925.		1924.		1923.	
	\$	Ratio to Total %	\$	Ratio to Total %	\$	Ratio to Total %	\$	Ratio to Total %
Cotton.	814,429,305	16.9	1059,751,151	21.6	950,580,940	20.7	807,102,507	19.4
Br'd'f's	355,687,069	7.4	351,790,807	7.2	433,750,892	9.4	311,302,346	7.4
Pr.n.&c	284,807,182	5.9	323,181,434	6.6	330,466,656	7.3	361,146,768	8.7
Petr.&c	554,194,651	11.6	472,951,855	9.5	418,482,436	9.0	349,710,897	8.4
Total	2009,178,207	41.8	2207,675,247	45.0	2133,280,924	46.4	1829,272,518	43.9
Ores.&c	459,000,604	9.5	463,493,233	9.4	440,348,848	9.6	414,772,319	10.0
Mach. &c...	756,222,716	15.8	720,477,621	14.7	549,130,131	12.0	482,072,402	11.6
Chem's.	124,836,319	2.6	116,345,129	2.4	111,518,150	2.4	123,155,336	3.0
All oth.	1459,227,159	30.3	1401,856,281	28.5	1356,705,792	29.6	1318,220,505	31.5
Tot. all	4,808,465,005	100.0	4,909,847,511	100.0	4,590,983,845	100.0	4,167,493,080	100.0

Notwithstanding the larger movement in our exports covering the past six years, breadstuffs and provisions have shown a declining tendency. Exports of breadstuffs in 1922 were considerably larger than in either of the four succeeding years. As to provisions, the total value shows a constant decline each year from 1923 on. In 1923 the ratio of the value of exports of provisions to the total of all exports was 8.7%, whereas in 1926 it was only 5.9%. In these three years total exports have increased fully 15%. Exports of wheat and corn last year were larger than in 1925; of wheat the quantity was 138,165,000 bushels, against 86,526,000 bushels, and of corn 23,064,000 bushels, against only 12,762,000 bushels in the preceding year. As to the value of our exports of these two commodities, the amount for each was higher than in the preceding year, but owing to a lower range of prices in 1926 than for 1925, the percentage of increase was lower than appears in the statement of quantities. The value of wheat exports in 1926 was \$201,739,000, against \$148,717,000 in 1925, and for corn \$19,840,000 in 1926, against \$14,253,000 the preceding year. For wheat flour there was a decline in the value of exports last year, but the quantity in 1926 shows an increase—11,850,000 barrels in 1926 comparing with 11,119,000 barrels in 1925.

There was a heavy loss in exports of meats last year; also of hams and of bacon. The total quantity of these three divisions was 812,604,000 pounds in 1926, against 1,040,128,000 pounds in 1925, a decrease last year of nearly 22%. The loss in value is nearly as great. Dairy products show a loss, while animal oils and fats and exports of lard were slightly larger last year than in the preceding year, though the value was less in 1926 than it was in 1925. Exports of fruits were 10% higher in value last year than in the preceding year, and the same is true of rubber goods. There was a small increase

last year in the exports of tobacco, but the value was less in 1926 than in the preceding year, \$157,422,000 for 1926 comparing with \$171,303,000 for 1925. Quite a decline appears in the exports of copper for 1926, both in quantity and value; for the former 856,125,000 pounds in 1926 compares with 968,065,000 pounds in 1925, while the value for these two years was, respectively, \$121,231,000 in 1926 and \$140,221,000 for the preceding year.

There are a number of divisions in the exports of manufactures which show marked gains in 1926. Among them are various machinery lines. In industrial machines, exports last year were valued at \$179,669,000 and in 1925 at \$172,912,000. Electrical machinery exported last year was valued at \$84,226,000 and in the preceding year \$73,790,000. There was also an increase in exports of agricultural machinery in 1926, the value being \$28,282,000, as against \$26,142,000 the year before. Exports of automobiles and parts were valued last year at \$320,166,000, against \$318,386,000 in 1925. The iron and steel division figured in last year's exports at 253,175,000 and in 1925 at \$222,713,000. In paper and manufactures there were exports last year of \$26,829,000 and in 1925 of \$23,844,000. Exports of woods and manufactures in 1926 were valued at \$146,408,000 and in the preceding year at \$114,942,000.

Merchandise imports last year exceeded those of the preceding year in many different groups. The leading division, textiles, however, shows a decline—\$999,647,000 for 1926, comparing with \$1,049,635,000 for 1925, a decline of \$50,000,000. This is the only group of the eleven into which imports are segregated where a loss appears. The largest single item of the textile group is raw silk, and while the value of the latter was slightly lower last year than in the preceding year, the quantity shows a gain. Imports of raw silk in 1926 were 66,422,000 pounds, against 63,764,000 pounds in 1925. The second largest group of imports includes vegetable food products. Total imports for this classification in 1926 were valued at \$841,133,000 and in 1925 at \$823,576,000. Coffee and sugar are in this group and the value of these two commodities makes up about two-thirds of the total value for the entire group. Both commodities show larger imports in 1926 than in 1925, as to quantity, but owing to the lower range of prices in 1926 for raw sugar, the value of the imports of that product last year was less than in the preceding year. Coffee imports in 1926 were 1,493,316,000 pounds, as against 1,283,695,000 pounds in 1925, and imports of sugar 9,420,078,000 pounds, against 8,919,533,000 pounds. The increase in imports of coffee last year over 1925 was 16.3% and the gain in value nearly as great, but the increase in imports of sugar of 5.6% was attended by a loss of 5.5% in value.

Crude rubber again holds first place in value of imports for 1926, as it did in 1925, taking precedence over the three commodities just mentioned. The high price for rubber last year raised the total value of the importations of that product to \$505,818,000, as against \$429,705,000 for 1925, an increase of 17.7%. The gain in quantity, however, was very much less, importations of 925,828,000 pounds of rubber in 1926 comparing with 888,478,000 pounds in the preceding year, or 4.2% gain. These four commodities, all of which show larger imports last year

than in the preceding year, constitute about one-third of the total value of all merchandise imports. In the aggregate, the increase in value last year for these important products was 7% over the value for the same products in 1925. In the rest of our import trade in 1926 there was a gain of 3.9% in value, as compared with the corresponding figures for 1925. Imports of dairy products were quite a little larger last year than in the preceding year; also of fish. Hides and skins show an increase; likewise leather. Very little change appears in the importation of fruits and nuts. Both wood pulp and newsprint paper show larger totals for 1926 than for 1925.

Importations of coal and of petroleum were substantially larger last year than in 1925. There was a considerable gain in imports of metals and manufactures in 1926; particularly in iron and steel; copper, both for the ore and the refined product, and for tin. Reference has been made to the loss in 1926 in the textile division, of which raw silk is the leading item. Quite a decline is shown in importations last year of cotton manufactures, which are also included in the textile group, as well as for wool and woolen goods, and for burlaps. These products figure quite heavily in our import trade. Imports of chemicals were larger last year than in the preceding year, but fertilizers show a decrease both in quantity and value. Importations of clocks, watches and jewelry were larger in 1926 than in the preceding year and the same is true of diamonds and other precious stones.

There was a decline in the value of our exports to European countries last year, as compared with the preceding year. Fully one-half of our exports go to Europe. The loss last year, however, was due, practically all of it, to the decline in the value of cotton exports. European countries take four-fifths of all of the cotton exported from the United States. In 1926 the quantity shipped to Europe was 7,292,894 bales, or 80.6% of our total exports of raw cotton; in 1925 the amount was 7,240,080 bales. The increase for 1926 was less than 1%. In value, the decline in cotton exports to European countries in 1926, in comparison with the preceding year, was 33.8%—hence the loss that appears in the statement for all exports to Europe. Omitting cotton, other exports to Europe show a small gain. The heavy loss in the value of cotton shipments in 1926 is reflected in a large decline in the value of total exports last year to Great Britain, to Germany, to France and to Italy. Total exports to Canada are very heavy and last year the value was in excess of the amount for the preceding year. To Mexico and to Cuba, however, a considerable loss occurred in 1926 compared with 1925. Argentina also took less of our exports, but shipments to Brazil, Chili and Colombia were considerably larger than in the preceding year. There was also an increase in shipments from the United States to China, Japan and Australia, as well as to South Africa and Egypt.

Merchandise imports last year from Great Britain into the United States were considerably reduced in value as compared with the preceding year. This was probably a reflection of the coal strike in England. There was also a reduction last year in imports from France. Germany, Italy and Holland, however, increased the value of their shipments to the United States in 1926. Imports from Japan were likewise larger. Imports from the East Indies

show a large gain in 1926, owing to the heavier shipments of rubber. On the other hand, quite a reduction appears as to the Chinese trade, due to political conditions in China. There was also a decrease in importations from the Philippine Islands. Imports from Canada show a marked gain, while from Mexico they were reduced, owing to unsettled conditions there. Imports from Cuba were less in 1926 than in the preceding year, reflecting the decline in the value of raw sugar shipped to the United States. Imports from Brazil exceeded in value those of the preceding year and the same applies to most other South American countries.

Reference has been made to the decline in the export price of cotton during the year just closed as well as the import price of crude rubber, and the effect in both instances on values of our foreign trade. The average export price of cotton for December 1925 had been 21.8 cents; for the closing month of 1926 it was 13.7 cents. The import prices of rubber were 72 cents in December 1925 and 39.3 cents in December 1926. In the main the tendency of prices of other leading products was also downward. This was true of wheat and other grains and of wheat flour, naval stores, tobacco and practically all classes of manufactured cotton goods; of iron and steel ingots; of copper; hides and skins; of coffee; of jute, hemp and manila, and various classes of wool. An exception was coal, both anthracite and bituminous, for which the average export price was higher in 1926 than in 1925, owing to the active foreign demand for coal because of the strike at the British coal mines. But in no instance was the change in prices as marked as in cotton and rubber.

The movement of the precious metals last year showed some variation from the preceding year. Gold exports were not so large as in 1925, while imports heavily increased. The latter amounted to \$213,504,020, while gold exports were \$115,707,815, an excess of imports of \$97,796,205. For 1925 there was an excess of exports of gold amounting to \$134,366,618. Prior to 1925 there had not been an excess of exports of gold since the year 1919. Exports of silver last year were slightly less than in the preceding year, the amount for 1926, nevertheless, having been \$92,257,564, while imports of silver at \$69,595,936 showed a small increase over the preceding year. The excess of silver exports in 1926 was \$22,661,628, as against an excess in 1925 on the same side of the account of \$34,532,167.

In the following table the annual movement of gold and silver for many years is shown, together with the net movement for each year:

Year ending Dec. 31	GOLD.			SILVER.		
	Exports.	Imports.	Excess of Exports (+) or Imports (-).	Exports.	Imports.	Excess of Exports (+) or Imports (-).
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1920	36,030,591	44,193,317	-8,162,726	49,272,954	26,402,935	+22,870,019
1903	44,346,834	65,267,696	-20,920,862	40,610,342	23,974,508	+16,635,834
1904	121,211,827	84,803,234	+36,408,593	50,135,245	26,087,042	+24,048,203
1905	46,794,467	50,293,406	-3,498,938	57,513,102	35,939,135	+21,573,967
1906	46,709,158	155,579,380	-108,870,222	60,597,091	44,227,841	+16,729,250
1907	55,215,681	143,398,072	-88,122,391	61,625,866	45,912,350	+15,713,506
1908	81,215,466	50,276,293	+30,939,163	51,837,671	42,224,130	+9,613,541
1909	132,880,821	44,086,966	+88,793,855	57,592,309	46,187,702	+11,404,607
1910	58,774,822	59,222,518	-447,696	57,360,973	45,878,168	+11,482,805
1911	37,183,074	57,445,184	-20,262,110	65,664,646	43,746,571	+21,918,075
1912	47,424,842	66,548,772	-19,123,930	71,961,755	48,401,086	+23,560,669
1913	91,698,610	63,704,832	+28,093,778	62,776,631	35,867,819	+26,908,812
1914	222,616,156	57,387,741	+165,228,415	51,603,060	25,959,187	+25,643,873
1915	31,425,918	451,954,590	-420,528,672	53,598,884	34,483,954	+19,114,930
1916	155,792,927	685,990,234	-530,197,307	70,595,037	32,263,289	+38,331,748
1917	371,883,884	552,454,374	-180,570,490	84,130,876	53,340,477	+30,790,399
1918	41,069,818	62,042,748	-20,972,930	252,846,464	71,375,699	+181,470,765
1919	368,185,248	76,534,046	+291,651,202	239,021,051	89,410,018	+149,611,033
1920	322,091,208	417,068,273	-94,977,065	113,616,224	88,060,041	+25,556,183
1921	23,891,377	691,248,297	-667,356,920	51,575,399	63,242,671	-11,667,272
1922	36,874,894	275,169,785	-238,294,891	61,806,530	70,806,653	-7,999,367
1923	28,643,417	322,715,812	-294,072,395	72,468,789	73,943,530	-1,484,741
1924	61,648,313	319,720,918	-258,072,605	109,891,033	73,944,902	+35,946,131
1925	262,639,790	128,273,172	+134,366,618	99,127,585	64,595,418	+34,532,167
1926	115,707,815	213,504,020	-97,796,205	92,257,564	69,595,936	+22,661,628

The final trade balance, taking into account not only the merchandise movement but the receipts and shipments of the precious metals, the balance continues on the export side. The balance in 1926, however, was heavily reduced. In the past five years there has been only one year, namely 1923, which showed a smaller net balance than did the year just closed. In the following table we indicate the balance under each of the different heads, as well as the final balance, for each of the last five years:

TRADE BALANCES FOR CALENDAR YEARS FOR MERCHANDISE, GOLD AND SILVER COMBINED.

Excess of—	1926.	1925.	1924.	1923.	1922.
Mdse. exp.	377,574,624	651,400,441	981,021,266	376,008,305	719,030,636
Silver exp.	b22,661,628	b34,532,167	b35,946,131	a1,984,741	a7,999,367
Total	400,236,252	715,932,608	1,016,967,397	374,023,564	711,031,269
Gold imp.	97,796,205	b134,366,618	258,072,605	294,072,395	238,294,891
Net exp.	302,440,047	850,299,226	758,894,792	79,951,169	472,736,378

a Net imports. b Net exports.

### Railways in Jugoslavia—Second Article.

By Captain GORDON GORDON-SMITH, Attache of the Legation of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

The great task, in the matter of communications, which faces the Government of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, is the creation of a trans-Balkan trunk line such as will open up communications with a seaport capable of handling the ever-growing sea-borne commerce of Jugoslavia.

At present Jugoslavia has to rely on four ports, Sushak, Shibenik (Sibenik), Split (Spalato) and Gruz (Gravosa). Of these the most important is Split, a town of over 30,000 inhabitants. About a year ago the construction of the Ogulin-Knin section completed the direct connection of Split with Belgrade and Zagreb (Agram) by a normal gauge line. This has done much to improve the communications of the northern section of the Kingdom, that is to say North Serbia, Croatia and the trans-Danubian territories (the Baranya, the Batchka and the Banat of Temesvar) with the sea.

The economic conditions under which the whole of Serbia formerly lived have been completely revolutionized by the new situation created by the World War. Pre-war Serbia was a land-locked State without access to the sea and surrounded by Austria-Hungary, Turkey, Bulgaria and Rumania, that is to say by countries all of which, with the exception of the last named, were opposed to her economic development.

As an agricultural country, Serbia's natural customers were the industrial States of Central Europe with Vienna as practically the sole intermediary. In this direction her commerce might have developed extensively, as the railway communications with Austria-Hungary were good, besides which there was the Danube waterway. This was such a natural line of development for Serbian trade, both as regards production and communication, that for decades Serbian statesmen were convinced that this was the only way to the only markets for their country's goods, and that if, for any reason, this route should be blocked, Serbia would be economically strangled.

The commercial policy of Austria-Hungary took advantage of this point of view as it did of all Serbia's difficulties. The men in power in Vienna succeeded in convincing the Belgrade Government that without the good-will of her great neighbor Serbia could not live. Treaties of commerce and other conventions were only observed by Austria-Hungary so long as it was in her interest to do so. Otherwise she violated them without compunction.

No protest or other action on Serbia's part could improve this state of affairs, for such a small country could not make its voice heard, while the powerful press of Budapest and Vienna represented these protests against the violation of treaties as revolutionary. This method of exercising arbi-

trary pressure on land-locked Serbia finally culminated in the complete closing of the frontier by Austria-Hungary in 1906.

Serbian statesmen were face to face with a dilemma; they must either force open other routes for Serbian commerce or let the country be strangled by the iron grip of the Dual Monarchy. Providing that the neighboring States made no transit difficulties, there were three possible routes. One was via the Danube to Braila, the great Rumania wheat port, another was via Bulgaria to Varna on the Black Sea, and the third through Turkish territory, along the valley of the Vardar, to Salonica.

Then a real miracle happened. In three months Serbia succeeded in opening up to her commerce a route to the South, that is to say, directly opposite to the one it had followed till then. Of the three routes mentioned the only one really utilized was the most natural one, that to Salonica, through which communications were established with Italy, France, Algeria, Egypt and Asia Minor.

In spite of the fact that the closing of the frontiers in 1906 was carried out suddenly, practically without warning, the trade balance that year was no worse than in the preceding years, while on the other hand, the receipts from the railways and waterways were considerably larger. The development of trade via Salonica was such that in 1910 Serbia exported by that route 11,000 truckloads of goods, an amount which the new Kingdom, in spite of its much greater size, has not yet attained by this route. Austria-Hungary had never been a consumer of Serbian products, but merely an intermediary for their sale. Of the total imports from Serbia in the first eight months of 1906, that is to say till the closing of the frontier, Austria-Hungary consumed only 14%, while the rest were re-exported, chiefly to Germany and Belgium.

This economic pressure which weighed so disastrously on Serbia and prevented her development, caused her statesmen to seek for means of emancipating the country from it. Before the customs war broke out it had been suggested that she should assure herself of an outlet to the sea by a transverse line of railway not touching Austro-Hungarian territory. A line was planned which would run from the lower Danube (where direct communication with Rumania and Russia would be effected) at Prahovo to Nish, Kossovo, Metohia, the Drin Valley and Scutari, to the port of San Giovanni di Medua. This trans-Balkan scheme interested Italy, Rumania and Russia and was regarded as an international route whose importance was self-evident.

Before the World War Serbia had begun to construct the section crossing her territory and up to the present time the line has been completed on a distance of 200 kilometres from Prahovo to Prokuplje. A convention has also been signed with Rumania for the construction of a bridge at Prahovo to link up the line with the Rumania railway system. The question now is as to whether or not the line has lost its further importance as the result of the World War. Pre-war Serbia, the Sandjak of Novi Pazar, Montenegro and a large part of the trans-Danubian Voivodina have no direct outlet to the sea, the existing normal gauge line from Belgrade to Sushak and Split making a long and expensive detour.

Since the signing of the convention with Greece a few weeks ago the prospects of transit by Salonica have much improved, but when all is said and done, a part of this line lies over foreign territory and the commerce by this route is always dependent on the good-will of the Greek Government. It does not, therefore, furnish an absolute guarantee of free transit at all times.

But national commerce calls for direct communication and absolute security. For this reason Serbia and the adjacent provinces must have an outlet on the Adriatic on Jugoslav territory. The trans-Balkan scheme has, therefore, lost none of its pre-war importance; on the contrary, its present

sphere of action—at least that part of it lying between the Danube and the sea—is twice as important as it formerly was on account of the inclusion of the new territorial acquisitions resulting from the break-up of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In the creation of this line and its branches lies the solution of an important problem, that of making possible the economic development of the eastern half of the Kingdom by the development of one of the richest regions, that including Serbia and part of the Voivodina.

One of the first results of the new state of affairs has been the abandonment of the idea of a railway line having its terminus at San Giovanni di Medua, on Albanian soil. For this has been substituted the plan of a line having its terminus at the Kotor estuary (Bocche di Cattaro), reaching the Tara and Moracha valley by way of Petch and thence proceeding via Podgoritzta to Kotor. The original idea had been to make the line follow the valleys of the Lim and Cijevna, but in the peace negotiations, after the war in 1912 between the Balkan Confederation and Turkey, Austria insisted on the Albanian frontier being pushed over the Lim. During the peace negotiations after the World War Serbia tried to induce the Allies to consent to this territory being given to Montenegro. In this they were supported by the inhabitants, who desired to be united with Yugoslavia, but the Peace Conference did not consent to this. The necessity of passing by the valleys of the Tara and Moracha, instead of by that of the Lim, will lengthen the line by 40 kilometres and increase the cost of construction by three to four million dollars.

The distance of the section still to be constructed from Prokoplje to Kotor is 450 kilometres and is estimated to cost, without counting rails or rolling stock, \$31,000,000. As feeders to this main line there will have to be constructed the following branch lines: Kragujevatz-Kraljevo-Kosovo-Mitrovitzta (200 kilometres, costing \$7,000,000); Krushevatz-Tulare—junction with the trans-Balkan line—(60 kilometres, costing \$1,500,000) and Uvac-Andrijevitza (141 kilometres, costing \$4,000,000). Rolling stock is not lacking; what is chiefly required is workshops to keep it in repair.

These 852 kilometres of new normal gauge lines, involving an expenditure of about \$43,500,000, would solve the problem of the communications of the eastern half of the

Kingdom. The line crosses the plains of Kossovo and Metohia, which are very rich in wheat and fruits. These plains have an area of about 750,000 acres, which have, so far, never been properly cultivated. In addition, the line would pass through forest regions which have hitherto been inaccessible and regions rich in mineral resources, such as the Novo-Grodo district, which has deposits of gold and silver, and the Passyatcha district, rich in iron and other ores.

Besides its great economic importance in tapping the rich agricultural districts of Kossovo and Metohia, the granaries of Serbia, the line would open up the exploitation of vast stretches of forest in the valley of the Ibar and in Montenegro and could establish commercial relations with Albania by means of a branch line running to Scutari, Alessio and San Giovanni di Medua.

The commerce of Yugoslavia is being more and more directed towards the Mediterranean countries which are most accessible by sea. Exports via the Adriatic ports have grown as follows: 1921, 32.86% of the total exports; 1922, 43.90%; 1923, 46.28; 1924, 45%, and for the first quarter of 1925, 46.75%. At the same time the exports by land to Central Europe have constantly fallen off. These were in 1921, 64.19% of the total exports; in 1922, 52.30%; in 1923, 52.19%; in 1924, 50.54%, and in the first quarter of 1925, 45.82%.

Of the total export tonnage (in 1924 3,915,700 tons) the amount which went to the Mediterranean States and other countries easily reached by sea was 2,064,735 tons, or more than half. Scarcely one-half of this quantity was exported through Yugoslav ports, the rest going through foreign ports for the simple reason that the Yugoslav ports are as yet insufficiently equipped. The tonnage of Yugoslav exports to Italy (in 1924 1,530,878 tons) is larger than the total exports to Hungary, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Germany and Switzerland. The annual increase of the exports to Italy is 280,000 tons.

It can easily be imagined what the increase would be after the construction of the trans-Balkan line. As Yugoslavia is now completely stabilized internally the country can now devote all its energies to constructive work, of which the most important part is the building of railways.

*(To be continued.)*

## *The New Capital Flotations During the Month of February and for the Two Months to February 28.*

Though February is a short month, it has achieved the distinction the present year of having placed to its credit the largest total of new financing ever recorded in any month in the country's history. The aggregate of the new flotations for January was considered large, but that for February surpasses it by over \$60,000,000. Our tabulations, as always, include the stock, bond and note issues by corporations and by States and municipalities, foreign and domestic, and also Farm Loan emissions. The grand total of the offerings of new securities under these various heads for February runs far in excess of \$900,000,000, reaching, in fact, \$938,363,993. This compares with \$877,075,418 in January, with \$621,764,765 in December, with \$697,961,617 in November, with \$579,018,819 in October, with \$541,128,633 in September and with only \$351,822,154 in August, a dull summer month, but with \$581,471,484 in July, with \$727,146,502 in June, with \$664,938,357 in May, with \$638,372,147 in April and with \$652,778,436 in March.

At \$938,363,993 for February the present year, the amount is 50% in excess of that for the same month last year, when the total of the new issues was only \$609,153,480. Moreover, for January and February combined the aggregate of the new financing the present year exceeds that of the two months last year by over \$469,000,000, the total for 1927 be-

ing \$1,810,146,728, as against \$1,340,164,912 for 1926. A qualifying feature is that an unusually large proportion of the new issues the present year represents refunding operations, that is, taking up of existing issues—at least in the case of the month of February, when out of a grand total of \$938,363,993 of new financing no less than \$245,577,717 was for refunding, leaving \$692,786,276 as distinctively new capital. The February total of financing (including refunding) runs so largely in excess of that of all other past months mainly because of the magnitude of the corporate flotations, though the amount of foreign Government issues was also fairly large. The total of the corporate issues for February 1927 is \$785,648,715, which compares with only \$414,188,420 for February 1926. But here, again, refunding financing has come in to swell the total, inasmuch as \$245,061,060 out of the \$785,648,715 was for refunding, the details of which appear further below.

Public utility offerings during February amounted to \$374,774,615, of which nearly half, or \$163,200,000, consisted of two stock issues on behalf of the Consolidated Gas Co. of New York. This public utility total is the largest of any month on record, exceeding the new high record figure of \$309,084,425 made in January this year by more than 65 millions and being almost 100 millions greater than the pre-

vious record of \$278,639,000 established in May 1924. Industrial offerings ranked second in volume, the total for February being no less than \$279,002,100, which, while showing a decrease from the previous month's total of \$291,604,475, leaves the month nevertheless as one of the largest on record. Railroad financing aggregated \$131,872,000 during February, being the largest monthly railroad total since January 1922, where such issues footed up \$133,224,400. January of this year railroad issues totaled only \$9,346,000.

Total corporate offerings in February were, as already stated, \$785,648,715, and of this amount long-term issues accounted for no less than \$488,421,000, short-term issues comprised only \$19,250,000, while stock issues totaled \$277,977,715. The portion used for refunding purposes was no less than \$245,061,060, or over 31% of the total, this being the second largest refunding total on record, November 1926 with \$264,542,925 comprising the largest. In January this year \$102,531,800, or almost 17% of the total, was for refunding, while in February last year \$33,095,000, or only 8%, was for this purpose. The more prominent issues brought out during February entirely or mainly for refunding were: \$69,331,260 out of \$95,000,000 Missouri Pacific RR. 1st & ref. 5s, "F," 1977; \$24,000,000 Standard Power & Light Corp. deb. 6s, 1957, entire amount of which was for refunding; \$23,000,000 out of the \$60,000,000 Aluminum Co. of America deb. 5s, 1952; \$20,000,000 out of the \$40,000,000 Associated Gas & Electric Co. conv. deb. 5½s, 1977; \$15,000,000 Cities Service Co. ref. deb. 5s, 1966, to be used entirely for refunding; \$15,000,000 out of the two stock issues put out by the Consolidated Gas Co. of N. Y. involving \$163,200,000.

The total of \$245,061,060 used for refunding in February this year comprised \$179,386,660 new long-term to refund existing long-term; \$31,000,000 new long-term to refund existing short-term; \$8,991,100 new long-term to replace existing stock; \$6,500,000 new short-term to refund existing short-term; \$1,608,900 new stock to replace existing long-term and \$17,574,400 new stock to replace existing stock.

Foreign corporate issues sold in this country during February amounted to only \$14,700,000, as against \$66,912,500 in January. The February issues were as follows: Canadian: \$2,000,000 Abitibi Fibre Co., Ltd., 1st mtge. 6s, "A," 1947, offered at 99, to yield 6.09%. Other foreign: \$7,500,000 International Railways of Central America 1st lien & ref. mtge. 6½s, 1947, issued at 92, yielding 7.25%; \$3,000,000 Agricultural Mortgage Bank (Rep. of Colombia) 7s, 1947, sold at 97¾, yielding 7.20%; \$1,500,000 First Bohemian Glass Works, Ltd., 1st (c) mtge. sec. 7s, 1957, offered at 97¼, yielding 7.20%, and 200,000 shares of no par value capital stock of Bolivian Petroleum Co., offered at \$3½ per share, involving \$700,000.

The outstanding feature of the month's new issues was, of course, the financing of the Consolidated Gas Co. of N. Y., consisting of 1,200,000 shares of \$5 cum. pref. stock, offered at \$91 per share, and 720,000 shares of common stock, offered at \$75 per share, the two issues involving a total of \$163,200,000. Other large public utility issues were: \$40,000,000 Associated Gas & Electric Co. conv. deb. 5½s 1977, brought out at 95¾, yielding 5.75%; \$20,000,000 Interstate Power Co. (Del.) 1st mtge. 5s, 1957, offered at 97½, yielding 5.16%, and \$7,500,000 deb. 6s, 1952, of the same company, offered at 98½, yielding 6.10%; \$24,000,000 Standard Power & Light Corp. deb. 6s, 1957, issued at 99½, yielding 6.03%; \$15,000,000 Cities Service Co. ref. deb. 5s, 1966, sold at 91¾, yielding 5.52%; 500,000 shares of the Rhode Island Public Service Co. pref. stock (cum. \$2 per share), offered at \$30 per share and involving a total of \$15,000,000; \$13,279,000 capital stock of Philadelphia Electric Co., offered at par (\$25); \$11,500,000 Milwaukee Gas Light Co. 1st mtge. 4½s, 1967, issued at 93¾, yielding 4.85%, and \$11,000,000 Community Power & Light Co. 1st mtge. coll. 5s, 1957, brought out at 95½, yielding 5.30%.

The principal industrial offerings during February were as follows: \$60,000,000 Aluminum Co. of America deb. 5s, 1952, issued at par; \$25,000,000 General Motors Corp. 7% pref. stock, sold at \$120 per share, yielding 5.80%; \$10,000,000 L. Bamberger & Co. (N. J.) 6½% cum. pref., offered at \$104 per share, yielding 6.25%; \$10,000,000 the J. L. Hudson

Co. 5s, 1930-36, offered at prices ranging from 100.42 to 99.86, yielding from 4.85% to 5.02%, and \$8,000,000 Fairbanks, Morse & Co. deb. 5s, 1942, sold at 97½, yielding 5.25%.

The railroad issues of importance were: \$95,000,000 Missouri Pacific RR. Co. 1st & ref. mtge. 5s, "F," 1977, issued at par; \$20,572,000 Chicago & North Western Ry. Co. 1st & ref. mtge. 4½s, 2037, offered at 95, yielding 4.74%, and \$5,000,000 Seaboard Air Line Ry. Co. 1st & cons. mtge. 6s, "A," 1945, brought out at 98¾, yielding 6.10%.

Six foreign Government loans were sold in our markets during February. They aggregated \$74,669,500 and were as follows: \$27,500,000 Republic of Chile 6s, 1961, offered at 93¼, yielding 6.50%; \$25,000,000 State of New South Wales (Australia) 5s, 1957, sold at 96¼, yielding 5.25%; \$14,000,000 Republic of Bolivia 7s, 1958, issued at 98½, yielding 7.12%; \$4,669,500 City of Cordoba (Argentine Republic) 7s, 1957, offered at 98¾, yielding 7.10%; \$2,500,000 Dept. of Antioquia (Republic of Colombia) 7s, "C," 1945, offered at 96½, yielding 7.35%, and \$1,000,000 City of Santiago (Republic of Chile) 1-year 6s, Jan. 1 1928, offered at a price to yield 5.50%.

There were six farm loan offerings during February, but for a total of only \$4,450,000. The yields on these issues ranged from 4.55% to 4.62%.

Offerings of various securities made during the month, which did not represent new financing by the companies whose securities were offered and which therefore are not included in our totals, embraced the following: \$3,795,000 Oklahoma Natural Gas Corp. 1st mtge. 6s, "A," 1946, offered at par; \$2,500,000 Wilson & Co., Inc. 6s, March 1 1931, offered at a price to yield 6½% and 48,000 shares of no par value conv. preference stock (cum. \$3.60 per share) of Thatcher Manufacturing Co., offered at \$45 per share, to yield 8%, and involving a total of \$2,160,000. There was also an offering of a block of Tubize Artificial Silk Co. of America, class "B" common stock, at \$175 per share.

The following is a complete summary of the new financing—corporate, State and city, foreign Government, as well as Farm Loan issues—for February and for the two months ending with February. It should be noted that in the case of the corporate offerings we subdivide the figures so as to show the long-term and the short-term issues separately, and we also separate common stock from preferred stock.

SUMMARY OF CORPORATE, FOREIGN GOVERNMENT, FARM LOAN AND MUNICIPAL FINANCING.

	1927.	New Capital.	Refunding.	Total.
		\$	\$	\$
<b>MONTH OF FEBRUARY.</b>				
<b>Corporate—</b>				
Domestic—Long-term bonds and notes	255,043,240	219,377,760	474,421,000	
Short term	12,750,000	6,500,000	19,250,000	
Preferred stocks	173,890,000	10,000,000	183,890,000	
Common stocks	84,204,415	9,183,300	93,387,715	
Canadian—Long term bonds and notes	2,000,000	—	2,000,000	
Short term	—	—	—	
Preferred stocks	—	—	—	
Common stocks	—	—	—	
Other For'n—Long-term bonds & notes	12,000,000	—	12,000,000	
Short term	—	—	—	
Preferred stocks	—	—	—	
Common stocks	700,000	—	700,000	
Total corporate	540,587,655	245,061,060	785,648,715	
Foreign Government	74,669,500	—	74,669,500	
Farm Loan issues	4,450,000	—	4,450,000	
War Finance Corporation	—	—	—	
Municipal	73,079,121	516,657	73,595,778	
Canadian	—	—	—	
United States Possessions	—	—	—	
Grand total	692,786,276	245,577,717	938,363,993	
<b>2 MONTHS ENDED FEB. 28—</b>				
<b>Corporate—</b>				
Domestic—Long-term bonds and notes	590,737,440	308,061,560	898,799,000	
Short term	23,571,000	6,500,000	30,071,000	
Preferred stocks	226,256,825	12,848,000	239,104,825	
Common stocks	125,912,990	20,183,300	146,096,290	
Canadian—Long-term bonds & notes	4,225,000	—	4,225,000	
Short term	—	—	—	
Preferred stocks	—	—	—	
Common stocks	—	—	—	
Other For'n—Long-term bonds & notes	76,100,000	—	76,100,000	
Short term	—	—	—	
Preferred stocks	—	—	—	
Common stocks	1,287,500	—	1,287,500	
Total corporate	1,048,090,755	347,592,860	1,395,683,615	
Foreign Government	100,052,800	27,000,000	127,052,800	
Farm Loan issues	28,700,000	—	28,700,000	
War Finance Corporation	—	—	—	
Municipal	237,806,285	1,569,028	239,375,313	
Canadian	17,950,000	—	17,950,000	
United States Possessions	1,385,000	—	1,385,000	
Grand total	1,433,984,840	376,161,888	1,810,146,728	

In the elaborate and comprehensive table on the succeeding page, we compare the foregoing figures for 1927 with the corresponding figures for the four years preceding, thus affording a five-year comparison. We also furnish a detailed analysis for the five years of the corporate offerings, showing separately the amounts for all the different classes of corporations.











Amount.	Purpose of Issue.	Price.	To Yield About.	Company and Issue and by Whom Offered.
\$			%	
1,400,000	Miscellaneous— Acquisition of properties.....	99	5.28	Child's Dining Hall Co. 4-Yr. 5s, Mar. 1 1931. Offered by Laird, Bissell & Meeds and Tucker, Anthony & Co.
300,000	Additional capital.....	100	6.00	(R. J.) Darnell, Inc. (Darnell, La.) 1st M. 6s, 1929-31. Offered by Commerce Securities Co.; Memphis, Tenn.
1,000,000	General corporate purposes.....	---	5.50	Salt Water Valley Water Users' Assn. 6s, 1929-31. Offered by First Securities Co., Anglo-London-Paris Co., Harris Trust & Sav. Bank, Rutter & Co. and Valley Bank, Phoenix, Ariz.
2,700,000				

STOCKS.

Par or No. of Shares	Purpose of Issue.	Amount Involved.	Price Per Share.	To Yield About.	Company and Issue, and by Whom Offered.
\$		\$		%	
*100,000shs	Public Utilities— Acquisitions; new construction.....	4,050,000	40 1/2	---	Associated Gas & Electric Co. Class "A" stock. Offered by John Nickerson & Co., N. Y.
1,299,350	Additions.....	1,299,350	50 (par)	---	Blackstone Valley Gas & Elec. Co. common. Offered by company to stockholders.
200,000	General corporate purposes.....	200,000	99	6.06	Cape & Vineyard Electric Co. 6% Cum. Pref. Offered by Brown Bros. & Co., Boston.
*120,000sh	Refunding; capital expenditures.....	109,200,000	91	5.49	Consolidated Gas Co. of N. Y. \$5 Cum. Pref. Offered by company to stockholders; underwritten by National City Co.
*720,000shs	Refunding; capital expenditures.....	54,000,000	75	---	Consolidated Gas Co. of N. Y. Common stock. Offered by company to stockholders; underwritten by National City Co.
2,000,000	Extensions.....	2,000,000	105	5.71	Consolidated Gas Electric Light & Power Co. of Baltimore 6% Pref. "D." Offered by company to customers.
1,200,000	General corporate purposes.....	1,200,000	100	7.00	Diversified Investments, Inc., 7% Cum. 1st Pref. Offered by Theodore Gary & Co., Kansas City, Mo.
*3,000shs	Acquisitions; other corp. purposes.....	300,000	100	7.00	Eastern Gas & Electric Securities Corp. \$7 Pref. Offered by Hincks Bros. & Co.; Bridgeport.
100,000	Capital expenditures.....	100,000	98 1/2	7.10	Minot Gas Co. 7% Cum. Pref. Offered by Drake-Jones Co., Minneapolis.
13,279,000	Capital expenditures.....	13,279,000	25 (par)	---	Philadelphia Electric Co. capital stock. Offered by company to stockholders.
*500,000shs	Acquisitions.....	15,000,000	30	---	The Rhode Island Public Service Co. Pref. Cum. \$2 per share. Offered by Bodell & Co., F. L. Carlisle & Co., Stone & Webster & Blodgett, Inc., Baker, Young & Co. Bond & Goodwin, Inc., and Hornblower & Weeks.
647,925	Additions, extensions, &c.....	1,166,265	45	---	Springfield (Mass.) Gas Light Co. capital stock. Offered by company to stockholders.
160,000	Additions.....	200,000	25	---	Telephone Investment Corp. (Reno, Nev.) capital stock. Offered by company to stockholders.
		201,994,615			
150,000	Iron, Steel, Coal, Copper, &c. Additional capital.....	150,000	50 (par)	---	Pittsburgh Malleable Iron Co. capital stock. Offered by company to stockholders.
25,000,000	Motors and Accessories— Capital expenditures.....	25,000,000	120	5.80	General Motors Corp. 7% Preferred. Offered by J. P. Morgan & Co.
*50,000shs	Other Industrial & Mfg.— Acquire predecessor company.....	1,550,000	31	---	Bessemer Limestone & Cement Co. Class "A" stock. Offered by Otis & Co., N. Y.; and Wlek & Co., Youngstown, Ohio.
300,000	Expansion of business.....	425,000	{ 3 shs. pref. } For { 5 shs. com. } 212 1/2	---	The Burger Bros. Co. (Ohio) 8% Cum. Conv. Pref. Offered by W. E. Fox & Co., Cincinnati.
*10,000shs	Expansion of business.....	625,000	25	8.00	The Burger Bros. Co. (Ohio) Common stock. Offered by W. E. Fox & Co., Cincinnati.
*25,000shs	Wkg. capital; acq. inactive stk. ints.....	500,000	100	7.00	Chicago Electric Mfg. Co. (Ill.) Class "A" stock cum. \$2 per share. Offered by Davis, McDade & Co. and Manning & Co., Chicago.
500,000	Working capital.....	500,000	100	7.00	Craddock-Terry Co. (Lynchburg, Va.) Class "C" 7% Pref. Offered by company to stockholders.
*30,000shs	Acquire predecessor company.....	855,000	28 1/2	---	Fashion Park Inc. (Rochester, N. Y.) Common. Offered by A. G. Becker & Co.
*81,666shs	Refunding.....	4,083,300	50	---	(Julius) Kayser & Co. Common. Offered by company to stockholders; underwritten by Blair & Co., Inc.
*5,000shs	Expansion of business.....	500,000	100	7.00	Knox Hat Co., Inc., Common stock. Offered by company to stockholders.
1,000,000	Additional capital.....	1,000,000	100	7.00	New England Furniture & Carpet Co. 7% Cum. Pref. Offered by W. B. Foshay Co.; Minneapolis.
*83,592shs	Additional capital.....	2,089,800	25	---	The Nineteen Hundred Washer Co., Inc., Class "A" Common. Offered by Maynard H. Murch & Co., Cleveland, and H. W. Noble & Co., Detroit.
1,600,000	Acquisition of securities.....	1,600,000	100	7.00	Oil Well Supply Investment Co. 7% Cum. Pref. Offered by J. H. Holmes & Co., and Hill, Wright & Frew, Pittsburgh.
*196,000sh.	Working capital.....	1,960,000	10	---	Servel Corp. (Del.) Capital Stock. Offered by company to stockholders; underwritten by Pynchon & Co.
*67,000shs.	Retire indebtedness; wkg. capital.....	1,005,000	15	---	Splittdorf-Bethlehem Electric Co. Capital Stock. Offered by company to stockholders; underwritten by Watson & White.
100,000	Additional capital.....	110,000	11	---	(John C.) Staifort & Sons, Inc., Common "A" Stock. Offered by Dobson & Co.; Baltimore.
*12,000shs.	Retire floating debt.....	540,000	45	8.00	Thatcher Manufacturing Co. Convertible Preference Stock, Cum. \$3.60 per share. Offered by Hemphill, Noyes & Co., Lage & Co. and Hale, Waters & Co.
*50,000shs.	Expansion of business.....	1,375,000	27 1/2	---	Wright Refrigerating Corp. Class "A" Stock. Offered by Smith, Brady & Co., N. Y.
		18,218,100			
*200,000sh.	Oil— Development; other corp. purp....	700,000	3 1/2	---	Bolivian Petroleum Co. Capital Stock. Offered by Curtis & Sanger, New York.
300,000	Land, Buildings, &c.— Refunding; additions, impts.....	300,000	100 (par)	---	Asbury Park Hotel & Realty Co., Common. Offered by company to stockholders.
500,000	General corporate purposes.....	500,000	100	6.00	Century Bldg. Corp. (Indianapolis) 1st 6% Pref., due 1928-42. Offered by City Securities Corp., Indianapolis.
1,000,000	Finance construction of building.....	1,000,000	100d	7.00	Penn-Federal Corp. 7% Cum. Pref. Offered by Walls, Deane & Singer, Inc., Glover & MacGregor, S. M. Vockel & Co. and Gordon & Co., Pittsburgh.
100,000	Finance construction of homes.....	100,000	100	6.00	The Puritan Securities Co. (Indianapolis) 6% Pref., due May 15 1937. Offered by the Peoples State Bank, Indianapolis.
650,000	Finance construction of hotel.....	650,000	100	7.00	Ritz-Carlton Hotel Co. of Boston 7% Pref. Offered by Richardson, Hill & Co., Boston.
*30,000shs.	Finance construction of hotel.....	315,000	10 1/2	---	Ritz-Carlton Hotel Co. of Boston Common. Offered by A. B. Durell & Co., Boston.
1,000,000	Working capital.....	1,500,000	{ 1 sh. pref. } For { 1 sh. com. } \$150	---	United States Bond & Mortgage Corp. (N. Y.) 7% Cum. Pref. Offered by company.
*10,000shs.	Working capital.....	4,365,000			United States Bond & Mortgage Corp. (N. Y.) Com. Stock. Offered by company.
10,000,000	Miscellaneous— Expansion of facilities.....	10,000,000	104	6.25	L. Bamberger & Co. (N. J.) 6 1/2% Cum. Pref. Offered by Lehman Bros.
300,000	Acquire constituent cos.....	300,000	25 (par)	---	Capitol Dairies, Inc. Class "A" Partic. Pref. Offered by Fletcher American Co.; Indianapolis.
300,000	Retire mtg. debt, &c., wkg. cap'l.....	300,000	100	7.00	Chevy Chase Dairy (Wise Bros.), Wash., D. C. 7% Cum. Pref. Offered by Y. E. Booker & Co., Washington, D. C.
500,000	Additional capital.....	1,000,000	50	---	Economical Drug Co. Class "A" Participating Stock. Offered by F. A. Brewer & Co.; Chicago.
2,000,000	Acquisitions; working capital.....	2,000,000	100	8.00	Educational Pictures, Inc. 8% Cum. Pref. Offered by Dillon, Read & Co.
10,000,000	Provide funds for investment purp.....	12,350,000	{ 1 sh. pref. } For { 1 warrant } \$ { 1/2 sh. com. } 123 1/2	---	Financial & Industrial Securities Corp. 7% Cum. Pf. Offered by co. to stockholders.
100,000wts.	Provide funds for investment purp.....	1,100,000	100	7.00	Financial & Industrial Securities Corp. Exch. Warrants. Offered by co. to stkholders.
*50,000shs.	Provide funds for investment purp.....	1,100,000	100	7.00	Financial & Industrial Securities Corp. Com. Stock. Offered by co. to stockholders.
1,100,000	Acquire constituent cos.....	500,000	25	---	The Southern New England Ice Co. 7% Cum. Prior Preference Stock. Offered by Goddard & Co., Inc., C. D. Parker & Co., Inc., and Taylor, Ewart & Co., Inc.
*20,000shs.	Acq. constituent cos.; wkg. capital.....	500,000	25	---	Southern Stores Corp. (Miami, Fla.) Class "A" Participating Stock Cum. \$2 per sh. Offered by E. W. Clucas & Co., New York.
		27,550,000			

FARM LOAN ISSUES.

Amount.	Issue.	Price.	To Yield About.	Offered by
\$			%	
1,000,000	Atlantic Joint Stock Land Bank (Raleigh, N. C.) 5s, 1937-57.....	103 1/2	4.56	Wm. R. Compton & Co., Halsey, Stuart & Co., Inc. and Harris, Forbes & Co.
500,000	First Texas Joint Stock Land Bank of Houston, Tex. 5s, 1937-67.....	103	4.60	C. F. Childs & Co.
1,100,000	Pacific Coast Joint Stock Land Bank of San Francisco 5s, 1936-56.....	103 1/2	4.55	Harris, Forbes & Co., Halsey, Stuart & Co., Inc. and Wm. R. Compton Co.
500,000	Potomac Joint Stock Land Bank of Washington, D. C. 5s, 1937-57.....	103 1/2	4.59	C. F. Childs & Co.
900,000	Southwest Joint Stock Land Bank of Little Rock, Ark. 5s, 1936-56.....	103	4.62	C. F. Childs & Co.
450,000	Virginia-Carolina Joint Stock Land Bank (Norfolk, Va.) 5s, 1937-57.....	103 1/2	4.59	C. F. Childs & Co.
4,450,000				

## FOREIGN GOVERNMENT LOANS.

Amount.	Issue.	Price.	To Yield About.	Offered by
\$			%	
2,500,000	Dept. of Antioquia (Rep. of Colombia) Ext. Sec. 7s "C", 1945	96 3/4	7.35	Blair & Co., Inc. and E. H. Rollins & Sons.
14,000,000	Republic of Bolivia Ext. Sec. 7s, 1958	98 3/4	7.12	Dillon, Read & Co.
27,500,000	Republic of Chile Ext. 6s, 1961	93 3/4	6.50	Hallgarten & Co., Kissel, Kinnicutt & Co., Halsey, Stuart & Co., Inc., Lehman Bros., J. Henry Schroder Banking Corp., Cassatt & Co., Wm. R. Compton Co., Continental & Commercial Co., the Union Tr. Co. of Pittsburgh, Northern Tr. Co., Chicago, Guardian Detroit Co., E. H. Rollins & Sons, Bank of Italy, San Francisco, the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Edw. B. Smith & Co., Merrill, Lynch & Co., and J. G. White & Co., Inc.
4,669,500	City of Cordoba (Argentina) Ext. 7s, 1957	98 3/4	7.10	White, Weld & Co. and Blyth, Witter & Co.
25,000,000	State of New South Wales (Australia) Ext. 5s, 1957	96 3/4	5.25	The Equitable Tr. Co. of N. Y., Harris, Forbes & Co., the First National Corp. of Boston and Estabrook & Co.
1,000,000	City of Santiago (Chile) 1-Yr. Ext. 6s, Jan. 1 1928		5.50	Hallgarten & Co. and Kissel, Kinnicutt & Co.
74,669,500				

\* Shares of no par value.

a Preferred stocks of a stated par value are taken at par while preferred stocks of no par value and all classes of common stocks are computed at their offering prices.

b Bonus of 10 shares of common stock given with each \$1,000 bond.

c Bonus of 5 shares of common stock given with each \$1,000 bond.

d Bonus of 1 share of common stock given with each share of preferred.

## Report of British Committee Headed by Lord Colwyn—British Capital Levy Proposal Rejected by Majority—Debt Redemption and Taxation—Proposed Gradual Increase of Sinking Fund

In our issue of Saturday last (March 12 page 1429) we published an article by Hartley Withers discussing features of the report of the British Committee on National Debt and Taxation presided over by Lord Colwyn. A comprehensive presentation of the conclusions of the committee appears in the London "Financial News" of Feb. 23, which has just come to hand; besides the main report, there is a minority report with a reservation by one of the minority. The majority report is signed by the Chairman, Lord Colwyn, Sir Charles S. Addis, Sir Alan G. Anderson, Sir Arthur Balfour, Mr. Henry Bell, Mr. W. L. Hichens, Sir William McLintock and Sir Josiah C. Stamp. The minority report is signed by Mr. J. W. Bowen, Professor Frederick Hall, Mr. H. B. Lees-Smith and Mrs. Barbara Wootton; to this report there is a signed reservation by Professor Hall. The committee was appointed by Mr. Snowden on March 20 1924. The entire report, comprising the three parts, consists of 448 pages. It was issued on Feb. 22. The committee was appointed to study the national debt and "the incidence of existing taxation," with special reference to their effect on trade, industry, employment and national credit. The committee, which held 48 sittings, reviews taxation from every standpoint, its burden and effect on income, the effect of income tax, stamp duties, entertainment tax, a capital levy, and schemes of taxation and debt payment. The "Financial News" notes that so far as concerns taxation for the service of the debt, the two terms stand for aspects of a single subject. Questions of debt policy arise independently of taxation, and therefore the debt and taxation have been treated separately as well as in conjunction. From the same source we quote as follows the main conclusions of the committee:

1. That income tax is not passed directly into the price of goods and services.
2. Private savings have been discouraged.
3. Estate duty is more prejudicial to savings than income tax.
4. Stamp duties are one of the least satisfactory parts of the tax system.
5. A capital levy is rejected as a remedy.
6. The sinking fund should be raised to £75,000,000 per annum.
7. Present taxation is not one of the main causes of industrial difficulty.

### Recommendations.

According to the "Financial News," the committee concludes that with unimportant exceptions the income tax is not passed directly into the price of goods and services. Whether prices are indirectly affected is another question depending on the total effect of the tax on saving and enterprise. Saving and enterprise are undoubtedly diminished to some extent as a result of the physical transfer under progressive taxation from the larger to the smaller income. The "News" goes on to state that the committee in its comment says: "We are satisfied that when the application of the tax revenue is taken into account, the higher level of post-war income taxation has not had anything approaching a commensurate effect on the level of prices. It appears to

us that over the whole field its influence on prices has been of little relative importance, and that it has not in this aspect tended to reduce materially the power of the public to purchase consumable goods.

### Standard of Living.

"The general effect on the income tax paying class has been to reduce consumption to some extent, although to a less extent since the rates of tax have been lowered.

"We see no reason to think that on balance, luxury expenditure has been very materially checked—in some cases the reaction has undoubtedly been towards extravagance.

"Reduced expenditure in the middle class of income together with the proportionate application of income tax revenue to social expenditure may go some slight way towards explaining how the worker's average standard of living has been maintained as appears to be the case—in spite of a decrease in total production and in spite of any adverse effect of increased indirect taxation.

### Savings by Industry.

On the question of savings, the committee says: "National savings and national production are alike dependent on two factors—saving or economy on the one side, work and enterprise on the other. A substantial part of the national saving is done by industry on its own account. Public joint stock companies, while they look to the investing public for a continuous stream of capital, supply a large part of their own needs by placing sums to reserve out of profit. To judge from figures supplied by the Board of Inland Revenue, it appears that in spite of the income tax, aggregate reserves had been maintained at about the pre-war level, after allowance for the different purchasing power of money."

### Stamp Duties.

The incident and the effects of the stamp duties have come under review, and the committee thinks (we are continuing to quote from the account in the "Financial News") that the effects of the 2d. stamp on checks is a good deal exaggerated, although they have no doubt that a reduction to 1d. would do something to encourage the freer use of checks and banking facilities. They come to the conclusion that the stamp duties are the cause of occasional irritation to the citizen, "and of some recurrent friction in business, and particularly in finance. While they are open to many objections, they do not seem in practice to meet with much opposition from the general taxpayer, and they may be held to illustrate the saying that 'an old tax is a good tax.'

"Nevertheless, in relation to their moderate yield, we are disposed to think them one of the least satisfactory parts of the British tax system."

### Capital Levy.

Fifty pages of the report, the "Financial News" says, are devoted to the consideration of the capital levy, and the committee's conclusion is summed up in the following few lines:

"We conclude that, even if there were a prospect of a capital levy being well received, the relief from debt which it offers would be insufficient to justify an experiment so

large, difficult and full of hazard; this would hold good in any circumstances not differing widely from those of the present time. Further, unless a levy were accepted with more good-will than it would be possible to anticipate under present conditions, it would be highly injurious to the social and industrial life of the community."

#### *Sinking Fund.*

The committee has reached the conclusion, notes the "Financial News," that as a more permanent contribution for the reduction of debt the present provision of £50,000,000 a year out of revenue for debt redemption is insufficient.

They recommend that steps should be taken to increase the sinking fund as early as possible to £75,000,000 a year.

With the aid of additional Allied loan repayments, reductions in interest charged from conversions, and repayments and expanding revenue, this would become possible within a period of five years without the imposition of additional taxation. The aim should be to increase the sinking fund by degrees to £100,000,000 a year. It is contemplated that this should be possible without additional taxation by applying the major part of the interest saving over a period of, say, from seven to ten years.

The committee do not recommend any extension in the practice of hypothecating sinking funds to particular taxes.

#### *Minority Report.*

The "Financial News" observes that the signatories to the minority report conclude that a considerable part of the wage-earning population must be seriously over-taxed, but existing direct taxation does not reduce aggregate purchasing power, nor does it raise prices or materially reduce the national output of work, or of saving or of enterprise.

Since savings from conversion offer no prospect of immediate relief, the minority report recommends that the capital levy is both equitable and practicable, provided that it is accepted with general good-will. As an alternative, they suggest increase of the sinking fund to £100,000,000, the charge being met by the imposition of additional taxation on unearned income.

In his reservation, it is learned from the paper which we have been quoting, Professor Hall argues that earlier and more vigorous steps should be taken to increase the sinking fund to create more favorable conditions for conversion.

We take occasion to reproduce also from the London "Financial News" the following regarding the findings of the committee:

In the course of the summary of their views on the burden of the national debt and taxation the signatories to the main report say:

#### *Comparative Burdens.*

The question of comparative tax burdens and taxable capacity has been much discussed in connection with debt and other settlements between different countries and in conjunction with the problem of transferring resources from one country to another. We are not concerned with the question in this aspect, but we are interested in the comparative burdens, so far as the weight of taxation in Great Britain may prejudice our industry in competition with that of less heavily taxed countries, through impeding the growth of reserves, checking enterprise, and so forth.

That this factor has to some extent affected our industry we do not doubt, although we regard it as of minor importance compared with more general difficulties affecting our foreign trade. We have, however, reluctantly come to the conclusion that the available material is insufficient on which to found any reliable statistical conclusions.

In reference to the post-war period up to the end of the last completed tax year, we think it may be said definitely that the burden of taxation was heavier in Great Britain than in any other European country, and very much heavier than in the United States. But we are not prepared to make a measured comparison in figures. It is dangerous to draw facile inferences from partial statistics, such as have appeared from time to time.

#### *1818 and 1923.*

In some respects there is a striking similarity between the present position of the country and that after the Napoleonic Wars. The parallel, however, needs to be regarded with caution. In particular, we have to consider whether the remarkable manner in which the debt burden of a hundred years ago was lightened in course of time through increase of wealth and population gives any ground for optimistic views to-day.

On the basis of the estimates of national income, taxation for the internal debt accounts for very much the same percentage each year. The ratio of total tax revenue to national income was 14.07% in 1818 and 18.89% in 1923, the higher ratio in 1923 being largely due to expenditure on pensions and social services. It is not necessarily implied that the burden in 1923 was the heavier; as in a comparison between different countries, so also in a comparison affecting the same country at different times, many points require attention. We suggest especially the following:

(i) Population has increased greatly, but wealth much more greatly. Only rough comparisons are possible, but after allowance for differing price levels, it appears that real income per head was something like four times as much in 1923 as in 1818. All classes shared in this increase, real wages and the standard of living having made a big advance during the nineteenth century.

(ii) While the mass of the people suffered acutely in the depression of a hundred years ago, and had much less capacity than now to bear taxation, the distribution of tax was far more severe to small incomes.

Of a total tax revenue of £56,000,000, £40,000,000 was raised by customs and excise duties, levied largely on necessities, the income tax having been repealed as from April 1815.

#### *Social Services.*

(iii) Taxation in 1923 provides for many social services either not represented at all, or barely represented, in the State expenditure of 1818.

(iv) The very numerous and vexatious indirect taxes in force in 1818 were a serious impediment to trade.

(v) As against these considerations we must note that in 1818 there was no external debt charge.

(vi) Again, taxation in 1818 hardly touched the saving power of the wealthy; in 1923 it imposed a distinct limitation upon it.

Reviewing these points, we think it clear that, for some years after the Napoleonic Wars, debt and taxation were far more burdensome to the nation as a whole than they are now. They were certainly far more oppressive to the poorer classes. Relief came in the Victorian era through the unprecedented advance in industry and transport and in the development of the credit system, accompanied by rapid growth of population. The burden of the debt was spread over a body of taxpayers growing in number and prosperity.

It is true that the dominant changes in the price level were large falls between 1818 and 1852, and again (almost without interruption) between 1873 and 1897, so that greater purchasing power had to be transferred to the debt holder, at any rate until the reduction of interest under the Goschen conversion of 1889; none the less, the necessary taxes were provided with increasing ease.

#### *Future Productivity.*

The question of future productivity in Great Britain is open to speculation. A large growth in population, if it were to take place without a corresponding expansion of trade, would not ease the position, but would rather increase anxiety as to employment. In point of fact, there is no evidence in present conditions to suggest a large growth; according to an estimate which we have prepared, the numbers of the occupied population, after allowance for emigration, may be expected to increase by about 125,000 per annum up to 1931, about 46,000 per annum between 1931 and 1936, and about 20,000 per annum between 1936 and 1941.

The numbers seeking employment after 1941 depend on the birth rate from now onwards.

It appears then that, apart from the maintenance of a low level of unemployment, such as would be facilitated by a steady foreign demand for our goods, any hopes must be centred mainly on an increase of productivity per head. This might come in various ways, from the discovery of new materials, new inventions, advance in chemical and other sciences, and improved organization. To secure the full potential results, it might be necessary to lay out a considerably larger amount of capital than hitherto per unit of the employed population.

On the whole subject we conclude that the present burden, in spite of its weight, is less menacing to the welfare of the community than the old debt continued to be for some years after 1815; there is reason also to hope that it may be materially lightened through new developments in industry. On the other hand, there is nothing to warrant a belief that history will repeat itself and productivity increase on a scale like that of the Victorian era.

#### *Taxation and the Individual.*

Except in the small incomes which are liable to little or no income tax, the general character of the present tax system is highly progressive. The taxation on the smallest incomes, while heavier, appears to be rather less oppressive than before the war; this is due in some measure to the high prices of tobacco and alcohol restricting the consumption of the least well-to-do.

Progressive taxation, under which income, as it increases, bears tax at a higher rate per pound, is the fairest as between individual taxpayers, since it allows for the increased capacity of each additional pound of income to bear taxation. The principle of progression may, however, be carried to such a point as to lead, in turn, to unfairness against the wealthier taxpayer. Regressive taxation, under which income, as it increases, suffers at a lower rate per pound, is deficient in point of equity. It might be inferred that a good tax system would give no place to indirect taxes, which cannot be fitted to the individual's ability to pay, and which are unavoidably regressive, if levied upon articles of general consumption. Such a conclusion would miss the mark for several reasons:

(i) Indirect taxation is the most effective way of levying a contribution to national expenditure from the mass of wage earners. A universal income tax would be very unpopular and difficult to administer. On the other hand, to raise the whole revenue from direct taxes on two or three million citizens would be unduly to narrow the basis of taxation. There is great force in the argument which connects taxation with representation.

(ii) Progressive taxation, such as the present income tax and death duties, cannot be carried beyond a certain point without jeopardy to saving and enterprise. Harm may be done to trade, and, if so, there will be reactions on employment and on the standard of living of the poor. Thus the system may break down.

(iii) While indirect taxes, such as the customs and excise duties, are regressive, they may have special virtues. This is true of the tobacco and alcohol duties, which raise a large revenue out of the expenditure of individuals in all ranks of wealth, without undue reactions on personal efficiency.

#### *Taxation and the Citizen.*

We consider it important on broad grounds of citizenship that taxation should not be confined to a comparatively small section of the population. It would be a bad state of affairs if a large majority of citizens were themselves to make no actual tax contribution and were to enjoy benefits provided entirely by the taxation of the few. Under conditions approaching the ideal—which would imply inter alia, a satisfactory standard of living for the lowest paid workers—all would make some contribution, and would make it knowingly.

The actual position is that all classes make some contribution, and this in itself we regard as satisfactory; but the great majority contribute only in the form of indirect taxes, and these, being wrapped up in price, are so unobtrusive that they are probably not much realized, except when attention is specially drawn to them. It would be better, from the point of view we are considering, if the great body of citizens were more conscious of the taxes which they bear.

#### *Standard of Living.*

A general conclusion we reach is that the post war taxes, combined with other factors, do not appear to have reduced the average or general standard of living of the working classes below the pre-war level. The pre-war level, however, even in a boom year like 1913, has no claim to be considered final; a higher standard, such as increased production might bring, is much to be desired. There is no doubt that the customs and excise duties considerably affect the purchasing power of people with small incomes and bear hardly on large numbers in the depressed industries, whose real wages have fallen, and who suffer much from unemployment.

A clear distinction must be drawn between the duties on luxuries and those on necessities; we think that the sugar duty is relatively high, even

in the financial needs of the present time. While the effect of the duties is to some extent adverse to the standard of living (and, as a consequence, to physical efficiency), there is a set-off, even if its importance cannot be measured, so far as the alcohol duties—and some would add the tobacco duty—curtail excessive consumption; this effect cannot be ignored, although the idea of taxation as an element in social reform should, in our view, take only a very subordinate place. As always, it is necessary to keep in view the expenditure side of the account, and credit must be given to the customs and excise duties for their proportional contribution to education, pensions, etc. Moreover, the direct taxes contribute largely to these social benefits, assisting the workers' standard of living and purchasing power at considerable expense to the living and saving standards of the well-to-do.

#### Standard of Saving.

In regard to the standard of saving, we conclude that the increased direct taxes have contributed appreciably to a pro rata decline in saving—not startling, but very substantial—below the pre-war amount. The deficiency below the standard of 1913 may be as much as £150,000,000 to £200,000,000 in present money values. The decline, whatever its cause—and taxation must not be over-emphasized—is a feature to be watched with some anxiety. It is true here, as it is in the case of living standards, that there is nothing sacrosanct in the pre-war level. It would, however, be most unsatisfactory if we had to look forward to a permanently lower level of saving. The capital needs of the future may be great.

In view of the large amount of revenue which has to be raised, we think the general character of tax distribution in post-war years has been satisfactory, but we would emphasize that highly progressive taxation is a growth of the last decade, and it is still too early to speak of its final economic effects on the community. Growing experience must, therefore, be looked to for guidance as to the best disposition of taxes. We observe that the notion of aiming at a fixed proportion between direct and indirect taxation continues to figure largely in public discussion, a 50-50 relation being often referred to as if it had rare intrinsic merit. We regard this idea as wholly unfounded, and contrary not only to the science of taxation but to plain common sense.

#### Business Outlook.

Very briefly, we may say that, in business generally, the existing taxes tend to discourage a sanguine outlook. The income tax has little direct effect on public companies, and the death duties none. Private concerns are much more susceptible to influence. In the middle range of incomes, the income tax frequently leads to a greater output of effort, although individual reactions vary widely; in the higher range the tax (including super-tax, tends to check enterprise, especially of the more speculative kind. The effects of the death duties are less pronounced in either direction.

The enterprise of public companies receives some indirect check, so far as their reserves and the supply of capital from the public are diminished; in the case of private concerns, which depend on an internal supply of capital, the material basis for enterprise is more seriously affected, especially where there is heavy liability to super-tax or where death duties come at an embarrassing time. In the majority of cases, however, the position is eased through the proprietors having relatively large additional resources outside their businesses.

#### The General Burden.

Our analysis of the taxation required for the debt and for other expenditure leads to broad conclusions which will have become evident. The burden of indirect taxation appears formidable when viewed as a whole. On analysis, however, it is found that the duties on food are now light except for the sugar duty, which we consider relatively high. The high level of the duties on luxuries (as we understand the term) appears to us to be justifiable at present, considering the large amount of revenue required, and the risk of interfering too much with savings, if heavier direct taxation were adopted.

#### Industry's Difficulties.

The burden of direct taxation, while we do not wish to belittle it, is less crushing than is frequently represented. It does not, with trivial exceptions, enter directly into prices, and its indirect effects are not such as substantially to affect the general price level. It has a materially adverse effect on savings, but this does not hold good, so far as the receipts are applied to payments on account of the internal debt. Again, it has widely diffused psychological effects, and has been responsible for a good deal of discouragement, while trade has been suffering from long-drawn-out depression due to wider causes; on the other hand, some of the psychological effects have been actually beneficial.

In our opinion the present taxation—even in conjunction with the loss of material wealth due to war expenditure, which lies behind the national debt—is not one of the main causes of industrial difficulty.

Causes other than taxation lie outside our province, but, in their very wide range, have been under the consideration of the Committee on Industry and Trade.

For an analysis of the serious difficulties of our export trade due to one set of causes—conditions prevailing in the various markets abroad—we may refer to the committee's introduction to their "Survey of Overseas Markets" (1925). The overseas conditions dealt with cover the decline of purchasing power, the shortage of capital, the growth of local manufacture, etc. So far as taxation is concerned, we think that, if general conditions improve and times become more prosperous, the burden will be carried with comparative ease. We base our conclusions, not on preconceptions, but on the long analysis contained in the foregoing part of our report, in the light of which they must stand examination.

We may perhaps remark that the view which we take is more optimistic than the view which attributes to taxation a very large responsibility for the present industrial position; for, while there is little prospect of any great lightening of the tax burden in the early future, there is legitimate hope that in many respects more general conditions, both at home and abroad, may improve.

#### Capital Levy "Highly Injurious."

The proposal that a levy should be imposed on all accumulated wealth and the proceeds used specifically for the redemption was rejected by the committee after an exhaustive research. The main report states:

We are not prepared to lay it down as an abstract proposition that the capital levy, viewed simply as a tax on the accumulated wealth of a particular generation, must, in all circumstances, be condemned as unfair; at the same time, we consider that, even in this broad aspect, very special circumstances are required to justify it, and that such circumstances, while possibly realized in 1920, do not exist now. Descending from the abstract principle of the levy to its application, we conclude that it would necessarily involve inequity in many ways; it would penalize the thrifty in a more arbitrary manner than annual income taxation, it would give a disproportionate advantage to large earned incomes not depending on material capital, and, in valuation and collection, it would entail inequalities much more pronounced than are found under the existing system.

#### Impressive, But—

The collection of a sum in the neighborhood of £3,000,000,000 for the redemption of debt would, in itself, be impressive. But the value of wiping out so much debt, apart from the annual saving of interest, is not easy to assess.

Immediately after the war the argument for a levy was much stronger than it is now. Apart from the prospect of price deflation (which may have been imperfectly realized) and of heavy annual taxation (which may have been over-estimated), there were other advantages. In particular, the end of the war was a unique occasion which the more wealthy classes of the nation might well have been asked to mark by a special and personal contribution. In present circumstances the advocates of a levy have a far weaker case. Certainly, whether regarded as a means of lightening the annual burden on industry, or as a means of reducing indirect taxes and increasing expenditure on social objects, it would, in our opinion, yield physical results quite disproportionate to the magnitude of the operation.

#### Effects on Industry.

If a levy were reasonably well received, and if it did not give rise to any strong fear of repetition, we think it would cause less disturbance than many of its opponents have taken to be inevitable. There would undoubtedly be the risk of a fall in the value of securities outside the gilt-edged area, of a fairly considerable restriction of bank advances, and of instability in the value of the currency.

The amount of friction and dislocation to industry as a whole, and the consequent effect on employment and the workers' standard of living, would largely depend on the factors we have just mentioned, i. e., on the extent to which depression of security values, restriction of bank credits, etc., could be avoided. If these problems were satisfactorily solved—in itself a considerable assumption—and if there were no general nervousness, it appears that the disturbance need not be serious, so far as concerns the great proportion of big industry carried on in this country by joint stock companies. The trouble would be much greater in the case of private businesses, the proprietors of which were liable to large payments of levy.

It is very difficult to judge how far the national credit abroad might be affected. In the long run it would seem to depend on the general effects—or, at least, the more observable effect—at home. If the levy could be smoothly and successfully worked, it would probably arouse a good deal of admiration. But the immediate result would also certainly be a considerable shock to credit, and to restore the confidence of foreign countries with any speed would be extremely difficult. We anticipate that deposits would quickly be affected. Even if public opinion at home were favorable to the levy, and if every attempt were made to reassure the foreigner that he would not be within its scope, it is probable that foreign depositors and investors would to some extent take fright and remove their money.

#### Effects if Badly Received.

If the levy were regarded from the first with intense fear and hostility, it would immediately set in motion a whole train of ill consequences. There would no doubt be active propaganda which would accentuate opposition, and it would be exceedingly difficult for the Government to explain the real nature and intention of their proposal so as to make it at all acceptable. We anticipate that the value of securities would quickly depreciate, that traders would reduce their stocks and their demand for credit, and that rapid deflation would ensue, which it would be exceedingly difficult to correct. This would involve serious friction and dislocation over industry as a whole, with very damaging effects on employment. The task of administering the levy would be rendered extremely difficult and perhaps impossible.

The disturbance created by the levy would far outweigh the good effects of reducing the debt. The general effects might be so detrimental to trade that the ordinary revenue would sharply decline and make any immediate reliefs from taxation out of the question. Finally, the long-range effects would be injurious. Saving and enterprise would alike suffer, and the return to trade prosperity would be endangered, and in any event, seriously postponed.

The credit of the country abroad would suffer a severe shock, and, indeed, it is difficult to define any limit to the widespread harm that might be done to our trade and commerce.

#### Probable Reception.

We do not suggest that a levy would necessarily arouse feeling so violent as to induce results of the most extreme kind. We are convinced, however, that it would be strongly resented.

We conclude that, even if there were a prospect of a capital levy being well received, the relief from debt which it offers would be insufficient to justify the experiment so large, difficult and full of hazard; this would hold good in any circumstances not differing widely from those of the present time. Further, unless a levy were accepted with more good will than it would be possible to anticipate under present conditions, it would be highly injurious to the social and industrial life of the community.

#### Debt Redemption—Steady Reduction Favored.

Discussing the question of debt redemption and taxation, the report states:

We have in the preceding part of our report considered and rejected the proposal for a large immediate repayment of debt by means of a capital levy, and we have examined other schemes submitted to us for the redemption or conversion of debt and concluded that they are, upon various grounds, either impracticable or undesirable.

In the course of this examination we have dealt with arguments supporting particularly a policy of immediate or rapid debt repayment. It is necessary now to review the evidence put forward on the more general questions whether debt repayment should be undertaken, and at what rate it should proceed.

We may say at once that not one of our witnesses has suggested that it is unnecessary to make any provision for debt redemption. It is pertinent, therefore, in the first instance, to look at the reasons which have been advanced more particularly in support of a steady annual reduction in the debt. Apart from the general desirability of effecting some reduction in order that the burden upon posterity may not be too great, these reasons may be conveniently summarized as:

- The maintenance and improvement of the national credit, particularly with a view to paving the way for future conversion operations;
- The desirability of reducing the debt in view of the possibility of a future national emergency requiring the State to incur further borrowing;
- The risk of the burden of the debt charge increasing beyond the present point, should the level of prices fall in the future.

The first two points are largely inter-connected, since the main effect of the existence of a large debt at a time when further borrowings are needed would be to raise the interest rate against the Government.

While a large debt would, in the event of fresh borrowing become necessary, be a grave disability in itself, a debt in regard to which no consistent policy of repayment had been taken would, we think, be still more serious.

The very impossibility of foreseeing future needs for borrowing is in itself an argument for taking early measures steadily to redeem debt; it would clearly be of no avail to wait until the emergency had arisen. Moreover, the facilities for emergency taxation as well as for emergency borrowing are affected.

The maintenance of a regular sinking fund would automatically make available a considerable revenue on its temporary suspension. Further, the decline in the interest charge, provided it had not already been made the occasion for other commitments, would leave a corresponding margin for expansion.

#### *Redemption and Taxation.*

After reviewing the evidence and proposals placed before the committee, the report proceeds:

We are forced to the conclusion that there is no formula by which one may determine the rate at which debt repayment should proceed. The choice is between continuing to bear a heavy interest charge or making a greater present effort in order to secure future relief.

The problem is, in the main, to balance the harmful effects of the necessary taxation against the benefits of a lower debt. Clearly such a balance must depend to a great extent upon the comparative weight which, after an examination of the taxation system, we attach to the two factors, tempered by some consideration of the equity of distributing the burden of repayment among individuals of this and succeeding generations. There arises, however, the obvious difficulty that the future volume of taxation for general purposes is unknown; and the effects of either an increase or decrease cannot be surmised in the absence of such knowledge. An increase in debt redemption, if it were possible without increasing taxation, is in a different category from an increase to be wholly financed by further taxation.

There are certain practical considerations which are of some account. As we have already indicated, the country, under its contracts with investors in certain loans, is committed to provide specific redemption funds in one form or another. Legally, no doubt, these funds might be provided by new borrowings, but this course is clearly undesirable, and, particularly in the case of those loans in which the declared intention of the fund is to support the market price rather than to provide for ultimate redemption, we think it would come very close to a breach of the undertaking given.

#### *War Debt Repayments.*

Though, as we have said, it is impossible to foresee future rates of taxation, it is permissible to consider the probability of some accession to the revenue (under the present procedure) as the result of repayments to this country in respect of Allied war debts.

We are strongly in favor of applying all receipts in respect of principal repayments of loans made by this country for war and reconstruction purposes as an additional contribution to the redemption of debt, and we are glad to note that this course is being followed wherever such receipts are definitely identifiable as principal. For the major part of these debts the terms of settlement made (or proposed) will result in a payment to this country less than the interest charge on the debt created in respect of the original loans. Such receipts have, up to the present time, been brought into revenue. So far as they may in the future exceed the present amount, there is clearly latitude for an increase of debt redemption without imposing additional taxation for the purpose. A qualification has, no doubt, to be made that, on the other side, there is likely to be a diminution in the amount of the special war receipts which at present form an appreciable item of revenue, and that the payments of interest on the debt to the United States will increase by about £5,000,000 in 1933-34.

After careful consideration of the whole of the findings recorded in our report both in regard to the burden of taxation and the desirability of reducing the debt, we have reached the conclusion that, as a more or less permanent contribution, the present provision of £50,000,000 a year out of revenue for debt redemption is insufficient. At the same time, we are not prepared to recommend any immediate drastic increase of taxation; though we think its burden is frequently exaggerated, we consider that any drastic increase would, in present circumstances, be definitely harmful.

#### *Sinking Fund.*

We recommend that steps should be taken to increase the sinking fund as early as possible to £75,000,000 a year. We should hope that, with the aid of additional Allied loan repayments, reductions in the interest charge from conversions and repayments, and possibly, expanding revenue, this would become possible within a period of, say, five years without the imposition of additional taxation. If, on a survey of budgetary prospects, that result is considered to be impossible of achievement, we recommend that additional taxation should be imposed to the extent necessary to raise the sinking fund by steps to that figure within, say, five years. We would only add on this point that we recognize that the industrial disturbance of the present year may make it impracticable to put this program into force immediately, even if our recommendation is accepted in principle.

With regard to the further outlook, we think that the aim should be to increase the sinking fund by degrees to £100,000,000 per annum. We contemplate that this should be possible, without additional taxation, by applying the major part of the interest saving over a period of, say, from seven to ten years. Whether or not taxation rates can simultaneously be reduced depends upon expenditure in other directions, the possibility of economies in which is being explored by other bodies at the present time. We feel strongly, however, that no reduction should be made which would endanger the carrying out of the above program. Similarly, we think that any embarkation upon new expenditure of whatever nature should only be made if, at the same time, conditions are held to permit of the increase of the sinking fund to the above dimensions.

#### *No Undue Burden.*

In addition to the provision of a definite sinking fund on the scale outlined above, we contemplate the continuance of the existing arrangements, under which identifiable capital receipts in respect of loans due to this country and certain minor receipts by the National Debt Commissioners are applied to debt redemption, together with any surplus of revenue over expenditure in the financial year.

We think our recommendation represents a reasonable and adequate program of debt redemption, which it should be possible to pursue without entailing an undue burden on the community. To put it higher would, we feel, be in the long run to invite its non-observance. Whether or not it may be possible in a more remote future to accelerate repayment must be left for another generation to decide.

If the suggestion we have made is accepted, it will be necessary in due course to make further statutory provision for the increase of the sinking fund. The precise form which legislation should take may be a matter of some difficulty since the increase we suggest will not necessarily proceed upon a regular scale; we have no doubt, however, that a formula can be devised.

#### *New Loans.*

With regard to the form of securities to be offered in future, we have made only three recommendations—that loans should not be issued at a price very substantially below par; that specific sinking funds should not be attached to future issues; and that, as far as possible, special tax privileges should not be attached to loans. Apart from these points, the choice of the type of security to be issued must, we think, be determined, in consultation as far as may be with competent authorities, by reference to the conditions obtaining at the time of issue. How far it may prove possible to avoid the issue of short-term securities it is impossible to foresee.

In general, so far as conditions permit, it seems to us sound policy to proceed in the main with issues of securities in funded form, with an option to the Government to repay at a not too distant date. At the same time, given a definite policy of debt reduction, we think there may be advantage in combining with funded issues a proportion of long-term issues definitely redeemable within a period of, say, forty years, and with an option to the State to redeem at an earlier date.

Funded debt is obviously most in favor when interest rates are expected to fall and redeemable loans when they are expected to rise or when feeling is very indefinite. It is observable throughout the evidence given before us that views as to future interest rates are by no means uniform, and there is therefore some ground for thinking that the widest appeal would be made by a judicious mixture of both types of loans.

#### *Future Taxation.*

With reference to taxation in pursuance of the sinking fund policy we have little further to say. If it should, unfortunately, be found necessary to raise more revenue than could be obtained from the taxes at the rates now existing, it does not appear that the system would be incapable of further expansion, since there is considerable elasticity in the most productive source of revenue, the income tax and super-tax.

#### *Income Tax.*

We have noticed that a great difference is made in the lowest range of incomes (taken for convenience, up to £500) by the family allowances and by the earned income relief. As regards family allowances, however, a point is soon reached beyond which the increments of tax per £100 of income are exactly the same for the married person as for the single, and some of us think that, if regard is had solely to ability to pay, the amount of the family allowance ought to vary to some extent with the size of the taxpayer's income, instead of being absolutely fixed.

Again, as regards earned income, the relief (while varying in proportion to the taxpayer's income, subject to a fixed maximum) is inadequate to measure the difference in ability to pay between "pure earned income" and "pure investment income," although an important corrective is introduced by the death duties; we point out, however, the great difficulty of reducing this defect.

A scheme under which investment income was much more heavily taxed than earned income would be likely to exercise a more deterrent influence on saving—and also on the more enterprising use of savings—than the existing scheme, particularly in the case of individuals with incomes liable to super-tax; for this reason we have expressed a preference for an increase in the standard rate of tax, rather than in increase confined to investment income, if in any circumstances a very substantial additional yield were required.

#### *Industrial Reserves.*

It has often been urged that relief should be given in respect of the sums put to reserve out of profit by companies. This far-reaching proposal was advocated by a number of our witnesses, although others did not support it. Apart from the theoretical merits or demerits of a differentiation in favor of a company savings, the question of its practicability, or of the form in which it might be practicable, is a much more serious one than is usually recognized.

As regards the principle of the proposal, we have seen that under the existing system the limited company already has a considerable advantage, as compared with the large private firm, in that its reserves are not liable to super-tax; if, in addition, some relief were given from the standard rate of income tax, it would be very difficult to withhold it from the reserves of private firms, which would have a claim not only on the plea of equity, but also on the ground that their savings, like those of the public company, had special value for the community. If, however, relief were conceded, the practical difficulties of applying even a rough-and-ready scheme would be very greatly increased.

The question of equity goes further. It would certainly be asked why relief should be given to business savings alone, and withheld from the savings of professional men and others. Purely from the standpoint of equity it would be difficult to find a convincing answer, although it would be easy to show that, the wider the relief were extended, the more expensive and the more unworkable would the scheme become.

Finally, if company reserves were granted some relief, the relief would mainly benefit the industries which were already in a position to put large amounts to reserve; it would be of comparatively little avail to the companies which were making low profits. This point is of obvious importance in the present situation. Altogether, when questions of practicability and of principle are considered, we are forced to the conclusion that the proposal is radically unsound, despite its superficial attractiveness.

#### *Death Duties.*

We are opposed to the suggestion that differential relief should be given in favor of life insurance policies, mainly for the reason that those policies only represent one particular kind of savings.

We have endorsed the opinion of several witnesses that the opportunities which exist for avoidance are a marked defect of the estate duty. The deliberate legal avoidance of duty takes many forms, and we do not think that it could be satisfactorily checked by any simple measure. It appears to us that avoidance is a matter which may require to be dealt with by legislation, and that drastic provisions may have to be faced, if they are found to provide an effective way—and the only effective way—of checking the trouble.

We may add that, without stronger safeguards than exist at present, we are inclined to think the estate duty on the largest estates so heavy as to endanger the full yield. This suggests that, if it were thought desirable to aim at a more even progression than that now existing, it would be wiser to moderate the scale for the highest ranges of estate rather than to stiffen it for properties of less magnitude.

#### *Stamp Duties.*

Generally we have not viewed the stamp duties with much favor. Here we need only repeat that, if the £2% duty on bearer bonds should be detected as having any material influence on foreign loan business, the rate of duty should be lowered.

#### *Customs and Excise.*

We have expressed the view that the food duties, even as reduced by the Finance Act, 1924, must still exercise some adverse effect on the standard

of living of the poor. We consider that the sugar duty is relatively high, and that, if any relief in taxation is found possible in the next few years, it should be applied first in reduction of this duty.

We have expressed the opinion that, while existing customs and excise duties have no very disturbing effect, the general tendency of indirect taxation is to cause dislocation and to interfere with natural channels of trade. We think there is a presumption against widening the area of commodities subject to tax.

We think that, *prima facie*, there are extremely strong objections to a tax on turnover, either in the cumulative form—i. e., imposed at each stage of manufacture and production—or in the form of a tax levied on one sale only, whether at the point of final consumption or earlier.

#### MINORITY REPORT.

##### *Taxation Differences.*

The minority report is signed by Mr. J. W. Bowen, Professor Fred Hall, Mr. H. B. Lees-Smith, and Mrs. Barbara Wootton, who, in an introductory paragraph, observe that: "While it will be observed that, on certain matters considered by the committee, we are in agreement with the majority of our colleagues, we regret that, owing to fundamental differences in the emphasis which we lay on certain aspects of the national debt and of existing taxation, we are unable to sign the report presented by them."

Following are extracts from the official summary of the minority report:

##### *The Debt and Its Effects.*

An analysis is given of the debt and the interest charge. The popular estimate that the payments of interest on the debt costs a million pounds for every working day in the year is found substantially accurate.

The effects of the floating debt are of a special character. We think it important that the amount of debt retained in this form should be strictly limited.

It is beyond question that the internal debt involves, on balance, a transfer of wealth and income such as aggravates the existing inequality in distribution and tends to increase the proportion of the national income in the hands of non-producers.

The burden of the debt has been very gravely increased by the recent fall in the general level of prices. A rough estimate indicates that over two-thirds of the post-war debt was raised when the value of money was lower than at present, while the remainder was raised when the value of money was higher than it is to-day.

There is no trustworthy evidence as to the future course of prices for more than very short periods. It is unlikely that such automatic relief as occurred in the burden of the debt after the Napoleonic Wars, through expansion of the population and wealth of the country, will be repeated in the case of the present debt.

##### *Taxation.*

An analysis of the distribution of taxation for different income levels shows that the burdens of taxation on family incomes of £200 and under are evidently very heavy. We infer that a considerable part of the wage earning population must be seriously overtaxed.

Taxation upon commodities, regarded as part of a general system for raising the money required for State expenditure, appears to us objectionable in principle. The objection rests primarily on the regressive character of such taxation. The general objections to indirect taxation apply with special force to the taxes upon food, entertainments, and artificial silk. We recommend that, subject to the needs of fresh expenditure, any future surplus of revenue should be devoted primarily to the abolition of these duties.

The view that direct taxation, other than that levied for the service of the external debt, actually reduces aggregate purchasing power appears to us to be entirely a misconception.

We are unable to accept the doctrine that direct taxation raises prices generally.

We are of opinion that the influence of direct taxation upon the output of work can now have but little importance and must have greatly diminished in recent years.

We are of opinion that direct taxation does not seriously impair the incentive to save on the part of individuals and that those who have expressed a contrary view have not fully appreciated the distinction between the effects of taxation upon the incentive and upon the ability to save.

We do not find that existing direct taxation destroys the incentive to save on the part of joint stock companies, and we notice a remarkable stability in the allocations made by companies to reserve.

We are of opinion that existing direct taxation is not seriously prejudicial to enterprise, and that those who take a contrary view have taken account of one aspect only of such taxation to the exclusion of others. In practice, the alternative to industrial investment, the yield of which is reduced by taxation, is investment in some form of bond the yield of which is also reduced by taxation. Cases in which a disproportionate reduction of the yield of speculative investments occurs do not appear to us to be of sufficient importance, or (what is no less important) to be sufficiently often anticipated by persons who have capital at their disposal, to have a material effect upon industry generally.

Our general conclusion as to existing direct taxation is that it cannot reduce aggregate purchasing power, and that it does not raise prices or materially reduce the national output of work, of saving, or of enterprise.

##### *Debt Reduction—Sinking Funds and Conversion.*

We doubt if it is clearly understood that the sums necessary to meet specific sinking funds attached to particular loans are included in the new sinking fund total of £50,000,000 per annum. We cannot agree that a sinking fund spreading repayment over so long a period as 153 years is at all adequate.

An estimate is given of the savings which might be anticipated from reduction of the debt by conversion as opportunity offers to a 4½% and also to a 4% basis. The gross savings in interest thus obtainable would amount to £15,109,000 per annum and £33,099,000 per annum, respectively. If conversions are effected on these lines as the various loans mature, the great bulk of the saving would not arise until the end of a period of nearly a quarter of a century. If conversions are effected at the earliest dates on which the Government has an option of repayment, the greater part of the gross saving might be realized within eight years. Owing to loss of income tax and super-tax on the interest saved, the actual net savings possible would fall short of the figures given.

The prospects of all savings from conversion depends upon the assumption of a fall in the general rate of interest. We can find neither more nor less evidence in support of this than in support of an exactly opposite assumption. We conclude that the savings from conversion are necessarily limited in amount, offer no prospect of immediate relief, and are wholly contingent upon an assumption for which we have not been able to find any evidence.

We have considered the scheme submitted to us by several witnesses for redemption of the debt by a capital levy, and have directed our attention principally to the scheme for a levy of £3,000,000,000 submitted by the Trades Union Congress General Council.

We estimate that if a levy of £3,000,000,000 were imposed to-day, it would be necessary to adopt a scale of 20% greater severity than that put forward in the Trades Union Congress evidence.

The primary advantage claimed for the capital levy is that it will reduce the national debt on a larger scale in the immediate future.

##### *Annual Budget Saving.*

In the second place, attention is drawn by advocates of the levy to the net annual saving on the budget resulting from a levy. We find that, in the case of a levy such as that proposed, this net annual saving (i. e., the excess of the reduction of interest on debt repaid over the loss of taxation consequent on a levy) would be £48,000,000 in the case of a levy of £2,500,000,000, and nearly £58,000,000 in the case of a levy of £3,000,000,000.

Advocates of the levy claim that this net annual saving would remain assured in perpetuity.

The principal argument against the equity of the capital levy is that it involves a penalization of thrift, which is both unjust and economically indefensible. It is further urged that the supposed contrast between those who fought in the war and those who stayed at home and made money out of it is unjustifiably simple and becomes increasingly unreal with the lapse of time.

In balancing the conflicting considerations of equity regarding a capital levy, we conclude that a strong case has been established for imposition upon owners of accumulated wealth, in a steeply graduated form, the taxation incidental to any large repayment of debt at an early date.

##### *Exaggerated Fears.*

In 1919 the Board of Inland Revenue expressed the view that a levy on war wealth was not outside the range of practicability. In considering the applicability of this conclusion to the problem of a capital levy, they give no reason for supposing that a capital levy is a less practicable proposal than a levy on war wealth, while in some important technical respects they find that it is definitely easier.

We do not find that the difficulties of valuation involved in a levy would be insuperable.

We do not find that a capital levy would destroy any existing capital.

We conclude that the effect of a levy on potential capital, that is, on savings, is a matter which affects not so much the general question of the desirability of a levy as the circumstances in which it is most likely to be successful.

The fear that a capital levy would drive capital from the country has, we think, been greatly exaggerated.

We see no reason to anticipate any general fall in security prices as a result of a levy, though we think that industrial stocks might depreciate relatively to gilt-edged securities. We are of opinion, however, that such disturbances would be necessarily of a temporary character.

We have no hesitation in saying that a capital levy could have been carried out comparatively easily in 1919 or 1920, and that it is a matter of great regret that no levy was then imposed. A capital levy would still, in our judgment, be the best method of dealing with the debt, provided that it were generally approved and were assured fair treatment by the taxpayers. The nation may yet turn to the capital levy as a wise and practicable measure affording the best road out of its difficulties.

##### *Proposed Alternative Means.*

As an alternative method of raising funds for debt repayment from owners of accumulated wealth, which may be less liable to objection than a capital levy, we suggest the imposition of additional taxation on unearned income. We think that an increase in the present differentiation between earned and investment incomes may be defended on general grounds. Further, taxation of invested incomes for the purpose of debt repayment seems to provide one certain safeguard against undue reduction of savings by redistributive taxation.

We recommend that, if there be no capital levy, an additional annual charge be imposed upon investment incomes for the purpose of debt redemption. As regards the amount of such taxation, we think that it would be reasonable to aim at an annual sum of £100,000,000. The graduation of such taxation should be at least as steep as that of the present income tax and super-tax together. We think that it might be desirable to raise this revenue by the imposition of a special tax on unearned incomes rather than by adjustment of the rates of income and super-tax now charged on those incomes.

We think that further funds for debt repayment might be found from an extension of the present system of death duties. The taxation of property passing at death has much in principle to recommend it. The objections that such taxation is destructive of capital, and falls with great hardship upon the owners of private businesses and landed proprietors appear to us to be much exaggerated.

We think that the principle of an inheritance tax graduated in accordance with the wealth of the recipient of an inheritance seems to be a principle deserving of recognition, but have taken no detailed evidence on the matter.

#### February Construction Record for New York City, According to the F. W. Dodge Corporation.

Building and engineering contracts awarded in the five boroughs of New York City last month amounted to \$68,233,900, according to F. W. Dodge Corporation. This shows a decrease of 7% from January and 10% from February of last year. However, last month's record was 80% better than that of February 1925. The statement adds:

The more important items in the February construction record for New York City were: \$37,757,100, or 55% of all construction, for residential buildings; \$22,023,500, or 32%, for commercial buildings; \$2,673,000, or 4%, for social and recreational buildings, and \$2,251,800, or 3%, for public works and utilities.

During the first two months of 1927 there was \$141,450,600 worth of new buildings and engineering work started in New York City, being a decrease of 39% from the corresponding period of 1926. However, comparison with the first two months of 1925 shows an increase of 20% over that year on contacts to date.

Contemplated new work reported in February amounted to \$80,849,000, being a decrease of 11% from the amount reported in January, and a decrease of 50% from the amount reported in February of last year.

## Indications of Business Activity

### THE STATE OF TRADE—COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

*Friday Night, Mar. 18 1927.*

Trade in the United States has here and there benefited to some extent by spring-like weather, though in some directions wholesale trade is smaller. The reduced buying power of the West and South is apparent. To-day it was almost summerlike, with a temperature of 71 degrees. Retail trade has increased. Building has been more active. Unemployment has decreased slightly. Bad roads hurt trade in the West to some extent. Farm work has been hampered in parts of the West and South by the wetness of the soil. The cotton crop in extreme southern Texas looks better than it did a year ago. West of the Missouri River and also in the Central West and the South the prospects for the winter wheat crop are the best seen for years past. The soil of the Pacific Coast is in the best condition known in recent years, due to abundant moisture. The railroads are moving more freight than in March last year, especially coal and miscellaneous merchandise. Hydro-electric power with full streams is abundant throughout the country. Sales of goods to foreign markets outran imports not only in February but thus far in the fiscal year, in striking contrast with the figures of last year. Sales are larger of some building materials than a year ago. This is also true of cotton goods and some kinds of clothing. There is less business than then in automobiles coal, silk goods and lumber at wholesale. Southern California may have a new petroleum field. Wheat has declined during the week, falling to nearly the lowest price level of the season, with the export demand nothing remarkable, the weather favorable and the winter wheat acreage some 2,000,000 acres larger than last year and Argentine shipments heavy. The visible supply in the United States is noticeably larger than a year ago. The flour trade is poor. At present neither export nor domestic buying seems likely to be very spirited. Corn is also somewhat lower, despite a sharp decrease in the receipts. But Chicago has the largest stock for years past, i. e. over 25,000,000 bushels. Argentina is cutting under American prices at Canadian markets. The prospects, therefore, for an export trade for American corn, to say the least, are not bright. Oats declined somewhat, with feeding demand smaller. Of rye the export sales have been larger. The opening of navigation is near at hand and primary stocks will probably decrease rapidly. Norway has been buying American rye and Europe has taken some American wheat, but other American grain seems to have no chance in Europe.

Coffee advanced in a small market, upheld by a "tight" spot situation, March showing the most advance. Immediate supplies, in other words, are none too plentiful, so that March is 93 points over May, against 78 a week ago, an illuminating fact. The Brazilian markets have been firm, and if the Brazilian currency could be stabilized, coffee prices would be more easily sustained. As it is, there is no pressure to sell. Raw sugar has felt the pressure of increased supplies and stagnation in trade in refined sugar, so that prices have dropped a little below 3 cents. There has also been very heavy liquidation of futures at a sharp decline in prices. The price is down nearly to the price that ruled before Cuba introduced restrictive crop measures. Cotton has declined slightly under the influence of liquidation on the eve of the ginning report on the 21st inst., which may show a larger crop than has been counted upon, i. e. 18,500,000 to 18,700,000 bales. It is uncertain. Meantime the spot markets and the cotton goods trade at home and abroad have been less active, though the cotton mills have backlogs such as they did not have a year ago. But it looks as though another big cotton acreage would be planted. Wool has been quiet on this side of the water, but active and higher in London and Australian markets. Steel has been quiet and about steady, with the output heavy, especially by the United States Steel Corporation. Pig iron has been rather steadier but quiet. Coke has declined. Coal has declined. Pittsburgh looks for a soft coal strike; New York is not so sure. Meantime the soft coal output is exceptionally large. Anthracite has declined 30 to 90 cents, with trade stagnant. Petroleum and gasoline continue to decline. Lumber has sold more readily at the West and the Pacific

Northwest. Navigation on the Great Lakes may open a month earlier than usual. This may help trade.

The stock market has been active and rising, with many new high peaks, though to-day there was some reaction on week-end profit taking. But the underlying situation is considered sound and money has been at 3¼ to 4%. Stock prices have moved up recently to nearly the highest of the year under the spur of an active demand, sound conditions of trade and cheap money. Moreover, the demand for bonds is sharp and persistent and for high grade foreign and domestic issues new high record prices are constantly being made. Foreign exchange is generally higher, including sterling, Spanish, Italian, Canadian, French and Japanese.

At Taunton, Mass., the city of Fall River has taken its first step to prevent the placing of a valuation of \$14 per spindle on mill property. The Fall River Tax Commissioner had found in favor of Parker and Hargrave's mills in the petition for abatement and a refund of \$82,670 must be made to the mills if the decision is upheld. This award was for the 1921 and 1922 taxes. The mills now have pending a petition for abatement of their 1923 taxes. If this abatement is granted on the basis of \$14 per spindle the city will have to refund an additional \$37,160. Roslindale, Mass., wired that the threat of a general strike at the Pacific mills in Lawrence is ended. Mill operatives and the mill management have agreed to submit the matter to arbitration. At Manchester, N. H., Robert A. Amory said to a meeting of business men on the 14th inst.: "The textile industry in New England is on the verge of going ahead. We may have two or three more years of difficult times, but there is enough business in sight, if we get our share of it, to keep our mills running from 90 to 100%. There is no reason why New England should worry about the South or the South about New England." He added that while New Hampshire "stock in trade" tax is a distinct handicap he does not believe that the policy of tax exemption in the "luring of industries as to communities" is sound. "I believe they will come to this realization in the South sooner or later," he said. Manchester, N. H., wired that the Torrington Co. had closed its offices there and will move to Torrington, Conn., where the manufacture of knitting needles will be continued. At Exeter, N. H., the mills of the Exeter Manufacturing Co., which had been closed for several months while extensive improvements were being made, resumed operations in the preparatory departments on March 17. Officials said that the entire plant will be at capacity on sheetings by the middle of April. Production in the company's bleachery is now being increased and the output will total 25,000,000 yards annually, against 10,000,000 before the department's capacity was increased. At Concord, N. H., on March 17 a new bill relating to the exemption of manufacturing establishments from local taxation came up in the House, and was made a special order for next Tuesday. Manchester city officials are heartily in favor of the bill. Manchester, N. H., advices said that a somewhat spotty improvement was noted in the knitting industry in the State and mills manufacturing novelty knit goods are especially busy. The mills of the Everett-Norfolk Knitting Co. at Lebanon are operating a day and night shift. The Contoocook mills at Hillsborough are running at a higher rate than for some time. Woonsocket, R. I., wired that Frederick L. Jenckes, President of the Manville-Jenckes Co., reiterated to a committee of strikers from the Social and Globe mills there the statement made on March 7 that the Social mill is closed for good and the Globe mill closed indefinitely. It looks like a case of the strikers finding the biter bitten.

At Anderson, S. C., work at the plant of the Appleton Manufacturing Co. will be resumed this week. Improved market conditions account for the change. Atlanta, Ga., wired: "Ground was broken Wednesday at Atco, near Cartersville, Ga., for a \$1,000,000 addition to the \$2,000,000 plant of the American Textile Co." At Burlington, N. C., five new hosiery mills are to be organized in the first six months of 1927 and four have already been organized and two new building contracts let and work begun. One of these mills moving from a distant State will bring 470 knitting machines. Lancashire looms are working at 85%, with good orders on the books.



Industry marked time during the month of February and very few of the major ones increased employment, according to the monthly bulletin of the Department of Labor, issued to-day. Decreases were noted in several of the important industries, although a great volume of employment was noted in iron and steel than during January. The textile industry in the South is on a satisfactory basis, while in the New England districts part time operations prevail.

The weather here early in the week was mild and spring-like; it was the same at the West and South. Here on the 15th inst. it was 62 degrees at noon; at 6 p. m. 55; in Chicago, Cleveland and Milwaukee, 52; in Boston, 70, and in Philadelphia, 62; at the South 64 to 78. It has continued mild here all the week and especially so to-day. On the 17th inst. it was 65 degrees at 1.30 p. m.; at Chicago, 54; Cleveland, 66; Kansas City, 62; Cincinnati, 70; Milwaukee, 58; Portland, 48; Boston, 52; Montreal, 46; Winnipeg, 28. To-day the temperature was 71 degrees at 1.30 p. m. Later in the afternoon there was a thunderstorm. The forecast is for rains and colder weather to-morrow. Port Arthur wired that an ice breaker tug began operations in the harbor on the 16th inst., the earliest on record.

**Continued Decline in Wholesale Prices.**

Continued recession of wholesale prices of commodities is shown for February by information collected in representative markets by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. The Bureau's weighted index number, which includes 404 commodities or price series, registered 146.4 for February, compared with 146.9 for January, a decline of one-third of 1%. Compared with February 1926, with an index number of 155.0, there was a decrease of 5½%. The Bureau's advices of March 17 further state:

In all groups of commodities included in the comparison, except clothing materials, housefurnishing goods, and miscellaneous commodities, there were decreases in the price level ranging from less than one-tenth of 1% in the case of chemicals and drugs, to 1¼% in the case of fuels and 1¾% in the case of metals. Clothing materials and miscellaneous commodities averaged slightly higher than in January, while practically no change was shown for housefurnishing goods.

Of the 404 commodities or price series for which comparable information for January and February was collected, increases were shown in 104 instances and decreases in 118 instances. In 182 instances no change in price was reported.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES BY GROUPS AND SUB-GROUPS OF COMMODITIES (1913 EQUALS 100.0).

Groups and Sub-Groups.	1926.	1927.	
	February.	January.	February.
Farm products.....	149.9	137.2	136.9
Grains.....	163.5	149.8	139.9
Livestock and poultry.....	135.9	135.7	138.8
Other farm products.....	155.4	135.3	132.0
Foods.....	153.2	149.6	148.2
Meats.....	149.0	147.0	148.8
Butter, cheese and milk.....	151.2	156.6	158.9
Other foods.....	156.8	149.5	145.5
Clothing materials.....	183.9	167.3	168.7
Boots and shoes.....	186.1	184.3	184.3
Cotton goods.....	170.0	145.4	146.3
Woolen and worsted goods.....	204.9	188.8	190.1
Silk, &c.....	175.1	141.9	148.2
Fuels.....	179.4	179.8	177.1
Anthracite coal.....	*	227.2	226.8
Bituminous coal.....	203.1	213.9	209.0
Other fuels.....	154.1	147.9	145.8
Metals and metal products.....	128.4	124.4	122.2
Iron and steel.....	136.1	134.4	131.9
Nonferrous metals.....	111.5	102.2	100.7
Building materials.....	177.1	169.7	167.9
Lumber.....	191.1	181.4	180.1
Brick.....	205.6	207.5	207.9
Structural steel.....	129.1	132.4	129.1
Other building materials.....	164.8	157.7	155.2
Chemicals and drugs.....	132.3	122.1	122.0
Chemicals.....	119.5	115.6	115.5
Fertilizer materials.....	113.1	105.0	105.8
Drugs and pharmaceuticals.....	182.9	154.4	153.4
Housefurnishing goods.....	163.9	157.4	157.5
Furniture.....	143.7	137.6	137.6
Furnishings.....	229.3	222.4	222.6
Miscellaneous.....	132.9	117.9	118.5
Cattle feed.....	117.6	130.1	133.0
Leather.....	140.1	136.6	136.7
Paper and pulp.....	187.8	154.8	154.8
Other miscellaneous.....	116.9	99.4	99.2
All commodities.....	155.0	146.9	146.4

\* Insufficient data.

**Course of Retail Food Prices During February—Decrease Since February 1926.**

The retail food index issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor shows for Feb. 15 1927 a decrease of 2% since Jan. 15 1927; a decrease of nearly 3½% since Feb. 15 1926; and an increase of a little more than 61% since Feb. 15 1913. The index number (1913¼100.0) was 161.5 in February 1926, 159.3 in January 1927, and 156.0 in February 1927. The Bureau's advices (released for publication to-day, March 19) also state:

During the month from Jan. 15 1927 to Feb. 15 1927, 18 articles on which monthly prices were secured decreased as follows: Strictly fresh eggs; 21%;

storage eggs, 16%; potatoes, 5%; pork chops and lard, 2%; plate beef, bacon, canned red salmon, oleomargarine, rice, canned peas, canned tomatoes, coffee and prunes, 1%; and ham, lamb, wheat cereal and tea, less than 0.5%. Eight articles increased: Onions and cabbage, 4%; butter and bananas, 1%; and sirloin steak, round steak, rib roast and oranges, less than 0.5%. The following 17 articles showed no change: Chuck roast, hens, fresh milk, evaporated milk, cheese, vegetable lard substitute, bread, flour, cornmeal, rolled oats, cornflakes, macaroni, navy beans, baked beans, canned corn, sugar and raisins.

*Changes in Retail Prices of Food by Cities.*

During the month from Jan. 15 1927 to Feb. 15 1927 the average cost of food decreased in all of the 51 cities as follows: Washington, 4%; Atlanta, Baltimore, Bridgeport, Buffalo, Columbus, Denver, Indianapolis, Little Rock, Memphis, Milwaukee, Mobile, New Haven, Norfolk, Philadelphia, Rochester and Savannah, 3%; Birmingham, Boston, Charleston, S. C., Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Fall River, Houston, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Louisville, Minneapolis, Newark, Jacksonville, Peoria, Pittsburgh, Portland, Me., Providence, Richmond, St. Louis, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Scranton and Springfield, Ill., 2%; Manchester, New Orleans, New York, St. Paul, and Seattle, 1%; and Butte and Portland, Ore., less than 0.5%.

For the year period Feb. 15 1926 to Feb. 15 1927 all cities showed decreases: Jacksonville, Providence and Rochester, 6%; Columbus, Detroit, Kansas City, Memphis, Minneapolis, Omaha, Richmond and Washington, 5%; Baltimore, Birmingham, Boston, Bridgeport, Buffalo, Charleston, S. C., Fall River, Indianapolis, Louisville, Manchester, New Haven, New York, St. Paul and Savannah, 4%; Atlanta, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Houston, Milwaukee, Mobile, Norfolk, Philadelphia, Portland, Me., St. Louis, Salt Lake City and Scranton, 3%; Chicago, Little Rock, Los Angeles, Newark, New Orleans, Peoria, Pittsburgh, Seattle and Springfield, Ill., 2%; Dallas, Portland, Ore., and San Francisco, 1%; and Butte, less than 0.5%.

As compared with the average cost in the year 1913, food on Feb. 15 1927 was 68% higher in Chicago; 64% in Richmond; 63% in Birmingham, Detroit and Scranton; 62% in Baltimore and Washington; 61% in Buffalo; 60% in Charleston, S. C., Philadelphia and Pittsburgh; 59% in Atlanta, New York and St. Louis; 57% in Boston, Cincinnati, Milwaukee and New Haven; 56% in Cleveland; 55% in New Orleans and Providence; 54% in Fall River and Manchester; 53% in Dallas, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Minneapolis and Omaha; 51% in Louisville and San Francisco; 50% in Indianapolis and Newark; 49% in Little Rock; 45% in Memphis and Seattle; 43% in Los Angeles; 39% in Denver and Portland, Ore., and 32% in Salt Lake City. Prices were not obtained in Bridgeport, Butte, Columbus, Houston, Mobile, Norfolk, Peoria, Portland, Me., Rochester, St. Paul, Savannah and Springfield, Ill., in 1913, hence no comparison for the 14-year period can be given for these cities.

**Decline in Wholesale Prices in Important Industrial Countries, Excepting Those Not on a Gold Basis.**

Wholesale commodity prices in all important industrial countries, excepting those whose currencies are not on a gold basis, have declined consistently during the last two years, although the years 1925 and 1926 were a period of general stabilization and improvement. This, according to the National Industrial Conference Board, 247 Park Ave., New York, parallels to an extent the experience in the United States during 1925 and 1926, when American industry was confronted with the novel phenomenon of declining commodity prices during a period of increasing industrial activity. In the United States, moreover, commodity prices during this period declined in the face of rising wage earnings.

While many different factors enter into price fluctuation, the practically uniform world price trend during a period of general improvement reflects, in the view of the Conference Board, generally greater economy in production and by that token augurs well for the immediate future of world business conditions. The average annual rate of decline in commodity prices for 1925 and 1926, according to the analysis made by the Conference Board, in the United States was 4.4%, in Canada 4.8%. It was considerably greater, says the Board (under date of March 14), in the United Kingdom, where, however, considerable business disturbance and stagnation occasioned by strikes obscure the picture of general conditions, the average annual decrease amounting to 8.4%. Stability is reflected in the trend of commodity prices in Germany, Holland, Sweden, Australia and Japan, where the annual rate of decline in commodity prices for 1925 and 1926 was as follows: Germany, 0.3%; Holland, 0.8%; Sweden, 0.9%; Australia, 0.2%; Japan, 1.2%, and India, 1%. The Board adds:

Severe fluctuations during the two years occurred in Belgium, reflecting the country's struggle with inflation, checked during the past year by the stabilization of the currency at a new gold level. The annual rate of increase in commodity prices for 1925 and 1926 in Belgium amounted to 29.6%. Commodity prices in France, where currency inflation during the two years was still the outstanding economic problem, rose at an average annual rate of 9.4% in 1925 and 1926. Italy, likewise subject to inflation, experienced commodity price increases averaging 1.7% in 1925 and 1926. In China, where political conditions have recently considerably disturbed business conditions, commodity prices increased an annual average of 1.5% for the two years.

As compared with the pre-war or 1913 level, commodity prices in all the countries named at present are considerably higher. In the United States they were, in December 1926, 47% higher; in Canada, 51%; in the United Kingdom, 46%; in France, 527%; in Germany, 31%; in Italy, 581%; in Japan, 201%. In Belgium they were, in October 1925 (the latest figures available), 759% higher; in Holland, 39%; in Sweden, 46%; in Australia, 58%; in India, about 50%, and in China 64% higher than in 1913.

### Increase in General Level of Prices of Farm Products.

A slight increase in the general level of farm products prices, which brought the price level on Feb. 15 up to 127% of the pre-war level as compared with 126% on Jan. 15, is reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in its monthly price report issued March 7. The Department says:

All important agricultural products except potatoes, butter, butterfat and eggs showed a farm price increase for the month. The farm price of cotton and cotton seed increased from 85% to 94% of the pre-war level.

The general price level of farm products at 127 on Feb. 15 compares with 143 on Feb. 15 a year ago. The Bureau's index of purchasing power of farm products in terms of non-agricultural products is placed at 81 for January, which is one point higher than in December, and six points below that in January 1926.

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES.  
August 1909 to July 1914=100.

	February 1926.	January 1927.	February 1927.
Grains.....	140	120	122
Fruits and vegetables.....	218	140	142
Meat animals.....	146	140	143
Dairy and poultry.....	144	152	143
Cotton and cottonseed.....	142	85	94
Unclassified.....	87	87	84
Farm price index.....	143	126	127
Non-agricultural wholesale prices, Bureau of Labor.....	164	156	---
Purchasing power, farm products.....	87	81	---

### Results of Survey of Building Operations by Greenebaum Sons Investment Co. Presented to President Coolidge—Building Investment for 1927 Estimated at \$5,500,000—Lower by \$500,000,000 Than 1926.

The results of a survey of building conditions by the Greenebaum Sons Investment Co. were presented to President Coolidge on March 11 by Walter J. Greenebaum, Vice-President of the company. In the quest for information questionnaires were sent to bankers in 125 cities having a population of 50,000 or more as shown in the Federal Census of 1920. Mr. Greenebaum is said to have advised the President that the replies received indicate that the saturation point in building construction has not been reached, although 1926 may have been the "peak" year in building. The "United States Daily," in its account of the conclusions reported by Mr. Greenebaum, said:

After the conference, Mr. Greenebaum stated orally that the replies to the questionnaire indicated no movement toward a lower rental income from peak prices which have prevailed since the war. He estimated that building investments during the year will reach approximately \$5,500,000,000 as compared with \$6,000,000,000 last year.

#### Replies Deny Saturation.

The survey, as made public by Mr. Greenebaum, showed that of the replies to the question whether the saturation point had been reached in all types of buildings, only 15 were in the affirmative. Thirty-four took the negative, while 76 were divided. An analysis of these replies disclosed that new types of construction could be absorbed in the various cities as follows:

Hotels, 66; office buildings, 43; apartment houses, 71; garages, 68; apartment hotels, 56; commercial buildings, 62, and private homes, 99.

The survey showed that 76 cities reported that new buildings which were well located had been occupied within a reasonable time, while five held that they had not and the remainder of the replies indicated a widely divided opinion.

#### No Surplus Building.

The survey showed further that of the replies to the question whether there was any abnormal amount of new construction in progress at present, 82 cities replied in the negative, 2 in the affirmative and 40 were divided on the question.

On the question as to whether there was expected an over-supply of new buildings this year, the replies showed that 63 cities reported in the negative, 8 in the affirmative and 54 were divided in their opinions.

An analysis of the replies revealed that there was expected an over-supply of new buildings in the various cities as follows:

Hotels, 17; office buildings, 33; apartment houses, 32; apartment hotels, 13; garages, 14; commercial buildings, 18; private homes, 32. On this point, the analysis stated, there was a "very great divergence of opinion."

#### Rent Levels Held Justified.

A total of 67 of the replies as to the question, "Has rental demand been such as to maintain fairly well the prices established in recent years?" were in the affirmative; while 10 were in the negative and 48 were divided.

Of the replies to the question, "Are you of the opinion that increased land values since the war require more modern improvements in certain sections of your city in order to more fully capitalize the earning power?" 67 were in the affirmative, seven were negative and 44 were divided.

On the question whether the 125 cities had shown a steady growth in population since the last Government census of 1920, 107 cities reported in the affirmative; 7 in the negative and 11 were divided.

The cities of Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, St. Louis and Kansas City were not included.

The 34 cities which reported that the saturation point in building construction has not been reached were, according to the New York "Times":

Birmingham and Mobile, Ala.; Long Beach, Oakland, San Diego and San Francisco, Calif.; Bridgeport and New Britain, Conn.; Augusta, Macon and Savannah, Ga.; Springfield, Ill.; Covington, Ky.; Haverhill, Mass.; Flint and Saginaw, Mich.; Camden, Hoboken and Paterson, N. J.; Akron and Dayton, Ohio; Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Okla.; Scranton and Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Providence, R. I.; Charleston, S. C.; Knoxville and Nashville, Tenn.; Fort Worth, Tex.; Seattle and Tacoma, Wash.; Wheeling, W. Va., and Racine, Wis.

The same paper states that the 15 cities which agreed that the peak had been reached were: Berkeley, Calif.; Tampa, Fla.; Holyoke, Lawrence and New Bedford, Mass.; Grand Rapids, Mich.; Passaic and Trenton, N. J.; Buffalo, Schenectady and Troy, N. Y.; Bethlehem and Chester, Pa.; El Paso, Texas, and Roanoke, Va. The "Times" also said:

Answering the query, "Has rental demand been such as to maintain fairly well the prices established in recent years?" ten cities reported they have not. These were Long Beach, Calif.; Des Moines, Iowa; Cambridge, Holyoke, Lynn, New Bedford and Springfield, Mass.; Passaic, N. J.; Cleveland, Ohio, and El Paso, Texas. In sixty-seven places the replies were affirmative.

Approximately the same number of answers were recorded to the question, "Are you of the opinion that increased land values since the war require more modern improvements in certain sections of your city in order to more fully capitalize the earning power?" The replies were listed as: Yes, 67; No, 11; opinion divided, 44; no opinion, 3.

"Regarding the use of past building permit records of the various cities as a means of making survey reports," Mr. Greenebaum said, "It is my opinion that this method is unreliable for determining future construction requirements. Figures in these reports do not agree even as to past or present activities. In order to obtain reliable information, it is suggested that the Federal Reserve banks compile data in the future based upon actual building requirements in the various reserve districts."

### Decline in Commodity Prices in First Quarter of 1927 Accompanied by Curtailment of Production, According to Frazier Jelke & Co.

Further decline in commodity prices during the first quarter of 1927 has been accompanied by curtailment of production in some of the basic industries, Frazier Jelke & Co. pointed out on March 13 in a review of present business conditions. Building construction for the first two months of 1927 is 10% below 1926 while automobile production is 20% under last year's output at this time, the review states. The price index has receded from 156 for the first quarter of 1926 to 143, the average thus far this year, approaching the low average of 138 recorded in January 1922, when depression existed. The review also says:

There is little danger of serious depression in this country despite price fluctuations, as long as markets are maintained with the prospect of developing new markets at home and abroad. The high rate of production in this country during the past two years has maintained a steady market for the goods produced. This market can only be held by purchasing power which flows from production. It would be better for American industry to take less profit this year, if need be, than to be forced to give up more under a period of depression, which is likely to follow too great a curtailment of production.

Price reductions, which have been noted in automobiles and other manufactured articles, for which the demand is greatest in a period of prosperity, however, do not necessarily force down profits. The decline in the price of manufactured articles has been only 6%, while the price of raw materials used in manufacture at the same time receded 6½%. Producers of raw materials have more to dread from falling prices than the manufacturer. As the purchasing power of the dollar increases, the range of its power for maintaining the American home with its necessities, its luxuries and its savings and investments, will increase to counteract the danger of over-production. The effect is observed in an expanding capital.

### Building Construction in Illinois During February. Gain of 61% In Month

In its summary of building construction in the State during February the Bureau of Industrial Accident and Labor Research of the Illinois Department of Labor announces that building as shown by permits issued in 28 Illinois cities increased from \$26,038,945 in January of this year to \$41,941,141 in February, a gain of 61.1%. Excluding Joliet, for which building figures are not available before April, 1926, 27 cities in the State, with a total of \$41,843,691 this month, show an increase of \$10,682,936, or 34.3%, over February a year ago. says the Bureau, which under date of March 12 has the following to say regarding the building situation:

All cities reporting building figures to the Illinois Department of Labor shared in the February increase over January, with the exception of Canton, Freeport, Joliet, Murphysboro, Rock Island and Waukegan. Canton and Murphysboro report that no permits were issued during February.

Chicago building increased \$13,457,870 or 59% over January, 1927 and \$11,168,420 or 44.5% over February, 1926. Evanston leads all cities in the metropolitan area, outside Chicago, in value of February building, with a total of \$1,260,100, more than half of which this month is in non-residential building, including a school building worth \$600,000. Berwyn is second with \$829,700, 80% of which is residential building. Cicero is third with a total of \$279,808, and Oak Park fourth with \$251,315. Berwyn leads the cities in the metropolitan area, with the exception of Chicago, in the number of families provided for in new housekeeping dwellings, with accommodations for 139 families. Evanston is second in this respect, providing for 73 families, and Cicero is third, with new housekeeping quarters for 46 families.

East St. Louis, with a total of \$742,750 leads all down-state cities in February building. Springfield is second with \$262,530 and Decatur third, with \$201,800. In home-building outside the metropolitan area, East St. Louis is first, with provision for 63 families; Rockford second, with 39 families; Decatur third, with 68 families; Rock Island fourth, with 33 families.

The first two months of 1927 show a total of \$67,729,736 (exclusive of Joliet) in value of building compared with \$53,282,586 for the corresponding months of 1926, a gain of 27.1%. All of this increase is in Chicago, which in January and February of this year has authorized building amounting to \$59,116,440, or \$15,495,105 more in the first two months of 1926. Outside Chicago during the same period, (exclusive of Joliet) building has decreased from \$9,661,251 last year to \$8,613,296 this year. For these two months, the only other cities which gained in 1927 over 1926 are Blue Island, Cicero,

East St. Louis, Evanston, Freeport, Highland Park, Waukegan, Wilmette and Winnetka. Seventeen cities show increases.

For the first two months of 1927, Evanston leads all cities in the metropolitan area, outside Chicago, with \$2,092,850. Berwyn is second with \$1,054,100, Cicero third, with \$442,278, and Oak Park fourth with \$438,100. During this period, Chicago has provided homes for 5,999 families, Evanston for 201 families, Berwyn for 190.

Outside the metropolitan area, East St. Louis has authorized new building valued at \$798,786 during the first two months of this year. Springfield is second, with \$364,020; Rockford third, with \$337,985; and Decatur fourth with \$335,750. In home building, Rockford and East St. Louis lead with accommodations for 73 families each; Decatur is next with 57 families.

TABLE 1-A.—NUMBER AND COST OF BUILDINGS AS STATED BY PERMITS ISSUED IN ILLINOIS CITIES IN FEBRUARY 1927 BY CITIES.

Table with columns: Cities, February 1927 (No. Bldgs., Estimated Cost), January 1927 (No. Bldgs., Estimated Cost), February 1926 (Estimated Cost). Lists cities like Chicago, Aurora, Berwyn, etc.

\* No figures available before April 1926.

TABLE 2.—NUMBER AND COST OF BUILDINGS AS STATED BY PERMITS ISSUED IN ILLINOIS CITIES FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1927 COMBINED BY CITIES ACCORDING TO KIND OF BUILDING.

Table with columns: Cities, Total (Jan. and Feb. 1927), Residential Buildings (Jan. and Feb. 1927), Fam't's Provided for (House-keeping Dwells). Lists cities like Chicago, Aurora, Berwyn, etc.

S. W. Straus States that Warning Against New Building Projects Has Brought Halt in Projects—Building Activities, However, Slightly Ahead of Last Year.

The recent note of warning issued by S. W. Straus to the building interests of the country that no new office building, hotel, apartment hotel or apartment house projects should be started for a period of six months to a year, has been followed by practically a complete halt in new projects of this kind throughout the United States, according to a survey completed on March 10 by S. W. Straus & Co.

The statement just issued by the latter continues: On Manhattan Island plans are still going forward for the construction of the de luxe type of apartments, but otherwise, with the exception of isolated cases, only a negligible number of building permits were issued anywhere in the country in February for the construction of the four proscribed types of building.

Notwithstanding this let-up, the construction of homes, commercial and public buildings and public works of all types is going forward without interruption and general building activities of the present spring are even slightly ahead of last year at this time, the survey shows. The business interests of the country, it is pointed out in an interview with S. W. Straus, need feel no uneasiness regarding immediate prospects in the building industry.

In outlining the results of their nation-wide survey, S. W. Straus & Co. state:

On Jan. 19 S. W. Straus made public throughout the United States a note of warning that in the larger cities of the country there should be no more new office building, hotel, apartment house or apartment hotel projects begun, excepting perhaps in some isolated instances, for the next six months to a year. Mr. Straus made these urgent recommendations in order to prevent the possibility of these types of construction in the larger cities reaching a condition of overproduction.

At the same time, he stated that there was still a strong demand for all other types of construction, especially homes, and urged that this work be maintained on its previous high levels. Such widespread discussion of Mr. Straus's statement followed that S. W. Straus & Co. has felt it is of importance to the business interests of the country to secure as complete data as possible at this time regarding the definite effects of this warning on general business conditions.

In addition to the regular monthly survey of building conditions in the 500 leading cities and towns of the country, a special questionnaire was, therefore, sent to the building departments of all the large cities asking for reports as to the number and value of permits issued in February for all office buildings and hotels and for apartment houses to cost \$400,000 or more.

It is to be borne in mind, of course, that not enough time has yet elapsed since Mr. Straus issued his statement for complete results to be shown, as it is not always possible or advisable to defer projects after preliminary proceedings have been started.

It is to be remembered also that there may be instances here and there where a rightful demand may exist for new buildings of the types referred to.

These questionnaires developed the information that, aside from so-called new de luxe type apartments on Manhattan Island, there is now a very pronounced tendency in all large cities to follow Mr. Straus's recommendations.

In the principal cities of the country, the following were among those reporting no building permits issued whatever in February for the four proscribed types: Cleveland, Buffalo, Kansas City, Los Angeles, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Newark, N. J., Indianapolis, Denver, Dallas, Houston, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Milwaukee, Louisville, Seattle, Birmingham, Oakland, Calif., Portland, Ore., Rochester, Toledo, Nashville, Ft. Worth, Jersey City, Jacksonville, San Diego, Knoxville, Albany, Atlanta, New Haven, Tulsa, Okla., Tampa, Worcester, and Springfield, Mass.

Among all the cities of importance in the country only 16 revealed isolated cases of permits being issued for the types referred to. In New York no permits were issued for the construction of any hotels.

Plans were filed for 13 apartment houses in Manhattan, to cost more than \$400,000 each, and having a total valuation of \$8,005,000. Although plans were filed in Manhattan for \$9,402,000 for five office buildings, \$8,000,000 of this was for the New York Central Office Building on which preliminary work was started some time ago.

No office building, hotel or apartment house plans of the types referred to by Mr. Straus were filed in any of the other Boroughs of New York City, although in Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx there were a number of six-story semi-fireproof types launched, as well as a number of six-story tenements costing less than \$400,000 each.

In Chicago permits were issued for one apartment house to cost \$600,000 and two office buildings to cost \$12,500,000 one of which was the Board of Trade's new \$7,500,000 home.

Only ten cities—New York, Chicago, Boston, Detroit, Dayton, Flint, Grand Rapids, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Providence reported office building permits. New York, Chicago, Atlantic City, Columbus, Philadelphia, Richmond, Va., and Washington were the only cities reporting permits for apartment houses costing in excess of \$400,000 each.

In greater detail the reports may be summarized as follows:

Philadelphia, one apartment house, \$600,000; Boston, one office building, \$2,000,000; Pittsburgh, one office building, \$500,000; San Francisco, one hotel, \$100,000; Washington, D. C., one apartment, \$400,000 and one hotel, \$900,000; Detroit, one office building \$5,000,000 and four hotels, \$1,067,640; Atlantic City, one apartment, \$400,000; Columbus, one apartment, \$500,000; Dayton, one office building, \$150,000; Flint, Mich., two office buildings, \$1,050,000; Grand Rapids, Mich., one office building, \$105,000; New Orleans, three office buildings, \$1,217,899; Providence, R. I., one office building, \$3,500,000; Richmond, Va.; one apartment, \$800,000.

With regard to these conditions, Mr. Straus yesterday made the following comment:

If the breathing spell indicated by these reports is allowed to continue, there need be no feeling that real estate or other business interests will be menaced by the uneconomic condition of over-production, and before the end of the present year conditions may possibly warrant builders in making plans for a normal resumption of these four types of construction.

Meanwhile, the business interests of the country have every reason for optimism in so far as general building activities are concerned. Notwithstanding the apparent slowing up in office buildings, hotels, high class apartments and apartment hotels there is now in prospect a very large amount of general building. A detailed survey of the country shows that the volume of building permits issued in February was about five percent ahead of February last year.

The 25 leading cities of the country reported \$195,478,738, a gain of 25% over Feb. 1926 and of 28% over January. These reports show extensive amounts of home building throughout the United States, a most eloquent commentary on the thrift and prosperity of the average American citizen to-day. There is indicated also an unusual volume of building now getting underway in types that do not always require permits such as public building, bridges, highways, public works, and public utility plants not located within the corporate limits of cities.

The warning of S. W. Straus & Co. against building operations was referred to in our issue of Jan. 22, page 443.

Loading of Railroad Revenue Freight Continues Heavy.

A total of 994,931 cars were loaded with revenue freight the week ended March 5, the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association announced on March 15.

This was an increase of 29,922 cars compared with the corresponding week last year and an increase of 62,887 cars over the corresponding week in 1925. The total of the week of March 5 was also an increase of 71,082 cars above the preceding week this year, when freight traffic was somewhat reduced owing to the observance of Washington's Birthday.

Coal loading for the week of March 5 totaled 213,442 cars, an increase of 30,999 cars over the same week last year and 48,839 cars above the corresponding week in 1925.

Miscellaneous freight loading totaled 351,910 cars, an increase of 3,880 cars above the same week last year and 19,353 cars above the corresponding week two years ago.

Loading of merchandise and less than carload lot freight for the week totaled 265,254 cars, an increase of 1,149 cars over the corresponding week last year and 7,539 cars above the same week two years ago.

Grain and grain products loading totaled 44,392 cars, an increase of 4,150 cars over the corresponding week last year and 172 cars above the same week in 1925. In the Western districts alone, grain and grain products loading totaled 26,681 cars, an increase of 2,490 cars above the same week last year.

Livestock loading amounted to 28,040 cars, a decrease of 1,406 cars below the same week last year and 196 cars below the corresponding week in 1926. In the Western districts alone, livestock loading totaled 21,273 cars, a decrease of 1,281 cars below the same week last year.

Forest products loading totaled 69,240 cars, 6,720 cars below the same week last year and 12,391 cars under the same week in 1925.

Ore loading amounted to 10,096 cars, 267 cars above the corresponding week in 1926 but 180 cars below the same week two years ago.

Coke loading totaled 12,557 cars, a decrease of 2,397 cars under the same week last year and 249 cars below the same week two years ago.

All districts except the Eastern and Southern reported increases in the total loading of all commodities compared with the corresponding week in 1926, while all districts except the Northwestern, which showed a small decrease, reported increases over the same week in 1925.

Loading of revenue freight this year compared with the two previous years as follows:

	1927.	1926.	1925.
Five weeks in January	4,524,749	4,428,256	4,456,949
Four weeks in February	3,823,931	3,677,332	3,623,047
Week ended March 5	994,931	965,009	932,044
Total	9,343,611	9,070,597	9,012,040

Class I railroads on March 1 had 9,548 locomotives in need of repairs, or 15.4% of the number on line, according to reports filed to-day by the carriers with the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association.

This was a decrease of 318 compared with the number in need of repair on Feb. 15, at which time there were 9,866, or 15.9%.

Of the total number of locomotives in need of repair on March 1, 4,951, or 8.0%, were in need of classified repairs, a decrease of 195 compared with Feb. 15, while 4,597, or 7.4%, were in need of running repairs, a decrease of 123 compared with the number in need of such repairs on Feb. 15.

Serviceable locomotives in storage on March 1 totaled 5,124, compared with 4,817 on Feb. 15.

### Increase in Employment and Wages in Pennsylvania and Delaware—Report on Man-Hours Worked During Payroll Period.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia in making public on March 17 its compilations of employment and wages in Pennsylvania and Delaware, supplies for the first time information regarding the man-hours worked during the payroll period. We give herewith the bank's statement:

Two months ago the Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank, in connection with its regular employment reporting service, started collecting from those firms which could supply it information on the total number of man-hours worked during the payroll period. It was thought this additional information would be of value as a better measure of industrial activity than wage payments, especially at a time when wage rate changes might become more frequent than they are at present.

This month the first figures are being made available, and show that in Pennsylvania, out of a total of 867 reporting establishments, 457 plants also reported the number of man-hours worked during the payroll period. These firms showed an increase in man-hours of 4.2%, which compares with a 4.4% increase in total wage payments reported by the entire 867 firms. The average hourly rate computed for the smaller number of firms was found to be 57.7 cents, an increase over January of 0.3%. Part of the increase in plant operations is undoubtedly due to the resumption of business after the January inventory taking and the usual first of the year repairs to plants and machinery.

Practically all the groups showed increases, with the exception of construction and contracting, which still continues to show large decreases each month. Metal manufactures increased 5.8% in total wage payments, as compared with 5.1% advance in total man-hours reported by the smaller number of firms. The largest gain in this group was in the heating appliance industry, although nearly all the industries shared in the gain with the exception of electrical machinery. Textile products industries employed slightly fewer men, but increased in wage payments and man-hours. Leather products and boots and shoes also were among the industries reporting the greatest gains.

All industries in Delaware, with the exception of metal manufactures other than foundries and machine shops, showed an increase in both employment and wage payments.

With the exception of Altoona, Johnstown, Sunbury and Wilkes-Barr<sup>o</sup> all of which decreased in both employment and wages, the other city areas showed increases in wage payments and, in most cases, in employment as well. The largest gains were in Harrisburg, Pittsburgh and Williamsport although Scranton showed a gain of 12.3% in wage payments but a decrease of 2.7 in the number of men employed. Philadelphia's change from January was an increase of nearly 1% in employment and 3.5% in wage payments.

The compilations follow:

EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES IN PENNSYLVANIA. Compiled by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and the Department of Labor and Industry, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Group and Industry—	No. of Plants Reporting.	Increase or Decrease—	
		Employment.	Average Wages.
All industries (46)	867	+0.2%	+4.4%
Metal manufactures:	292	+1.2	+5.8
Automobiles, bodies and parts	20	+3.4	+8.9
Car construction and repair	20	+5.6	+6.4
Electrical machinery and apparatus	18	-7.6	-2.9
Engines, machines and machine tools	39	+0.8	+2.8
Foundries and machine shops	58	-1.5	+2.9
Heating appliances and apparatus	16	+4.8	+13.4
Iron and steel blast furnaces	12	-0.0	+1.2
Iron and steel forgings	11	-3.6	+5.3
Steel works and rolling mills	36	+1.2	+7.5
Structural iron works	17	-0.7	+7.7
Miscellaneous iron and steel products	25	+2.7	+8.5
Shipbuilding	3	-1.6	+1.8
Hardware	8	+0.7	+9.4
Non-ferrous metals	9	-0.9	+3.8
Textile products:	164	-2.1	+3.7
Carpets and rugs	8	-0.2	+3.0
Clothing	32	+1.2	-1.3
Hats, felt and other	5	+0.7	+5.8
Cotton goods	16	-1.1	+8.3
Silk goods	42	-6.5	+3.5
Woolens and worsteds	14	-0.5	-2.8
Knit goods and hosiery	38	+0.4	+5.3
Dyeing and finishing textiles	9	+3.5	+8.1
Foods and tobacco:	111	+1.6	+0.6
Bakeries	36	+1.5	+0.5
Confectionery and ice cream	23	-2.5	+2.8
Slaughtering and meat packing	13	-1.5	-4.3
Cigars and tobacco	39	+4.3	+0.9
Building materials:	68	+1.0	+5.1
Brick, tile and terra cotta products	27	-1.3	+6.4
Cement	14	-5.2	+0.7
Glass	23	+8.1	+9.0
Pottery	4	+8.9	+8.6
Construction and contracting:	37	-13.2	-14.8
Buildings	20	-2.3	-5.0
Street and highway	3	-2.6	-12.1
General	14	-17.6	-19.9
Chemicals and allied products:	39	-1.1	+5.4
Chemicals and drugs	22	+3.8	+2.2
Explosives	3	-6.9	+3.8
Paints and varnishes	9	-0.8	+2.2
Petroleum refining	5	-1.6	+6.6
Miscellaneous industries:	156	-0.7	+1.3
Lumber and planing mill products	28	+4	+2.9
Furniture	20	-8.0	-6.8
Leather tanning	17	-1.0	+0.2
Leather products	8	+13.7	+11.0
Boots and shoes	23	+4.5	+12.2
Paper and pulp products	18	-2.7	-2.1
Printing and publishing	36	-1.5	-0.9
Rubber tires and goods	3	+4.7	+9.0
Novelties and jewelry	3	-7.0	-0.7

MAN-HOURS AND AVERAGE HOURLY WAGES IN PENNSYLVANIA. Compiled by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and the Department of Labor and Industry, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Group and Industry—	No. of Plants Reporting.	Increase or Decrease—	
		Man-Hours.	Average Hourly Rates.
All industries (42)	457	+4.2%	+0.3%
Metal manufactures:	201	+5.1	-0.3
Automobiles, bodies and parts	14	+13.7	-3.0
Car construction and repair	14	+1.8	-0.3
Electrical machinery and apparatus	11	-2.2	-1.3
Engines, machines and machine tools	31	+1.5	+0.5
Foundries and machine shops	44	+1.1	+1.3
Heating appliances and apparatus	5	+9.6	-0.7
Iron and steel blast furnaces	8	+3.4	+0.3
Iron and steel forgings	7	-6.3	+4.9
Steel works and rolling mills	24	+6.6	+0.0
Structural iron works	10	+2.6	+1.2
Miscellaneous iron and steel products	17	+8.3	+1.2
Shipbuilding	3	-3.0	-1.1
Hardware	6	+6.6	-1.5
Non-ferrous metals	7	+4.8	-1.2
Textile products:	67	+1.0	+1.8
Carpets and rugs	3	+0.2	+1.4
Clothing	6	+9.2	+4.8
Cotton goods	11	+5.9	+0.8
Silk goods	20	-3.2	+0.8
Woolens and worsteds	9	-5.8	+4.6
Knit goods and hosiery	14	+9.7	-1.3
Dyeing and finishing textiles	4	+19.3	-4.2
Foods and tobacco:	50	+2.1	+2.2
Bakeries	23	+1.2	-0.2
Confectionery and ice cream	13	+6.3	+5.4
Slaughtering and meat packing	9	-4.2	-0.2
Cigars and tobacco	39	-3.0	+1.9
Building materials:	30	+6.2	+0.4
Brick, tile and terra cotta products	7	+0.7	+2.9
Cement	8	+6.9	-1.5
Glass	11	+6.9	+1.2
Pottery	4	+6.4	+2.1
Construction and contracting:	30	-15.4	+0.1
Buildings	17	-5.4	+1.6
Street and highway	3	-17.9	+6.9
General	10	-20.0	-2.3
Chemicals and allied products:	16	+2.0	-0.2
Chemicals and drugs	11	-0.1	-0.8
Paints and varnishes	5	+4.5	+0.0
Miscellaneous industries:	93	-0.1	+1.0
Lumber and planing mill products	19	-0.2	+0.0
Furniture	16	-10.7	+1.4
Leather tanning	8	+5.9	+0.2
Leather products	4	+2.3	-5.2
Boots and shoes	10	+7.4	+2.4
Paper and pulp products	9	-2.7	+2.4
Printing and publishing	24	-2.7	+2.3
Rubber tires and goods	3	+8.7	+0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES IN THE CITY AREAS  
(Compiled by Department of Statistics and Research Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia.)

Areas—	Number of Plants Reporting.	Increase or Decrease—		
		February 1927 over January 1927	Total	Average
		Employment.	Wages.	Wages.
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton	78	-2.5%	+5.1%	+7.8%
Altoona	14	-1.5	-0.1	+1.4
Erle	14	+1.6	+5.0	+3.4
Harrisburg	38	+3.1	+9.6	+6.3
Hazleton-Pottsville	22	+0.8	+1.2	+0.3
Johnstown	13	-4.7	-1.1	+3.8
Lancaster	10	-1.6	+0.1	+1.7
New Castle, Pa.	12	+2.5	+4.3	+1.8
Philadelphia	258	+0.9	+3.5	+2.6
Pittsburgh	105	+1.1	+6.4	+5.3
Reading-Lebanon	70	+0.6	+3.1	+2.4
Seranton	37	-2.7	+12.3	+15.3
Sunbury	27	-12.2	-5.8	+7.2
Willkes-Barre	22	-0.7	-2.4	-1.7
Williamsport	25	+3.0	+12.3	+8.9
Wilmington	29	+0.6	+3.3	+2.7
York	47	+0.3	-1.3	-1.6

EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES IN DELAWARE COMPILED BY FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF PHILADELPHIA.

Industry—	Number of Plants Reporting.	Increase or Decrease—		
		February 1927 over January 1927	Total	Average
		Employment.	Wages.	Wages.
All Industries	29	+1.1%	+2.5%	+1.3%
Foundries and machinery products	4	+7.1	+8.9	+1.6
Other metal manufactures	4	-1.6	-1.6	-0.0
Food Industries	3	+2.7	+1.6	-1.0
Chemicals, drugs and paints	3	+0.4	+0.6	+0.1
Leather tanned and products	4	+6.7	+8.1	+1.3
Printing and publishing	4	+1.5	+3.1	+1.6
Miscellaneous Industries	7	-1.9	+4.0	+6.1

Agricultural and Financial Conditions in Minneapolis  
Federal Reserve District—February Business  
This Year Below That of Year Ago.

February business in this district was in smaller volume than during the same month of last year, both in total money value, as reflected by individual debits at representative banks and in total physical volume, as shown by carloadings according to the preliminary summary of agricultural and financial conditions prepared by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis and issued under date of March 15. Continuing it says:

As compared with February of last year, all of the seventeen cities reporting debits to this office exhibited decreases, except Billings, Helena, Sioux Falls, Winona and La Crosse; shipments of linseed products and flour and terminal receipts of grains and livestock declined substantially; and preliminary reports indicate a slight increase in sales at retail.

The percentages of decline shown in February as compared with last year were not as great as those shown in January as compared with the preceding year, either for debits or carloadings. February debits compared with January did not decline as greatly as the seasonal expectancy. The most favorable reports were made by the three Mississippi Valley reporting cities and Sioux Falls. Median prices of agricultural commodities exhibited mixed trends during the month of February, both as compared with the prices prevailing a year ago and as compared with last month.

Prospective business activity based upon building operations, as reflected in the total valuation of building permits granted at 18 cities in this district, was 47% smaller in February than a year ago. Of the reporting cities, 14 declined and four gained. As compared with last month, permit valuation totals declined 19%, which is a decline 12% greater than the seasonal expectancy. Dwellings available for rent in Minneapolis, according to the number of advertisements during February, increased more than seasonal.

As compared with a year ago, member banks in country districts have smaller reserve deposits with, and larger borrowings from, this Reserve Bank, reflecting some decline in their deposits; and member banks in the larger cities have smaller demand deposits, but larger time deposits. While the tendency to increase holdings of investments continued during February in banks of the larger cities, a turning point was shown in the recent upward trend of their loans on stocks and bonds and in the recent downward trend of "all other loans."

New Prices and Models of Automobiles.

The Chandler-Cleveland Motors Corp. on March 16 introduced four new models in its Royal Eight line. This line now consists of the following models: five passenger sedan, seven passenger sedan, four passenger coupe, seven passenger touring car and sport roadster with rumble seat. Prices range from \$2,195 to \$2,295—all models except the new seven passenger sedan selling at \$2,195. All models have the straight eight development of Chandler's Pikes Peak motor, and are equipped with air cleaner, oil filter, thermostatic heat control, four wheel brakes, centralized chassis lubrication and self-adjusting spring shackles. The color choices include Holyoke blue on the five passenger sedan, two-toned fawn or dark blue on the seven passenger sedan, Sheridan gray or two-tone green on the four passenger coupe, two-tone gray green, luxor blue or dark blue on the seven passenger touring, and two-tone fawn on the sport roadster.

The wide price range covered by the General Motors Corp. since the introduction of the La Salle, companion car to the Cadillac, is indicated by a tabulation of the cars, numbers of models are prices as given in the "Wall St. News" of March 15.

Chevrolet	7 models from \$525 to \$745
Pontiac	6 models from 775 to 975
Oldsmobile	11 models from 875 to 1190
Oakland	7 models from 1025 to 1295
Buick	18 models from 1195 to 1995
La Salle	6 models from 2495 to 2685
Cadillac	17 models from 2995 to 4350

In addition, Cadillac offers many body styles and types with bodies by Fisher and Fleetwood, making a total of 50 body styles with 500 different color and upholstery combinations at prices ranging up to \$9,000.

In addition, the Oakland Motor Car Co. on March 18 introduced into the Pontiac line a sport cabriolet, a comparatively new body type which has proved very popular in other lines. The new care is a four passenger, having room for two in the rumble seat.

Further rumors concerning the Ford Motor Co. continue to be confusing. On March 11 a report circulated to the effect that a cut in price of about \$175 per car was imminent, caused an aggressive selling movement of motor shares on the New York Stock Exchange. The report which brought about this occurrence was issued by the "Daily Metal Trade of Cleveland," which said:

Country-wide curiosity regarding the ultimate method Henry Ford is to adopt in combating the gigantic competition closing in about him seems about to be satisfied. According to persistent and widespread rumors. Ford within the next few days will announce a new and epoch-making price reduction.

This reduction, according to the report, will be as much as \$175 on some models. Such a sweeping cut in price for Ford cars would be tremendous in its effect upon the entire automobile industry. It would touch off the powder magazine of perhaps the most bitter price war in the history of the industry. Several manufacturers already have announced price reductions, but nothing so relatively important as a cut of \$175 for Fords has appeared in years.

While it is admitted on all sides that Ford is on the eve of an important announcement, some authorities doubt that so great a cut will be put into effect.

Contrasting with this is the report from Boston on March 16 which said:

Detroit advices are that new gear shift car of Ford Motor Co. will have four-cylinder engine, 104-inch wheelbase and will probably be listed at \$475 for the touring car, compared with list price of \$380 on present model. It is expected to be on the market at opening of summer, or say in late June.

In denial of this, a dispatch from Detroit on March 16 states: "Rumors to the effect that the Ford Motor Co. will announce a four-cylinder gear shift car at \$475 in June are without foundation, according to officials of the Ford Motor Co."

Prices of Rayon Advanced Five Cents a Pound by Viscose Co. and Tubize Artificial Silk Co.

An advance of 5 cents a pound on rayon by the Viscose Co. and the Tubize Artificial Silk Co. was announced this week. Referring to the action by the first named company the "Journal of Commerce" of March 16 said:

The Viscose Co. announces to-day, effective at once, an advance of 5 cents a pound on most of their popular sizes used in all branches of the textile industry, and the addition of at least two new sizes to their growing list, which should prove especially interesting in view of the drive for better quality yarns throughout the market.

In fixing its new price list at this time, the leading factor in the rayon industry, which produces approximately 60 or 65% of the American output of chemical yarns, and is the largest single fiber producer in the world, upset general expectations. The big company decided to advance only 5 cents a pound, instead of marking up prices 10 cents or 15 cents as had been anticipated, and made them effective at once instead of April 1, as previously forecast.

150s-36 Filament Unchanged.

While their important 150 denier 36 filament remains unchanged in price, the 21 to 24 filament yarns are up 5 cents on all qualities, as are 125s and 200s, with C quality added in the list. Noteworthy also is the fact that 300s are up 5 cents on A quality and only 2 cents on B, with C grade remaining unquoted because the company is sold up far ahead.

The introduction of three types of 170 denier is another important development, the company having added 36 and 60 filaments to the 27, and thereby offering three different filament constructions in 170s as it has in 150s. This move reflects the trend toward improved yarns and new fiber constructions, in line with trading-up in both raw materials and finished goods.

New Viscose Price List.

The new Viscose price list, now effective, follows:

Denier.	Fila-ments.	A.	B.	C.	First Quality.
75	18	\$2.45	\$2.25	---	---
100	18	2.05	1.90	---	---
125	18	1.75	1.65	---	---
150	60	---	---	---	---
150	36	1.60	1.55	---	---
150	21-24	1.50	1.45	1.35	---
170	60	---	---	1.25	1.60
170	36	1.50	1.45	1.25	---
170	27	1.45	1.40	1.25	---
175	27	1.40	1.35	---	---
200	30	1.45	1.40	1.25	---
250	36	1.35	1.30	1.25	---
300	44	1.30	1.25	---	---
450	54	1.25	1.20	---	---
600	72	1.25	1.20	---	---

Commenting on the latest advance of the Viscose Co., A. S. Salvage, President of the firm, stated yesterday:

"We are satisfied that rayon has been selling at too low a price in this market, so we have raised prices 5 cents a pound on our main sizes, effective immediately, and the coping prices are also raised 5 cents per pound on all sizes because our former rate was too low."

Other Factors Likely to Follow.

The DuPont Rayon Co., Tubize Artificial Silk Co., Industrial Fibre Co. and other important fiber factors in this market were not prepared yesterday to announce any changes in their price lists, but it is expected that the Viscose list would be followed pretty closely, and that further changes by the independent producers would be made known in another day or two.

It is too early to determine what effect the new advance will have on importers; two views are presented: either the small advance will not influence any change on foreign yarns, or it may prove just the measure to spur additional business for foreign agencies, though the latter are unable



**Winston-Salem (N. C.) Tobacco Market Closes With Sales Aggregating \$11,508,162.**

Reporting that the Winston-Salem leaf tobacco market closed another season on March 11, the Richmond "Times-Dispatch" added:

Sales for the year aggregated 49,249,666 pounds, which brought \$11,508,162.91, this being an average price of \$23.37 per 100 pounds.

The crop this year was the second largest, the Winston-Salem market has sold, the crop of 1920, which was marketed in the latter part of that year and early in 1921, being the top year, with 60,580,994 pounds. While standing second in weight, the crops of 1918, 1920 and 1921 brought the growers more money, the figures for those years being \$12,830,871.79, \$16,207,098.69 and \$13,131,639.92, respectively.

The average price this year was exceeded by crops of 1917, 1918 and 1919, when the averages were \$32.57, \$31.40 and \$48.92, respectively.

**Payment of \$650,000 on 1925 Crop Voted to Members of Connecticut Valley Tobacco Association.**

According to the Hartford "Courant," the payment of more than \$650,000 to members on 1925 crops was voted on March 15 by directors of the Connecticut Valley Tobacco Association at a monthly meeting. The item goes on to say:

Recent advantageous sales of stock held by the organization have made possible the cancellation of approximately \$7,200,000 in loans during the past year and a half and have opened the way to payment to members, to be made during April.

Following the submission of satisfactory reports on the present financial position of the association by Treasurer Arthur E. Nelson, the directors voted unanimously to make second payments to members on the 1925 broadleaf crop and final payments on the 1925 Connecticut Valley Havana seed crop. No payments are to be made at this time on Housatonic Valley tobacco held by the association, it was decided.

*To Settle in Cash.*

Judge Levi P. M. Hickey, Vice-President of the association, in discussing action by the directors, said that settlements on the 1925 crops will be made to members in cash during the latter part of April and will not be merely transfers of book credit. He added that approximately 2,500 members will receive payments in varying amounts on their 1925 crops.

Interest in the recent referendum of members, when it was voted to abrogate the second or 1927-31 five-year crop contracts, expected to influence the directors' meeting, failed to enter into any discussion. . . . Many aver that the association will not disband when present stocks are sold, in spite of the cancellation of member contracts.

*May Offer Another Contract.*

The vote to abrogate the second five-year crop contracts is interpreted merely as a desire of members to be released from an agreement slightly too severe in its terms and to permit greater freedom in the disposal of individual tobacco crops. It is intimated that the association later may offer a less severe contract to members desiring to continue the co-operative marketing system, although at present no such action has been taken.

In any event, Judge Hickey has repeatedly said the association will continue to discharge all its duties until such time as all existing tobacco stock is sold, payments to members made and the association completely liquidated.

The Connecticut Valley Mutual Hail Insurance Company formed by the association as a benefit to members, which now has a net surplus of \$250,000, will continue in existence no matter what may happen to the association, Judge Hickey said yesterday. Officers of the insurance company are the officers of the association. Policies are issued to association members upon payment of premiums and insure against crop losses resulting from damage occasioned by hail storms.

*Position Called Best.*

"I regard the present position of the association as better than it has ever been before," Judge Hickey said. "A year and a half ago loans outstanding against the association and negotiated to make part payments on crops to members totalled approximately \$7,500,000. When payments are made on recent sales total loans outstanding will be only about \$300,000. And now we find ourselves in position to pay around \$650,000 in cash to members on their 1925 broadleaf and Havana seed crops."

The largest single effected by the association, consummated during January and which amounted to approximately \$2,000,000, has materially aided the association to retire loans and make payments to members, Judge Hickey said. "Between 80 and 90 per cent. of the proceeds from that sale is being used to cancel loans against the association," he added.

"The association has never been in a precarious situation and will be able to settle in full with members," he continued. "I am confident that when all is said and done the association will be able to show substantial profits made for members on their crops."

**Lumber Industry Shows Marked Gains.**

The softwood lumber industry showed a substantial advance for the week ended March 12 as compared with the previous week, says the National Lumber Manufacturers Association, reviewing reports from 314 of the leading mills of the country. Production advanced a little, while the gains in new business and shipments were marked. Because of the smaller number of mills reporting this year than last, it is impossible to make proper comparisons with the corresponding week last year, but it is apparent that there has been some contraction in all three factors, although much smaller than the actual reports indicate. The 135 hardwood operations reporting showed nominal decreases in production and shipments, with new business about the same as that reported for the week earlier. In comparison with the corresponding week last year, no noteworthy change was noted, adds the report of the Association, which then goes on to say:

*Unfilled Orders.*

The unfilled orders of 191 Southern Pine and West Coast mills at the end of last week amounted to 547,549,169 feet, as against 526,223,040 feet

for 190 mills the previous week. The 117 identical Southern Pine mills in the group showed unfilled orders of 240,917,468 feet last week, as against 235,816,813 feet for the week before. For the 74 West Coast mills the unfilled order were 306,631,701 feet, as against 290,406,227 feet for 73 mills a week earlier.

Altogether the 299 comparably reporting softwood mills had shipments 105% and orders 113%, of actual production. For the Southern Pine mills these percentages were respectively 96 and 103, and for the West Coast mills 105 and 108.

Of the reporting mills, the 277 with an established normal production for the week of 192,504,125 feet gave actual production 90%, shipments 94% and orders 102% thereof.

The following table compares the lumber movement, as reflected by the reporting mills of seven softwood, and two hardwood, regional associations, for the three weeks indicated:

	Past Week.		Corresponding Week (1926).		Preceding Week 1927.	
	Softwood.	Hardwood.	Softwood.	Hardwood.	Softwood.	Hardwood.
*Mills.....	299	135	353	136	312	140
Production.....	181,997	21,036	228,029	22,398	178,534	23,234
Shipments.....	190,349	20,520	234,040	20,184	172,628	23,049
Orders (new business).....	205,838	21,090	248,180	21,456	191,260	21,843

\* Fewer West Coast mills are reporting this year; to make allowance for this add 24,000,000 to production, 25,000,000 to shipments and 26,000,000 to orders in comparing softwood with last year.

The following revised figures compare the lumber movement of the same regional associations for the first ten weeks of 1927 with the same period of 1926:

	Production.		Shipments.		Orders.	
	Softwood.	Hardwood.	Softwood.	Hardwood.	Softwood.	Hardwood.
1927.....	1,833,395	297,181	1,826,074	285,784	1,977,384	299,427
1926.....	2,107,004	250,579	2,195,573	243,849	2,295,046	260,338

The mills of the California White and Sugar Pine Association make weekly reports, but not being comparable, are not included in the foregoing tables. Fifteen of these mills, representing 45% of the cut of the California pine region, gave their production for the week as 5,818,000 feet; shipments, 16,299,000, and new business, 14,764,000. Last week's report from 11 mills, representing 33% of the cut, was: Production, 5,433,000 feet; shipments, 10,708,000, and new business, 11,921,000.

*West Coast Movement.*

The West Coast Lumbermen's Association wires from Seattle that 74 mills reporting for the week ended March 12, gave production as 72,418,047 (previous week 74,059,575); shipments, 75,932,546 (previous week 63,692,892), and orders, 78,320,286 (previous week 74,110,118). Of all new business taken during the week 37% was for future water delivery, amounting to 29,233,455 feet, of which 19,739,182 feet was for domestic cargo delivery and 9,494,273 feet export. New business by rail amounted to 45,730,129 feet, or 59% of the week's new business. Thirty-six per cent of the week's shipments moved by water, amounting to 27,475,241 feet, of which 20,999,047 feet moved coastwise and intercoastal, and 6,476,194 feet export. Rail shipments totaled 45,100,603 feet, or 59% of the week's shipments, and local deliveries 3,356,702 feet. Unshipped domestic cargo orders totaled 103,299,332 feet, foreign 75,445,066 feet and rail trade 127,887,303 feet.

*Southern Pine Reports.*

The Southern Pine Association reports from New Orleans that for 117 mills reporting, shipments were 4.25% below production, and orders 3.49% above production and 8.08% above shipments. New business taken during the week amounted to 68,244,682 feet (previous week 63,393,855) shipments 63,144,027 feet (previous week 59,646,435), and production 65,945,834 feet (previous week 64,552,377). The normal production of these mills is 73,377,629 feet. Of the 116 mills reporting running time, 85 operated full time, 15 of the latter overtime. Six mills were shut down, and the rest operated from three to five and one-half days.

The Western Pine Manufacturers Association of Portland, Ore., reports a substantial increase in production, shipments about the same and new business considerably in advance of that reported for the preceding week.

The California Redwood Association of San Francisco, Calif., reports big increases in production and shipments, and a small reduction in new business.

The North Carolina Pine Association of Norfolk, Va., with eight fewer mills reporting, shows some increase in production and shipments, and a good gain in new business.

The Northern Pine Manufacturers Association of Minneapolis, Minn., reports production and shipments about the same, and new business somewhat below that reported for the previous week.

The Northern Hemlock and Hardwood Manufacturers Association of Oshkosh, Wis., (in its softwood production) with two more mills reporting, shows a considerable decrease in production, and substantial increases in shipments and new business.

*Hardwood Reports.*

The Northern Hemlock and Hardwood Manufacturers Association reported from 15 mills (two more mills than for the week earlier) a heavy decrease in production, shipments about the same, and some increase in new business.

The Hardwood Manufacturers Institute of Memphis, Tenn., reported from 120 units, production about the same, a marked decrease in shipments and a notable decrease in new business. The normal production of these mills is 20,160,000 feet.

**West Coast Lumbermen's Association Weekly Report.**

Seventy-three mills reporting to the West Coast Lumbermen's Association for the week ended March 5 manufactured 74,059,575 ft., sold 74,110,118 ft. and shipped 63,692,892 ft. New business was only 50,543 ft. more than production, but shipments were 10,366,683 ft. less than production.

**COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING PRODUCTION, NEW BUSINESS, SHIPMENTS AND UNFILLED ORDERS.**

Week Ended—	March 5.	Feb. 26.	Feb. 19.	Feb. 12.
Number of mills reporting.....	73	72	72	73
Production (feet).....	74,059,575	75,386,830	78,189,050	74,173,627
New business (feet).....	74,110,118	79,936,042	72,730,373	69,012,020
Shipments (feet).....	63,692,892	77,897,261	72,287,037	59,368,563
Unshipped balances:				
Rails (feet).....	125,268,433	124,391,283	132,120,476	123,793,398
Domestic cargo (feet).....	103,692,423	94,868,621	84,311,679	96,808,307
Export (feet).....	61,445,371	53,558,542	52,602,767	52,360,572
Total (feet).....	290,406,227	272,818,446	269,034,922	272,962,277
First 9 Weeks of—	1927.	1926.	1925.	1924.
Average number of mills.....	82	101	118	130
Production (feet).....	674,762,579	823,804,259	898,346,878	941,484,531
New business (feet).....	708,390,994	889,077,274	844,949,440	879,199,512
Shipments (feet).....	638,923,925	841,638,606	881,198,763	912,470,103

**Continued Price Cutting Affects Both Crude Oil and Gasoline Markets.**

Additional reduction in the prices of both crude oil and gasoline affected the industry during the week just closed. Despite press reports to the effect that a reduction of output had been brought about in the Seminole field in Oklahoma, no agreement was made between the several companies operating there. Plans were submitted but were voted down as not being sufficient in scope to bring about a real curtailment. Output of the field in question was reported as 302,456 barrels for 24 hours ended March 16 at 7 a. m. This was a decline of around 5,000 barrels per day previously reported.

On March 12 the Magnolia Petroleum Co., a subsidiary of the Standard Oil Co. of New York, reduced prices of crude oil in Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas ranging from 10c. to 35c. a barrel, according to gravity. New price for crude below 28 gravity is \$1.10 a barrel, a reduction of 10c. from the previous schedule. A differential of 2c. for each degree of gravity, beginning with 28 degrees and ending with 52 and above for which new price is \$1.60 a barrel, a cut of 35c., was established. This reduction includes Panola County, Texas, and the Iatan district. The price list now compares as follows:

Grade—	March 12 '27.	March 5 '27.	March 12 '26.	Grade—	March 12 '27.	March 5 '27.	March 12 '26.
Below 28 gravity	\$1.10	\$1.20	\$1.07	40 to 40.9 gravity	\$1.36	\$1.59	\$2.36
28 to 28.9 gravity	1.12	1.23	1.40	41 to 41.9 gravity	1.38	1.62	2.44
29 to 29.9 gravity	1.14	1.26	1.48	42 to 42.9 gravity	1.40	1.65	2.52
30 to 30.9 gravity	1.16	1.29	1.56	43 to 43.9 gravity	1.42	1.68	2.60
31 to 31.9 gravity	1.18	1.32	1.64	44 to 44.9 gravity	1.44	1.71	2.68
32 to 32.9 gravity	1.20	1.35	1.72	45 to 45.9 gravity	1.46	1.74	2.76
33 to 33.9 gravity	1.22	1.38	1.80	46 to 46.9 gravity	1.48	1.77	2.84
34 to 34.9 gravity	1.24	1.41	1.88	47 to 47.9 gravity	1.50	1.80	2.92
35 to 35.9 gravity	1.26	1.44	1.96	48 to 48.9 gravity	1.52	1.83	3.00
36 to 36.9 gravity	1.28	1.47	2.04	49 to 49.9 gravity	1.54	1.86	3.08
37 to 37.9 gravity	1.30	1.50	2.12	50 to 50.9 gravity	1.56	1.89	3.16
38 to 38.9 gravity	1.32	1.53	2.20	51 to 51.9 gravity	1.58	1.92	3.24
39 to 39.9 gravity	1.34	1.56	2.28	52 and above	1.60	1.95	3.32

The Prairie Oil & Gas Co. at once met the cut in price announced by Magnolia Petroleum.

Effective March 14 the Standard Oil Co. of Louisiana reduced Caddo, Homer, Haynesville, Bull Bayou, Eldorado, Crichton and DeSoto crude in North Louisiana and Arkansas in amounts ranging from 10 to 35c. a barrel. The minimum grade of below 28 gravity is now \$1.10, next grade of 28 to 28.9 is \$1.12 with 2c. additional for each succeeding degree of gravity up to top grade of 52 and above, which is \$1.60. Prices of Smackover, Bellevue and Cotton Valley remained unchanged. Last previous change on North Louisiana and Arkansas crude was a cut of from 5 to 36c. on March 8.

The Ohio Oil Co. also on March 14 reduced the price of Lima, Indiana, Illinois, Princeton, Wooster and Western Kentucky crudes 13c. and Plymouth crude 10c. a barrel. Other reductions were made by the company as follows: Elk Basin, Grass Creek, light, Lance Creek, Wyo., crude, 22c. a barrel, making new price \$1.33; Big Muddy, Rock Creek, Wyo., crude, 17c. a barrel, new price \$1.25; and Artesia, N. M., crude, 20c. a barrel, new price \$1.

The Midwest Refining Co. at Denver on March 14 reduced Salt Creek crude oil 11 to 20c. a barrel and established a differential of 2c. between each gravity to conform with new schedule prevailing in the Mid-Continent. As a result, 28 to 28.9 gravity is priced at \$1.12 a barrel, a reduction of 11c., and maximum price is \$1.30 for 37 and above, a cut of 20c. The company also reduced Grass Creek light, Osage, Elk Basin and Cat Creek crudes 22c. a barrel to \$1.33. Hogback, New Mexico, crude was reduced to \$1.38.

At Houston, Tex., on March 14 the Humble Oil & Refining Co. reduced Ranger, North Texas, Mexia, Powell, Richland, Wortham, Lytton Springs, Currie, Moran and Nocona crudes 10 to 35c. a barrel, conforming to the reduction made in the Mid-Continent field by Magnolia Petroleum Co. Beginning with 28 gravity at \$1.12, there is a differential of 2c. for each gravity, making the top prices \$1.60 for 52 gravity and above. Gray & Wheeler County crude is posted at 80c. a barrel for 28 gravity, a reduction of 10c. a barrel, with a 2c. differential between grades and the top grade, 44 gravity and above, at \$1.12 a barrel, a reduction of 26c. a barrel. Crane, Upton and Crockett counties crude is established at 70c. a barrel for below 26 gravity, a cut of 10c. a barrel, with a differential of 2c. between grades, making top price 92c. a barrel for 36 gravity and above, a reduction of 21c. a barrel. Goose Creek, Hull, Liberty, Sour Lake, West Columbia, Orange, Boling, Pierce Junction and Spindletop crudes on the Gulf Coast are reduced to \$1.20 a barrel and grade B below 25 gravity is \$1.15, a reduction of 10c. a barrel and a maximum price of \$1.37 for 35 gravity and above, a cut of 13c. a barrel. Carson and Hutchinson

counties crude in the Texas Panhandle was reduced 10c. a barrel to 95c. Mirando crude was reduced to \$1 a barrel.

The Carter Oil Co. on March 14 met the 10 to 35c. reduction on Mid-Continent and North Texas crude posted on March 2 by the Magnolia and Prairie. On March 12 other companies which met the cut were Sinclair Crude Oil Purchasing Co., Gulf Producing Co., Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp. and Empire Oil & Gas Co. The Texas Co. has posted prices of 85c. a barrel for Moffat crude, cut of 20c. and 72c. for Two Creek, a cut of 18c.

Canadian crude oil prices were also reduced on March 14 when dispatches from Toronto reported that the Imperial Oil, Ltd. had reduced Canadian crude oil 13c. a barrel, making New Petrolia \$2.11 and Oil Springs \$2.18.

On March 15 reports from Shreveport, La., indicated that the Atlantic Oil Producing Co., a subsidiary of Atlantic Refining Co. reduced Stephens, Ark., crude in amounts ranging from 10 to 15c., posting minimum grade of 28 gravity at \$1 with 2c. additional for each succeeding degree of gravity up to top grade of 32 and above which is \$1.10. This cut was met immediately by Louisiana Oil Refining Corp. The latter company also revised its gravity and price schedule on Smackover, Ark., crude posting below 24 gravity at \$1.10 and 24 and above at \$1.25.

The Magnolia Petroleum Co. on March 15 reduced Louisiana and Arkansas crudes 10c. to 35c. a barrel, meeting the Standard Oil Co. of Louisiana's new price list. This action conforms to the schedule in effect in the Mid-Continent field. Crude in Pine Island, Haynesville, Bull Bayou and El Dorado districts is affected. Below 28 gravity is posted at \$1.10 a barrel with a 2c. differential ensuing between each grade up to 52 and above, for which \$1.60 a barrel will be paid. Corsicana, Tex., heavy crude was reduced 10c. a barrel to \$1.

On the following day, the Louisiana Oil Refining Corp. reduced Cotton Valley and Urania, La., crude 10c. a barrel, posting a flat price of \$1 in both fields. Last previous change on Cotton Valley was a 10c. cut on Feb. 24 and on Urania a 15c. cut on Aug. 26 1926. The company also cut Smackover crude in amounts ranging from 10 to 13c., posting oil below 24 gravity at \$1; 24 to 27.9 at \$1.15; 28 to 28.9 at \$1.17; 29 to 29.9 at \$1.19 and 30 and above at \$1.21.

The Magnolia Petroleum Co., the Atlantic Producing Co. and the Shreveport El Dorado Pipe Line Co. met the reduction in Smackover and Cotton Valley crude oil prices initiated by the Louisiana Oil Refining Corp. Magnolia, in addition, cut El Dorado East Field crude 10c. a barrel to \$1.

Another reduction in certain grades of crude oil was announced March 16 by the Joseph Seep Crude Oil Purchasing Agency when it reduced the price of Somerset crude oil 15c. a barrel to \$1.50 and Cabell crude 15c. a barrel to \$1.40. On the following day the Corning grade oil in Buckeye Pipe Line Co. lines was reduced 10c. a barrel to \$1.55 for oil run after Sept. 15 and \$1.45 for oil run prior to Sept. 15.

The Standard Oil Co. of Louisiana on March 18 posted a cut of 10c. on Smackover crude below 24 gravity, bringing the new price to \$1, but did not reduce Smackover of 24 and above. Standard also met Louisiana Oil Refining Corp.'s cut of 10c. in the price of Cotton Valley, bringing the crude of that area to \$1. The Crystal Oil & Refining Co. met the Standard's schedule of prices. Also on the 18th, the Texas Co. reduced the price of Smackover crude oil below 24 gravity to \$1 a barrel, down 10c., meeting the cut instituted on this grade by Magnolia Petroleum. The Texas Co. is quoting \$1.25 a barrel on grades of 24 gravity and above, unchanged.

Price reductions in gasoline, while reflecting the current downward trend, were not so numerous or widespread as those of crude oil. The earliest one reported this week occurred March 14, when the Standard Oil Co. of Nebraska reduced the price of gasoline in Omaha 1c. a gallon. The other companies in that territory followed the cut. In the East the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey reduced the price of gasoline 1c. a gallon to 17c. on tank wagons. This cut was announced on March 12. The Standard Oil Co. of Louisiana, a subsidiary, made a similar reduction in Tennessee, Arkansas and Louisiana on March 14.

The Atlantic Refining Co. reduced gasoline a cent a gallon throughout its territory, comprising Pennsylvania and Delaware. The new tank wagon price is 17c. The price at service stations was cut 2c. a gallon to 19c. The Gulf Refining Co. met the reduction of a cent made by the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey.



On March 15 the Standard Oil Co. of New York reduced the tank wagon price of gasoline 1c. throughout its territory, making the new price 20c. a gallon and 22c. retail. The Atlantic Refining Co., Jenney Mfg. Co. and Gulf Refining Co. have reduced gasoline prices 1c. a gallon to 20c. wholesale and 22c. retail, following the new prices put into effect by the Standard Oil Co. of New York.

Gasoline filling stations at Shreveport, La., cut gasoline prices 1c. a gallon, making the retail price 17c. a gallon and in tank wagons a price of 14c. a gallon on March 15.

Conflicting reports were received late on March 18 from Los Angeles regarding a cut in prices there. A special dispatch to the "Wall Street Journal" on that date declares that the Union Oil Co. of California has raised the differential on gasoline to dealers in Los Angeles to six cents a gallon, from four cents previously.

The California Petroleum Corporation and Gilmore Oil Co. also reduced the retail price of gasoline 2 cents a gallon to meet the 6-cent differential to dealers quoted by Union Oil Co. None of the other large companies have met the retail cut but are expected to do so within the next few days.

However, later dispatches to the same newspaper denied the report in the following terms:

Reports of gasoline cuts of five and six cents a gallon by California Petroleum Corporation and Union Oil in a renewal of recent gasoline war are denied by the company officials. There are, nevertheless, large stocks of gasoline on hand which have resulted in a gallonage warfare, with the distributing companies granting a larger differential to dealers, but leaving the retail price undisturbed.

It is understood contracts made on six-cent differential basis to dealers last summer have remained in effect, while the differential has been supposed to be three cents. Two weeks ago Standard Oil Co. put what amounted to a four-cent rate in effect and other companies followed the reduction, with Union Oil reported to have made what amounted to a six-cent reduction to dealers.

The wholesale market at Chicago on March 18 reported the following prices: United States motor grade gasoline, 6½¢@6¾¢.; kerosene, 41-43 water white, 5@5½¢.; fuel oil, 24-26 gravity, \$1.22@1.25.

**Further Slight Decrease in Crude Oil Output.**

A further decrease of 3,000 barrels per day was reported for the week of March 12 by the American Petroleum Institute, which estimated that the daily average gross crude oil production in the United States was 2,461,050 barrels as compared with 2,464,050 barrels for the preceding week. The current output, however, remains greatly in excess of that for the corresponding week of 1926 when 1,935,200 barrels per day were produced. The daily average production east of California was 1,822,550 barrels for the week of March 12 1927, as compared with 1,818,450 barrels in the preceding week, an increase of 4,100 barrels. The following are estimates of daily average gross production by districts for the weeks given:

**DAILY AVERAGE PRODUCTION.**

(In Barrels)—	Mar. 12 '27.	Mar. 5 '27.	Feb. 26 '27.	Mar. 13 '26
Oklahoma-----	708,850	701,400	717,950	452,700
Kansas-----	118,350	116,400	115,700	103,350
Panhandle Texas-----	130,350	128,200	130,350	6,200
North Texas-----	90,150	91,500	93,050	77,250
West Central Texas-----	174,850	178,250	179,450	80,250
East Central Texas-----	43,000	43,450	44,350	59,200
Southwest Texas-----	36,900	37,500	37,900	39,650
North Louisiana-----	52,400	52,550	53,050	48,650
Arkansas-----	124,050	125,650	126,950	164,200
Coastal Texas-----	141,050	139,950	135,750	83,900
Coastal Louisiana-----	13,800	14,200	11,800	11,100
Eastern-----	105,000	106,000	107,500	97,500
Wyoming-----	59,050	56,750	62,800	74,250
Montana-----	13,600	13,550	13,550	18,400
Colorado-----	7,850	8,350	8,050	7,200
New Mexico-----	5,300	4,750	5,550	3,900
California-----	638,500	645,600	643,100	607,500
<b>Total-----</b>	<b>2,461,050</b>	<b>2,464,050</b>	<b>2,486,350</b>	<b>1,935,200</b>

The estimated daily average gross production of the Mid-Continent field, including Oklahoma, Kansas, Panhandle, North, West Central, East Central and Southwest Texas, North Louisiana and Arkansas, for the week ended March 12 was 1,476,900 bbls., as compared with 1,474,900 bbls. for the preceding week, an increase of 2,000 bbls. The Mid-Continent production, excluding Smackover, Arkansas, heavy oil, was 1,377,850 bbls., as compared with 1,375,450 bbls., an increase of 2,400 bbls.

In Oklahoma, production of North Brame is reported at 7,200 bbls., against 7,650 bbls.; South Brame, 4,400 bbls., against 4,550 bbls.; Tonkawa, 24,600 bbls., against 25,350 bbls.; Garber, 18,500 bbls., against 18,400 bbls.; Burbank, 48,150 bbls., against 49,550 bbls.; Bristow-Slick, 27,300 bbls., against 27,250 bbls.; Cromwell, 13,500 bbls., against 13,700 bbls.; Papoose, 7,500 bbls., against 7,450 bbls.; Wewoka, 18,200 bbls., against 18,750 bbls.; Seminole, 282,350 bbls., against 278,700 bbls., and Earlsboro, 26,900 bbls., against 20,000 bbls.

In Panhandle, Texas, Hutchinson County is reported at 112,750 bbls., against 111,100 bbls., and balance Panhandle, 17,600 bbls., against 17,100 bbls. In East Central Texas, Corsicana-Powell, 20,000 bbls., no change; Nigger Creek, 6,000 bbls., against 6,100 bbls.; Reagan County, West Central Texas, 27,650 bbls., against 28,050 bbls.; Crane and Upton Counties, 43,500 bbls., against 42,000 bbls.; Brown County, 35,000 bbls., against 37,000 bbls.; and in the Southwest Texas field, Luling, 18,000 bbls., against 18,200 bbls.; Laredo district, 14,650 bbls., against 14,900 bbls.; Lytton Springs, 2,100 bbls., against 2,150 bbls. In North Louisiana, Haynesville is reported at 7,950 bbls., against 8,150 bbls.; Urania, 11,950 bbls., against 12,100 bbls.; and in Arkansas, Smackover light, 11,850 bbls., against 11,700 bbls.; heavy, 99,050 bbls., against 99,450 bbls., and Lisbon,

4,650 bbls., against 5,050 bbls. In the Gulf Coast field, Hull is reported at 16,400 bbls., against 16,650 bbls.; West Columbia, 10,250 bbls., against 10,150 bbls.; Spindletop, 60,500 bbls., against 60,600 bbls.; Orange County, 5,050 bbls., against 5,300 bbls., and South Liberty, 3,900 bbls., against 4,050 bbls.

In Wyoming, Salt Creek is reported at 41,400 bbls., against 38,850 bbls., and Sunburst, Montana, 11,000 bbls., no change.

In California, Santa Fe Springs is reported at 44,000 bbls., against 44,500 bbls.; Long Beach, 92,000 bbls., no change; Huntington Beach, 75,500 bbls., against 76,500 bbls.; Torrance, 25,000 bbls., no change; Dominguez, 18,000 bbls., no change; Rosecrans, 11,500 bbls., no change; Inglewood, 38,000 bbls., against 38,500 bbls.; Midway Sunset, 89,000 bbls., against 90,500 bbls.; Ventura Avenue, 50,300 bbls., against 51,600 bbls., and Seal Beach, 24,200 bbls., against 26,000 bbls.

**Rise in Tin Prices Exciting London—Metal Advanced Suddenly to \$1,575 a Ton—6,000-Ton Shortage in 1927 Predicted.**

The following by Herbert N. Casson, written for the "Wall Street Journal" from London, appeared in last night's (March 18) issue of that paper:

A notable event in London was the sensational rise in the price of tin. It rose suddenly to \$1,575 a ton.

The London Metal Exchange was a scene of great excitement as the price of tin mounted to the highest figure that has been known since 1920, when it soared to \$2,000 per ton.

Five years ago tin was sold in the London market for \$650 per ton, but it is now more likely to rise than fall. Such is the general opinion in England. The main cause of this tin shortage is the increased use of tin, especially in the United States.

New customers have arisen in the past ten years, such as the makers of tinfoil and collapsible tubes and automobiles. This increased demand has now gone ahead of the production of tin, and the visible supply has been almost completely wiped out. Last July the visible supply in all countries was only 13,000 tons, and at the moment it is practically nothing.

This shortage is not an artificial one. There has been no restriction of output, except perhaps in the Dutch East Indies. There has been no scheme to curtail production, as there was in the case of rubber. The fact is that for the past five years there has not been enough tin produced to supply the demand.

During the war the use of tin was restricted in Great Britain and several other countries. Large reserves were piled up and these have been drawn upon to the extent of 6,000 tons a year.

**6,000-Ton Shortage Predicted.**

These reserves have now been exhausted. Apparently there will be a 6,000-ton shortage in 1927.

The older tin mines are being worked out, and British mining engineers do not believe that the new mines will be able to maintain the present rate of production. In fact, there is no hope of producing enough tin to keep pace with the present rate of consumption.

The British opinion is that the tin problem is now one of distribution rather than one of production. Tin must be restricted in its use to those industries in which it is indispensable. There are, for instance, 1,000 tons of tin used every year in the manufacture of silk. This does not seem to be one of the indispensable uses.

The use of tin for the making of tinfoil and collapsible tubes was prohibited during the war and might be prohibited again.

In Britain 12,000 tons of tin are used annually for the making of biscuit tins and 18,000 tons for the making of tobacco containers. More than 8,000 tons a year is used for domestic utensils. At present 28% of the tin used in Great Britain is recovered from scrap. This figure has at times risen as high as 39%. Most of it comes from the resmelting of Babbitt metal and the detinning of scrap from tinplate works. None of it comes from the resmelting of tin containers. Now that the price of tin has more than doubled there will probably be an attempt to recover the tin from these containers, as the tonnage that is wasted is enormous.

**No Satisfactory Substitute for Tin.**

As yet no satisfactory substitutes have been found for tin. This is a matter to be taken up by research laboratories.

In Germany aluminum is here and there taking the place of copper, as the costs of producing aluminum have recently been greatly reduced. But neither in Germany nor in Great Britain has any substitute been found for tin.

The production of tin by British companies, instead of being restricted, has been increased 32% since 1907.

During the week the Census of Production figures for tinplate were published. It appears that the output has risen to 779,000 tons, whereas the output in 1907 was only 529,000 tons. Britain is now exporting at the rate of 550,000 tons a year. The exports have not kept pace with production. About 6% more of the output is now being consumed in Great Britain. To make matters worse, the output in China, Boliya and Malaysia has decreased, owing to local disturbances and floods.

**Britain Controls Output.**

The tin of the world is mainly a British product. Britain owns 50% of the tin mines and controls 75% of the tin-smelting plants. The tin industry is controlled by our large companies.

There has been much talk of a "Tin Trust," but as yet there is no such thing. The four companies appear to be entirely independent of each other. Britain is the chief producer of tin and the United States is the chief consumer. According to the latest figures published in England, there are now more than 1,200 firms that use tin as a raw material.

So, as there are no indications that the output of tin can be increased, and as the reserves are exhausted, the opinion in Great Britain is that tin must in the future be rationed to those industries in which it has become indispensable.

**Steel Output at High Level—Pig Iron Price Rises.**

Output of steel continues at the high level that usually makes March a peak month, the "Iron Age" declares this week in its review of conditions affecting the market. The fifteen days have brought the industry close to a 90% of ingot capacity operation, but there is an excess over current requirements and this is going toward piling reserves against any long cessation of bituminous coal mining after April 1, continues the "Age" from which we quote:

It is in the Pittsburgh district where there is most concern over the coal situation, but agreement is general that only a long drawn out dispute can seriously affect production of steel. The coal market has grown slightly stronger under the stimulus of fuel stocking, but furnace coke is sufficiently plentiful that purchases have been possible at \$3.25 a ton, or 25c. less than a week ago.

The flow of specifications and new orders in the heavy tonnage products have substantially balanced shipments in the Chicago district, but in moving eastward the conditions so far in March show a decreasing margin of excess over the February bookings.

The price situation has not changed. Fewer dips from the general market levels are not particularly significant in the absence of round-lot business. Large consumers, who covered before the recent advances, as in sheets and strips, have not yet had to come in for their continuing needs.

Some expansion in demand is noted from the automobile industry, some further railroad car buying is under active consideration, and the oil industry, despite the decline in fuel oil prices, gives promise, on top of urgent needs for oil tanks for storing the heavy output of oil, to do considerable drilling.

While sales of motor cars are not up to the season's expectations, some manufacturers are operating at capacity. Parts makers are being pressed for deliveries, some forging plants are on a 24-hr. schedule, and yet the industry in buying alloy steel for only 30-day periods.

Railroad orders include 1000 general service and 200 tanks for the Southern Pacific and the rebuilding of 1000 hopper cars for the Norfolk & Western. The Texas & Pacific bought fifteen locomotives. Rails have been taken closely according to schedule, so that some rollings are about completed. One case of a suspension is presumed to cover plans for providing a heavier rail section. Second half of the year buying in rails is not expected before early in May.

That the production of tin plate can be kept up at the rate of the last four months is now questioned in the light of the fact that there are large unsold stocks of certain canned goods and the can makers, not yet having received full payment, will be slow to extend further financing of the kind on any like scale.

With 12,500 tons for a Hudson River bridge, 4,000 tons for a telephone building in Dallas, Tex., and 3,000 tons for a railroad car ferry, the week's structural steel awards amounted to 38,500 tons. For oil tanks for Port Arthur, Tex., 7,000 tons of plates were bought.

The new price lists of bolts and nuts, covering substantially all classes except stove and tire bolts, show generally a reduction on the application of a common 70% discount. With bolts, this reduction is estimated at 5%, although in the case of both bolts and nuts there are many advances. Similar lists for rivets await a willingness among producers to price in terms of the piece instead of the pound. Meanwhile, contracting for the second quarter has been held up two weeks awaiting the lists.

A desire by mill interests to conserve their surplus basic pig iron, rather than a pressing demand, is the explanation for an advance of 50c. in that grade, to \$18.50 per ton, Valley furnace, on three sales amounting to 6,000 tons. In other districts pressure to sell pig iron at the expense of prices is less general than several weeks ago. In Michigan, however, a recent advance of 50c. a ton at furnace has become established, and at Cleveland and along the Eastern seaboard, where buying movements are in the receding stage, prices are on a firmer footing. An exception is a decline of 25c. a ton on basic iron in eastern Pennsylvania.

Heavy melting steel scrap has advanced 25c. a ton at Pittsburgh, following consumer buying. The stronger tone of the market in that center has been reflected to some extent at Buffalo, Cincinnati and Boston, but in other section trade is marking time.

Several hundred tons, or most of a recent importation of German spiegel-eisen, was bought by an Ohio steel plant. Domestic scarcity makes likely further purchases of the foreign product.

Sales of Dutch pig iron to the United States in February, according to information from the Continent, are 2,800 tons ahead of January, and are believed to include iron of German origin stacked at Rotterdam.

The "Iron Age" pig iron composite price has advanced to \$19.04 from the \$18.96 level held for four weeks. This is the first advance since the decline began, early last November. A year ago it was \$21.63 a ton. The finished steel composite remains at 2.367c. a lb. for the fourth week. A year ago it was 2.431c.

Finished Steel.		Pig Iron.	
March 15 1927, 2.367c. per Pound.	March 15 1927, \$19.04 per Gross Ton.	March 15 1927, \$19.04 per Gross Ton.	March 15 1927, \$19.04 per Gross Ton.
One week ago.....2.367c.	One week ago.....\$18.96	One week ago.....\$18.96	One week ago.....\$18.96
One month ago.....2.367c.	One month ago.....18.96	One month ago.....18.96	One month ago.....18.96
One year ago.....2.431c.	One year ago.....21.63	One year ago.....21.63	One year ago.....21.63
10-year pre-war average.....1.689c.	10-year pre-war average.....15.72	10-year pre-war average.....15.72	10-year pre-war average.....15.72
Based on steel bars, beams, tank plates, plain wire, open-hearth rails, black pipe and black sheets, constituting 87% of the United States output.		Based on average of basic iron at Valley furnace and foundry irons at Chicago, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Valley and Birmingham.	
<b>High.</b>	<b>Low.</b>	<b>High.</b>	<b>Low.</b>
1927-2.453c., Jan. 4; 2.367c., Feb. 21	1927-2.197c., Jan. 4; \$18.96, Feb. 15	1927-21.54, Jan. 5; 19.46, July 13	1926-21.54, Jan. 5; 19.46, July 13
1926-2.453c., Jan. 5; 2.403c., May 18	1926-21.54, Jan. 5; 19.46, July 13	1925-22.50, Jan. 13; 18.96, July 7	1925-22.50, Jan. 13; 18.96, July 7
1925-2.560c., Jan. 6; 2.396c., Aug. 18	1925-22.50, Jan. 13; 18.96, July 7	1924-22.88, Feb. 26; 19.21, Nov. 3	1924-22.88, Feb. 26; 19.21, Nov. 3
1924-2.789c., Jan. 15; 2.460c., Oct. 14	1924-22.88, Feb. 26; 19.21, Nov. 3	1923-30.86, Mar. 20; 20.77, Nov. 20	1923-30.86, Mar. 20; 20.77, Nov. 20
1923-2.824c., Apr. 24; 2.446c., Jan. 2	1923-30.86, Mar. 20; 20.77, Nov. 20		

In two weeks the iron and steel industry will be making the turn into second quarter and apparently will be confronted with a bituminous coal strike. Yet, indicative of the new order that prevails, neither has provided any appreciable market stimulus to the hand-to-mouth buying so dominant in steel, observes the "Iron Trade Review" on March 17. Little is heard of second quarter coverage but current requirements are of such proportions as to insure that March will be perceptibly better than February. There is a stronger tone to all markets save some in the East and the modest backlogs of some producers are being slightly lengthened, adds the "Review" in summarizing the trend of the markets. From its report we add the following details:

Fortified by 60 to 90 day stock piles and confident of heavy non-union production, the industry views the coal strike threat with complacency. It is generally believed that the strike would disturb the markets imperceptibly in the second quarter and that repercussion, if any, would be felt in the third quarter.

The week's developments strike a balance on the side of improvement. Incoming business suffices to maintain average steel production at a rate of about 88%, with Steel Corp. subsidiaries above 95. Steel prices generally are holding, while the tendency in pig iron is upward. Only in pig iron has demand abated but here the subsidence comes after several weeks of heavy buying.

The automobile industry is conspicuous in the week's market activity. Practically all makers excepting Ford and Dodge have been augmenting

specifications for and expediting shipments of sheets in the Pittsburgh and Youngstown districts. Intense interest centers on the Ford competition for plate, shape and bar business at Detroit which has resulted in shading Semi-finished steel continues to acquire strength at Pittsburgh, \$34 now being generally quoted on billets. A tight situation is developing in pig iron especially, basic at Pittsburgh, four or five steel interests being out of the market and supplies scarcer; prices reflect proportionate strength. Beehive furnace coke has surrendered the 25-cent gain of last week and offers of \$3.25 are fairly extensive.

Sheets are more steady at 2.90c. base, Pittsburgh, for black, 2.20c. for blue annealed and 3.75 for galvanized. Buyers still can better these levels.

Tin plate production is believed due for a letdown in April following many months at practically capacity. For one thing, mill equipment is beginning to show effects of this fast pace. Plates at Pittsburgh are relatively more active than other heavy finished lines.

Deliveries on bars have fallen behind somewhat, two or three weeks now being asked by most makers. Bar specifications at Chicago lead those for plates and shapes and new business exceeds shipments.

The "Iron Trade Review's" composite price on 14 leading iron and steel products this week is \$36.87. This compares with \$36.79 last week and \$36.75 the previous week.

### Usual Seasonal Decline Affects Bituminous Coal and Anthracite Markets—Prices of Anthracite Recede.

Aside from sustained high production rates, there is little to distinguish the course of the bituminous coal markets of the United States at the present time from the normal March fade-out in interest, the "Coal Age" reports on March 16 in its weekly review of the industry. The possible effects of the threatened suspension in the Central Competitive Field next month have been so thoroughly discounted in advance that prices no longer are affected by the talk of strike. For the most part, railroads and public utilities appear to have taken out liberal insurance in the matter of augmented storage reserves. Others less provident seem secure in their belief that available tonnage from the non-union mines and from union operations which accept the invitation to continue working after April 1 will provide for their wants adds the "Journal" from which we quote further:

Cumulative production of bituminous for the coal year is 51,115,000 tons ahead of the figures for the corresponding period last year. Of this increase, approximately 11,816,000 net tons have been registered since the beginning of 1927. The 1927 gains have been particularly marked since the middle of February.

"Coal Age" index of spot bituminous prices on March 14 was 171, and the corresponding weighted average price was \$2.07, an increase of 1 point and 1 cent over the figures for March 7.

Uncertainty as to anthracite quotations was ended when some of the leading producers cut domestic prices 50c., effective March 15. Certain others made similar reductions effective April 1, with provision for increases of 25c. on June 1 and Sept. 1. In the meantime, production has been declining and current demand is very slow. The steam market also has been growing weaker, and this, too, has been recognized in reductions of 50c. in the circular on No. 1 buckwheat.

In spite of what many of us may wish to think about it, there has been a distinct alteration made in the current coal situation because of the action of the Altoona conference, which made negligible the famous date of April 1 so far as eastern Pennsylvania is concerned, observes the March 17 market review issued by the "Coal & Coal Trade Journal," adding:

An immense reserve has been accumulated and very many of the industrial needs are already taken care of for 60 and 90 and 120 days ahead. So far as the production of coal in the union mines affected by the decision from Altoona are concerned, there is going to be no easing off in the cost after the beginning of next month. It appears as if some stoppage would be inevitable. The operators are surely counting upon this, but they will not be able to get away from the fact that when they do resume, it will be on the rate of the Jacksonville scale.

From now on, we will hear of other conferences that may or may not act as the Altoona one has done. There will be a conference, too, which will be held, the result of which will not be announced from the house tops. It should be noted, however, that the operators in certain other sections are not so likely to be willing to do what Altoona has done. They have expressed greater determination and have, perhaps, a different problem to contend with, one in which the strength of the strategic position is more largely in their favor.

But one must not fail to recognize that a new element has entered into the bituminous situation that will have an effect all along the line, and will affect the price to be paid for coal. There is apt, in fact, to be a tremor felt that may shake the figures. For a while there is apt to be uneasiness over what is happening and over what is going to happen. Prophecies are out of order.

In the meanwhile the anthracite market, which with the absence of a real winter in its accustomed place, has been rather shaky, has succeeded to some extent in righting its boat. The announced reduction in the price by the "companies" can hardly have other than a beneficial effect. It is a reversion to a beneficial custom. The reductions have been substantial. This leaves room for an advance as the summer comes on. Bins should be filled at figures that are now prevailing. Those who wait will surely expect to pay more. The logic of this situation is inevitable.

Independents will have a chance to maneuver, and undoubtedly they will take advantage of it. We may expect to see a much clearer situation before us in the anthracite world and a spreading out and increase in business which is certainly to be desired.

With one element in the coal world presenting a better front and the other entering into a situation that is apt to be at least slippery, we find a wide diversity of sentiment prevailing at this time. Something of moment and potential of the future is before us. Clear sighted vision and energy are particularly needed. But withal, the coal market, as a purveyor of an essential product, never was in a better condition. The real demand for coal was never so stable in the country or in the world as it is to-day.

**Output of Bituminous Coal Recovers—Anthracite Declines—Coke Remains About the Same.**

With a production of around 13,269,000 net tons for the week ended March 5 the output of bituminous coal recovered from the loss during the preceding holiday week, reports the U. S. Bureau of Mines in its weekly survey of the industry. Anthracite, however, fell off by 163,000 net tons, while coke remained practically unchanged, adds the Bureau, from which we quote:

The total production of soft coal during the week ended March 5, including lignite and coal coked at the mines, is estimated at 13,269,000 net tons. This represents a recovery from the holiday loss in the preceding week, and shows a gain of 76,000 tons, or 0.6%, when compared with the full-time week Feb. 19.

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

	1926-1927		1925-1926	
	Week.	Coal Year to Date.	Week.	Coal Year to Date. <sup>a</sup>
Feb. 19.....	13,193,000	526,649,000	11,509,000	480,216,000
Daily average.....	2,199,000	1,924,000	1,918,000	1,756,000
Feb. 26 <sup>b</sup> .....	12,763,000	539,412,000	10,890,000	491,106,000
Daily average.....	2,163,000	1,929,000	1,846,000	1,758,000
March 5 <sup>c</sup> .....	13,269,000	552,681,000	10,460,000	501,566,000
Daily average.....	2,212,000	1,933,000	1,743,000	1,758,000

<sup>a</sup> Minus one day's production first week in April to equalize number of days in the two years. <sup>b</sup> Revised, Feb. 22 weighted as 0.9 of a day. <sup>c</sup> Subject to revision.

The total production of bituminous coal during the month of February is estimated at 52,905,000 net tons. This indicates a daily rate of 2,214,000 tons as against 2,248,000 tons in January, a decrease, in February, of 1.5%.

<sup>b</sup> The total production of bituminous coal during the present coal year to March 5 (approximately 286 working days) amounts to 552,681,000 net tons. Production during corresponding periods in other recent years is given below:

1919-20.....	455,108,000 net tons	1923-24.....	525,881,000 net tons
1920-21.....	507,575,000 net tons	1924-25.....	439,719,000 net tons
1921-22.....	406,898,000 net tons	1925-26.....	501,566,000 net tons

**ANTHRACITE.**

The first week in March recorded another sharp decline in anthracite production. The total output is estimated at 1,211,000 net tons. Compared with the revised estimate for the preceding week, this shows a decrease of 11.9%, compared with the weekly average for February, about 17%.

*Estimated United States Production of Anthracite (Net Tons).*

Week Ended—	1926-1927		1925-1926	
	Week.	Coal Year to Date.	Week.	Coal Year to Date. <sup>a</sup>
Feb. 19.....	1,569,000	84,808,000	408,000	41,043,000
Feb. 26 <sup>b</sup> .....	1,374,000	86,182,000	1,609,000	42,652,000
March 5.....	1,211,000	87,393,000	1,789,000	44,441,000

<sup>a</sup> Minus one day's production first week in April to equalize number of days in the two years. <sup>b</sup> Revised since last report.

**BEEHIVE COKE.**

The production of beehive coke continues, as it has for some time, at a rate of approximately 190,000 tons a week. The total output in the week ended March 5 is estimated, subject to slight revision, at 187,000 tons, as against 189,000 tons in the preceding week.

*Estimated Production of Beehive Coke (Net Tons).*

	Week Ended—			1927 to Date. <sup>a</sup>	1926 to Date. <sup>a</sup>
	Mar. 5	Feb. 26	Mar. 6		
Pennsylvania & Ohio.....	150,000	148,000	210,000	1,349,000	2,464,000
West Virginia.....	18,000	18,000	17,000	153,000	156,000
Ala., Ky., Tenn. and Ga.....	6,000	7,000	19,000	56,000	192,000
Virginia.....	7,000	7,000	9,000	65,000	99,000
Colorado and New Mexico.....	3,000	4,000	6,000	38,000	51,000
Washington and Utah.....	3,000	5,000	4,000	36,000	36,000

United States total..... 187,000 189,000 265,000 1,697,000 2,998,000  
Daily average..... 31,000 32,000 44,000 31,000 55,000

<sup>a</sup> Minus one day's production first week in January to equalize number of days in the two years. <sup>b</sup> Subject to revision. <sup>c</sup> Revised since last report.

**Current Events and Discussions**

**The Week with the Federal Reserve Banks.**

Largely as a result of the Treasury's financial operations, the consolidated statement of condition of the Federal Reserve banks on March 16, made public by the Federal Reserve Board, and which deals with the results for the twelve Reserve banks combined, shows declines for the week of \$85,400,000 in holdings of discounted bills and of \$45,800,000 in acceptances purchased in open market, and increases of \$74,200,000 in member bank reserve deposits and of \$168,400,000 in Government securities, holdings of which included \$177,000,000 of temporary certificates issued by the Treasury to the Federal Reserve banks pending the collection of the quarterly installment of taxes. Total bill and security holdings increased \$37,200,000 during the week and cash reserves \$11,600,000, and Federal Reserve note circulation declined \$12,700,000. After noting these facts, the Federal Reserve Board proceeds as follows:

The New York Reserve Bank shows a decrease of \$63,600,000 in its discount holdings, Chicago a decrease of \$18,500,000, Boston \$10,100,000, San Francisco \$5,500,000, and Richmond \$3,400,000, while the Cleveland bank reports an increase in discounts of \$7,000,000, Atlanta an increase of \$2,900,000, and St. Louis and Kansas City increases of \$2,400,000 each. The New York bank also shows a decline of \$33,700,000 in open-market acceptance holdings, and Boston a decline of \$4,300,000.

Total holdings of Treasury notes were \$18,900,000 and of United States bonds \$7,000,000 below the previous week's totals, while holdings of Treasury certificates increased \$194,300,000. Of the increase in the latter item, \$111,000,000 represents temporary certificates issued by the Treasury to the New York bank and \$66,500,000 to seven other reserve banks, pending the collection of the quarterly installment of taxes.

All of the Federal Reserve banks report a smaller volume of Federal Reserve notes in circulation than a week ago, except Atlanta, which shows an increase of \$3,200,000, the principal decreases being: Cleveland, \$3,700,000, San Francisco \$2,600,000, and Chic ago \$2,500,000.

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 1635 and 1636. A summary of changes in the principal assets and liabilities of the Reserve banks during the week and the year ending March 16 1927 is as follows:

	Increases (+) or Decreases (—) During	
	Week.	Year.
Total reserves.....	+\$11,600,000	+\$220,200,000
Gold reserves.....	+11,100,000	+215,500,000
Total bills and securities.....	+37,200,000	—74,900,000
Bills discounted, total.....	—85,400,000	—150,100,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations.....	—64,600,000	—85,000,000
Other bills discounted.....	—20,800,000	—65,100,000
Bills bought in open market.....	—45,800,000	—38,300,000
U. S. Government securities, total.....	+168,400,000	+122,800,000
Bonds.....	—7,000,000	—5,500,000
Treasury notes.....	—18,900,000	—14,000,000
Certificates of indebtedness.....	+194,300,000	+142,300,000
Federal Reserve notes in circulation.....	—12,700,000	+47,000,000
Total deposits.....	+62,300,000	+58,400,000
Members' reserve deposits.....	+74,200,000	+65,000,000
Government deposits.....	—12,400,000	—4,300,000

**The Member Banks of the Federal Reserve System\*—  
Reports for Preceding Week—Brokers' Loans  
in New York City.**

The Federal Reserve Board's condition statement of 675 reporting member banks in leading cities as of March 9 1927, shows an increase of \$6,000,000 in investments and declines of \$16,000,000 in loans and discounts, \$43,000,000 in net demand deposits and \$13,000,000 in borrowings from the Federal Reserve banks. Member banks in New York City reported reductions of \$37,000,000 in loans and discounts and \$36,000,000 in net demand deposits, and an increase of \$8,000,000 in borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank.

Loans on stocks and bonds, including United States Government obligations, were \$47,000,000 below the March 2 total, declines of \$34,000,000 in the New York district and \$12,000,000 and \$6,000,000 in the San Francisco and Chicago districts, respectively, being offset in part by an increase of \$13,000,000 in the Cleveland district. "All other" loans and discounts increased \$31,000,000 during the week, of which \$14,000,000 was reported by banks in the San Francisco district and \$7,000,000 by banks in the Philadelphia district. Loans to brokers and dealers, secured by stocks and bonds, made by reporting member banks in New York City, were \$6,000,000 above the previous week's total, loans for their own account having declined \$52,000,000, while loans for out-of-town banks and for others increased \$40,000,000 and \$18,000,000, respectively. As explained in the footnote to this article, the figures for these member banks are always a week behind those for the Reserve banks themselves. The statement goes on to say:

Holdings of U. S. Government securities declined \$2,000,000, the larger decline of \$8,000,000 in the San Francisco district being nearly offset by small increases in other districts. Holdings of other bonds, stocks and securities were \$8,000,000 higher than a week ago, only relatively small changes being reported in any of the Reserve districts.

Net demand deposits were \$43,000,000 less than on March 2, the principal changes including declines of \$32,000,000 in the New York district, \$14,000,000 in the San Francisco district and \$7,000,000 in the Richmond district, and increases of \$9,000,000 and \$7,000,000 in the Philadelphia and Dallas districts, respectively.

Borrowings from the Federal Reserve banks declined \$13,000,000, an increase of \$7,000,000 in the Chicago district being more than offset by a reduction of \$10,000,000 in the San Francisco district and smaller reductions in the Cleveland and St. Louis districts.

On a subsequent page—that is, on page 1636—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.	Year.
Loans and discounts, total.....	-\$16,000,000	+\$366,000,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations.....	+11,000,000	-10,000,000
Secured by stocks and bonds.....	-58,000,000	+175,000,000
All other.....	+31,000,000	+201,000,000
Investments, total.....	+6,000,000	+162,000,000
U. S. securities.....	-2,000,000	-121,000,000
Other bonds, stocks and securities.....	+8,000,000	+283,000,000
Reserve balances with F. R. banks.....	-7,000,000	-9,000,000
Cash in vault.....	+14,000,000	-11,000,000
Net demand deposits.....	-43,000,000	+37,000,000
Time deposits.....	+15,000,000	+576,000,000
Government deposits.....	-12,000,000	-106,000,000
Total borrowings from F. R. banks.....	-13,000,000	-58,000,000

\* It is not possible for the Federal Reserve Board to issue the weekly returns of the member banks as promptly as the returns of the Federal Reserve banks themselves. Both cover the week ending with Wednesday's business, and the returns of the Federal Reserve banks are always given out after the close of business the next day (Thursday). The statement of the member banks, however, including as it does nearly 700 separate institutions, cannot be tabulated until several days later. Prior to the statement for the week ending May 19 1926, it was the practice to have them ready on Thursday of the following week and to give them out concurrently with the report of the Reserve banks for the next week. The Reserve authorities have now succeeded in expediting the time of the appearance of the figures, and they are made public the following week on Monday instead of on Thursday. Under this arrangement the report for the week ending March 9 was given out after the close of business on Monday of the present week.

### Summary of Conditions in World's Market According to Cablegrams and Other Reports of the Department of Commerce.

The Department of Commerce at Washington releases for publication to-day (March 19) the following summary of conditions abroad, based on advices by cable and other means of communication:

#### CANADA.

No features of special interest in trade conditions in Canada developed during the week ended March 9. There was a steady demand for all lines of foodstuffs and general groceries; hardware sales continued to gain. Wheat prices on the Winnipeg market reacted to the firm tone of foreign cables and the market for spring wheat flour was steady. The elevator capacity of Vancouver harbor will be increased to 7,000,000 bushels by an addition to elevator No. 3 of the Vancouver Harbor Board, which will raise its capacity from 600,000 to 1,000,000 bushels.

Plans have been announced in Winnipeg for the formation of the first grocery chain store movement in Western Canada. Several hundred stores from Port Arthur to the Pacific Coast will be linked in the new project, which, it is understood, will be a co-operative organization for purposes of buying and merchandising.

Canadian imports from the United States were larger in January and exports to the United States increased slightly, although total Canadian exports indicated a decline during the month.

The Canadian National RR.'s program for the next three years, recently submitted to the Ottawa House of Commons, contemplates the construction of 470 miles of railway at an estimated cost of \$19,120,000. Nine out of the sixteen lines proposed will be in Saskatchewan, mainly to assist in the development and colonization of the northern part of the Province.

Contracts for the construction of two new passenger ships to cost \$1,000,000 each have been awarded by the Canadian Steamship Lines, Ltd. They are planned to carry 500 passengers and 800 tons of freight.

#### GREAT BRITAIN.

The trade returns of the United Kingdom for the month of February show a fair degree of activity. Imports of iron and steel were much larger than in February 1926, and exports were considerably smaller, the British output of both of these products, however, was greater last month than during February 1926 and very much greater than during last January. Exports of machinery, cotton goods and vehicles also were considerably below the figures for the same month of last year. The aggregate of British coal exports during February was not far below the February 1926 volume. The coal markets continue generally firm with forward inquiries and orders more numerous. Coal production during the week ended Feb. 26 totaled 5,371,000 tons and the number of miners employed during the same period was 1,012,700. These figures represent a slight increase in both cases over those of the previous week. Foreign business recently arranged for include contracts for supplying 32,000 tons to the Algerian State railways, 20,000 tons to the Spanish railways and 100,000 tons to the Egyptian railways, all of which is to be Welsh coal. Prices of raw materials are becoming stabilized, but new demand still continues below expectations. The total number of work people appearing on the unemployment registers as of Feb. 28 was 1,169,500, compared with 1,336,500 on Jan. 31 and 1,169,000 at the end of February 1926.

#### FRANCE.

A slight improvement is evident in the general economic outlook in France as compared with the situation a month ago. Notwithstanding the slackness of the leather industry, a continued decline in iron and steel production and dullness in automobile production and sales, the industrial situation shows a slight relative improvement. Conditions in the money market are easy, but long-term investments are not favored. The parliamentary position of the Government continues strong. No advance has been made in connection with the Franco-German commercial treaty. Wholesale prices at the end of February advanced 10 points to 645, as compared with a month before. The Paris retail price index declined 7 points to 585. The number of persons officially reported as unemployed during the week ended March 5 totaled 90,240, of which 82,000 were receiving doles. This figure is lower than that of the previous week, seemingly indicating that the high peak of unemployment has passed. Conditions in most branches of the textile industry are less disturbing than a month ago, although the demand is still restricted and spotty. Industrial machinery is dull and practically no new orders are being received. Cereal crops are developing under favorable weather conditions.

#### GERMANY.

In general, German business maintained steady gains throughout February and, although coal production is gradually receding towards pre-strike figures, steel production has been mounting. The grains which were regis-

tered last fall in the textile industry have been held and cotton spinners are reported as being booked with orders throughout the summer. The past month also registered progress in the electrical, chemical and foodstuffs industries. It is apparent that the winter peak for unemployment has been definitely passed, while an early spring favors the development of an extensive building program. The latest statement of the Reichsbank showed the strong position of that institution, and savings deposits continued to increase. Stock quotations remained at a high level. The Leipzig Spring Fair, held from March 6 to March 12, showed generally satisfactory results with a practically unanimous opinion that total sales exceeded those of last year. Exhibitors of American products are said to have received a fair volume of business, and American vehicles, in particular, dominated the automotive section of the show.

#### SPAIN.

Speculative exchange operations are reflected in the large bank clearings. Foreign banks have increased their peseta balances and the Madrid banks have doubled their normal amounts, which funds are not to be used for commercial purposes. The bank clearings of Madrid during the first two months were more than double the total clearings for the year 1923, and amounted to over 50% of the total clearings for 1925. The financial market was characterized by the firmness of Government securities and railway, bank and metallurgical shares were strong as a result of the earnings of these industries during 1926. The upward movement of the peseta against the dollar has resulted in an advantage for American exporters. The Bank of Spain has shown an increase in its gold reserves, and in this connection it is rumored that a lower discount rate is contemplated. Call rates at Madrid have been reduced from 5% to 3½%. Bankers report renewed confidence and increased turnover. A slight improvement is noticeable in the business situation and credits are easier, protests less frequent and money flows more freely. Various bank statements show large earnings during 1926. Improvement is noted in the textile and shoe industries. The olive oil, orange and rice groups also showed improvement.

#### FINLAND.

Trade in Finland during January continued fairly active, despite unsatisfactory ice conditions in the Gulf of Finland, which have tended to retard shipping activities. Both imports and exports were considerably lower than during December, but were higher than during January of 1926. The seasonal decline in activities in the export industries continued throughout January. The noticeable activity in the lumber sales for 1927 delivery has declined somewhat and the market was quiet during the month. Shipments during January were far below those of December, but the decline is seasonal. Advance sales of timber for 1927 have reached nearly 70% of the estimated production of the year. The level of prices is unchanged, although quotations are slightly above those of last year. The plywood industry is encountering vigorous Russian competition. The paper market continues slightly weak, but advance sales have been normal, although at less satisfactory prices. A tendency toward falling prices has been observed on the cellulose market. The money market continued easy during January. Foreign exchange holdings showed a slight decline during the month. The note circulation also declined slightly and loans at the State bank showed a further decline. Rediscounts at the State bank showed a sharp decline from 87,000,000 marks to 54,000,000 marks. Loans and discounts at the commercial banks rose slightly to a total of 7,199,000,000 marks at the end of January.

#### NORWAY.

Wage negotiations are being carried on in many branches of Norwegian industry. Employers, it is said, assert that wages must be reduced about 25 to 30% if production costs are to be lowered sufficiently to permit competition with articles of foreign manufacture. The unions have declared themselves unwilling to accept a reduction of 6.7%, which is based on the general price index. The number of idle workers remains very high and, in addition, a great number of those that are employed, work only part time. Both industry and labor are finding it difficult to adjust themselves to the rapid rise in the value of the crown. It is the consensus of local opinion that a pronounced drop in prices might be sufficient to cause increased activity in trade and industry, as it is felt that banks now have sufficient means available to increase their financial activities.

#### SWEDEN.

The trend of Swedish business is reflected by official estimates of the amount of Swedish capital placed abroad during 1926—a total of 102,000,000 crowns, about 50% more than during 1925. It is also estimated that the export of capital exceeded the import of capital during 1926 by about 50,000,000 crowns. Sweden's 15 largest banks earned about 50,000,000 crowns during 1926, practically the same as during the preceding year. The lumber outlook remains good. Trade with Great Britain has, in general, been improving steadily and Russian stocks in that market are practically sold out, showing greater activity, and this reflects a better demand for lumber. The consumption outlook for Germany and Belgium is reported to be better than it was at this time last year.

#### DENMARK.

Danish industries continue to operate under difficult conditions and prospects for improvement in the near future are not reported to be bright, especially inasmuch as the Government's crisis relief proposals did not afford the desired and anticipated assistance. Agriculture has been confronted with difficulties in the sale of butter, its most important export item, because prices have fallen to such an extent that it has been necessary to sell this product in other than German and English markets at low prices, chiefly the United States, Norway, Belgium and France. Danish agriculturists are endeavoring to get a reduction of customs duties on some of their exports, chiefly meats, to Germany. The 1926 sugar beet crop was exceedingly favorable, and it is expected locally that enough sugar will be procured to meet Denmark's needs during the year.

#### LITHUANIA.

The 1926 budget has been realized with a surplus of about 12,000,000 lits. Although indirect taxation, such as the monopoly administration, shows a deficit of about 3,000,000 lits, yet the economies effected in expenditures and other direct and indirect taxes, such as customs duties, have resulted in the realization of this surplus. On Feb. 1 1927 the cash balance in the State Treasury totaled 26,000,000 lits. The budget for 1927 which was passed by Parliament on Dec. 31 1926 was originally balanced at 227,426,000 lits, which was 14,509,000 lits lower than the 1926 budget. Before final passage further reductions were effected, but final details are not available.

#### POLAND.

The Council of Ministers has approved the Presidential decree issued at the recommendation of the Minister of Finance, authorizing the repayment in full of deposits made in Polish savings institutions, which were wiped out by the depreciation of the former Polish mark. The decree provides for the valorization of such deposits in gold zlotys, on the basis of the amount of American dollars actually deposited and will be converted at the rate of 5.185 zloty to the dollar, with the addition of interest at the

rate of 3% per annum from May 1 1924 to Nov. 1 1926. The decree will, it is said, benefit a large number of Polish-Americans resident in the United States, whose deposits have been considered as swept away by the depreciation of the Polish mark prior to 1923.

The reduction of the official discount rate twice within less than a month, coupled with the continuing improvement in the money market, resulted in a drop in the private discount rates from 1½ to 1¼% per month for commercial paper issued in dollars, and from 1¾ to 2% per month for zloty paper, as compared with from 2 to 3% per month less than two months ago. The salutary effect of the stability of the zloty around the present level of about 9 zlotys to the dollar for the last several months has been reflected in the practical elimination of the wide spread—in the discount rates for dollar and zloty paper.

Preliminary figures of State revenues and expenditures for January indicate a surplus of about 19,000,000 zlotys, the principal revenue groups, with the exception of the property tax, having shown excesses over the budgetary estimates ranging between 5 and 7%.

## AUSTRIA.

During the year 1926 approximately 153,000,000 schillings (\$21,800,000) were paid out in the form of unemployment doles in Austria, according to a statement of the Minister for Social Welfare. Of this total 118,000,000 schillings was contributed by the employers and the trade unions on approximately equal basis, according to the provisions of the law; the Federal Government contributed 26,000,000 schillings, partially in the form of an advance to be repaid later. The provincial governments paid 4,800,000 and the municipalities 4,300,000 schillings. The above sum includes also so-called "extraordinary relief." The average number of unemployed for the entire year is calculated at 176,000.

## GREECE.

On March 10 a tradesmen's strike was held in protest against the proposed lifting of the rent moratorium. As the Government refused to consider the demands of the tradesmen so long as the strike was continued, it was suspended pending a reply from the Government. During the week indemnification bonds weakened to 560 drachmas. Telegraphic instructions have been sent to all Greek custom houses to enforce the higher duties on flour and wheat recently imposed.

## JAPAN.

Damage from the earthquake in Japan, which occurred on March 7 in the Kobe and Osaka districts, has not affected business and exchange. The silk market continues weak with little immediate improvement in sight. On March 9 the Bank of Japan further reduced its discount and interest rates on commercial drafts. It is now generally conceded in Japan that there will be no radical change in the tariff on any commodity this year.

## CHINA.

North China business is proceeding with extreme caution. Trade circles are awaiting with anxiety the outcome of the struggle between the Northern and Southern factions, which they consider is now reaching a critical stage in the Yangtze Valley. North China industrial organizations are said to anticipate serious labor troubles should the Southern forces achieve further success. However, stocks of all import commodities are low throughout the entire area, and it is anticipated locally that there will be a great deal of ordering in many lines should the merchants become convinced that there is no immediate likelihood of strike demonstrations and disorders interfering with business.

There has been no recent improvement in railway transportation, but the waterways are open again and land routes are in fair condition for cart transportation. The money market in North China is now free from restrictions as to the movement of silver between banks and for business purposes. Interest rates, therefore, are normal, but due to political and military uncertainties credit is very restricted.

The situation at Shanghai remains still full of uncertainties, as is that of the whole Yangtze region. The nationalist army is showing strong determination to take Nanking as preliminary to obtaining control of Shanghai, and business circles anticipate the likelihood of a general strike in the event of nationalist success. Declared merchandise exports from all China during January totaled 15,200,000 as compared with \$12,300,000 for January of last year.

## PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Leading export markets were quiet during the week ended March 11. Copra trade was quieter, chiefly as a result of weakness in the oil market of the United States. Arrivals at Manila declined further, though all mills continued to operate. The provincial equivalent of resocado (dried copra) delivered Manila is now 12¼ pesos per picul of 139 pounds (1 peso equals 50c.). The abaca trade of the week was possibly slightly advanced, but there was still very little business transacted. Production was low, but heavier arrivals are expected next week. Grade F is now quoted at from 36 to 36.50 pesos per picul; I from 32 to 32.50; JUS, 23; JUK, 21.50, and L, 20.50.

## NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES.

Business during the week ended March 12 was generally good. Weather conditions are favorable for the new crops. This is important as the first few months of the year are in between major crop seasons and weather conditions at the present time have an important bearing on the harvesting of rice and sugar, which occurs in about six weeks. January exports of rubber totaled 21,430 long tons, of which 4,184 were shipped from Java, 13,424 from Sumatra and 3,822 from the remaining islands of Netherlands India.

## INDIA.

India's total exports for the month of January of the current year were valued at 272,800,000 rupees, with imports amounting to 208,600,000 rupees, leaving a favorable trade balance of 64,200,000 rupees. Exports were 30,800,000 rupees higher than for the preceding month of December, but were 73,200,000 rupees less than in January 1926, while imports showed an increase of 43,300,000 rupees over December 1926, but a decrease of 16,400,000 rupees from January of a year ago.

There was a heavy decline in the quantity of raw cotton exported in January of the present year as compared with January of a year ago—80,000 tons and 96,500 tons, respectively—but an increase of 53,000 tons over the 27,000 tons of this commodity exported in December 1926. Wheat and flour exports varied little as to quantities from those of the previous January.

Imports of unbleached cotton piece goods were less by 21,000,000 yards than in January of a year ago—61,000,000 as against 82,880,000—while imports of bleached and colored piece goods showed substantial increases. Imports of aniline dyes were 51% heavier in January 1927 than in January 1926. Electrical equipment imports showed a large increase, but imports of machinery other than electrical, galvanized iron sheets and of sugar, were considerably lower.

The railway strike recently reported has been settled, and all markets are steady.

## AUSTRALIA.

Ten of the northern coal mines of New South Wales are again idle. Trouble has arisen over questions of housing and inspection of collieries. Strong opposition is developing in the Federal Parliament over the States Grants Bill, which proposed payment by the Commonwealth to the States of all land and entertainment taxes and estate duties, with an additional 40% of income tax collections. The wheat market is slightly improved and fair quantities of wheat are moving at 5s. 1½d. ex-trucks Sydney. Wool sales in the Sydney market continue firm. The season's record price for super wool in Melbourne sales was 44¼d.

## ARGENTINA.

For the first time in seven years the Argentine peso is now quoted above par as a result of the exceptionally large export movement. Exports in January and February increased approximately \$41,500,000 over the total for those months in 1926. The dull summer season is ended and a slight increase in retail business is evident. Total Argentine trade-mark registrations have been in excess of the 100,000 mark, thus placing Argentina among the leading nations in world registrations; this is an indication of the trend of foreign manufacturing nations toward Argentina as an export market.

## BRAZIL.

Brazilian coffee markets are dull and exports low, but prices remain firm. Exchange continues stable and apparently the consensus of opinion in Rio is that there will be no immediate appreciation. A change in the management and control of the Banco do Brasil in the near future is said to be probable. Statistics of revenue derived from the Federal income tax just published indicate a total collection for the fourteen months since January 1926 of approximately \$4,700,000, which represents a large decline when compared with the estimated receipts of \$7,720,000 from this source for the calendar year along of 1926.

## PERU.

The tax collection bill, which provides the machinery of operation for the income tax law, has passed both Houses of the Peruvian Congress and is now before the President for signature. As the income tax law levies additional taxes on exports of metallic minerals and assesses the profits of commercial and industrial organizations as well as taking private incomes, it is expected in Peru that greatly increased revenues will accrue to the Treasury. The revenue and exchange factors which the emergency import tariff law was designed to protect will be taken care of under the new method of tax collection. Income tax exports from the United States have been engaged to assist in the organization of the collecting agency and are now in Peru. It is expected locally that the delayed negotiations for a \$10,000,000 loan with American bankers can now be concluded. The trend of Congressional discussion, which apparently has strong public support, indicates the early repeal of the emergency tariff law.

## MEXICO.

Although business has been greatly depressed for some time, it showed a tendency to be still more restricted during the week ended March 10 1927. Owing to the damages suffered by the wheat crop, making importations of large quantities necessary, a decree was recently published granting permission to import wheat free of duty up to 60,000 tons. This decree was amended by one published on March 10, which provided that only flour mills may import wheat without the payment of duty. Application for such permission must be made to the Treasury office in the district where the mill is located.

## HONDURAS.

Business throughout the Republic of Honduras continues dull. During the past four weeks there has been a slight recovery on the north coast following the opening of the sugar grinding season, which usually begins about Feb. 15. February banana shipments to the United States increased from 1,061,163 stems in 1926 to 1,075,000 in 1927. Although the exports increased in February, the banana shipments of 719,500 stems in January were the lowest since February 1925.

The exchange rate continues firm at 2 pesos 16 centavos to the dollar. Exchange at par is 2 pesos to the dollar. The present session of Congress has been extended forty days from March 1, in order to consider unfinished legislation, including action upon the national budget, new tariff law and a new concession carrying extended railway construction and irrigation developments on the north coast.

## PANAMA.

Business conditions in Panama during the week ended March 11 should show no improvement over the preceding week, although the month's trend was somewhat more favorable, principally due to the presence of certain vessels of the American fleet. Work on the Ciriqui railway extension is progressing slowly, owing to the shortage of labor. The Boquete region in the Province of Ciriqui is shipping coffee. The tariff bill was vetoed. This bill would have authorized the President to modify the duties upon articles as he may have designated from time to time, within the limits fixed by law or to re-establish the rates of duty prevailing before the passage of the new law when the local production of a protected commodity was insufficient to supply the needs of the local market.

## PORTO RICO.

General business conditions in Porto Rico for the week ended March 11 continue to show the gradual improvement manifested during recent weeks. The general situation is averaging slightly above that for the same period of 1926 and the economic outlook is better. Weather conditions continue generally favorable to growing crops, although abnormal rainfall in some sections is delaying cane harvesting, while in other areas a lack of sufficient precipitation has damaged new plantings of various crops. A preliminary local estimate of the current tobacco crop places the expected yield at approximately 51,000,000 pounds. Grapefruit prices were slightly stronger, and further gains in prices and increased shipments are expected in the next few weeks. The grapefruit yield is estimated to be slightly below that of 1925-26, which was approximately 1,000,000 boxes. Textile sales and stocks were normal. The consumers' demand for builders' hardware, plumbing supplies and small tools was normal, although spotty, throughout the island, while nearly all wholesalers, retailers and jobbers in these lines are overstocked. European competition in cement, barbed wire, wire nails and bars for reinforced concrete, continued active. Shipments from Porto Rico to the United States during February 1927 amounted to \$10,637,000.

## Stock of Money in the Country.

The Treasury Department at Washington has 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 member banks of the Federal Reserve System) was \$4,778,887,039, as against \$4,712,945,440 Feb. 1 1927

and \$4,814,217,046 March 1 1926, 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:

CIRCULATION STATEMENT OF UNITED STATES MONEY—MARCH 1 1927.

KIND OF MONEY	Stock of Money. a	MONEY HELD IN THE TREASURY.					MONEY OUTSIDE OF THE TREASURY.					Population of Continental United States (Estimated).
		Total.	Amt. Held in Trust Against Gold & Silver Certificates (& Treas'y Notes of 1890).	Res'v'e Against United States Notes (and Treasury Notes of 1890).	Held for Federal Reserve Banks and Agents.	All Other Money.	Total.	Held by Federal Reserve Banks and Agents. f	In Circulation.			
									Amount.	Per Capita.		
Gold coin and bullion.....	\$ 4,585,787,383	\$ 3,690,874,324	\$ 1,662,793,699	\$ 155,420,721	\$ 1,700,112,931	\$ 172,546,973	\$ 894,913,059	\$ 501,046,253	\$ 393,866,806	\$ 3.38		
Gold certifs....	c(1,662,793,699)						1,662,793,699	628,039,590	1,034,754,109	8.89		
Stan. silv. doll's	534,991,184	470,661,553	465,218,779			5,442,774	64,329,631	15,136,665	49,192,966	.42		
Silver certifs....	c(463,883,975)						463,883,975	87,045,333	376,838,642	3.24		
Treasury notes of 1890.....	c(1,334,804)											
Subsid'y silver.....	296,305,463	4,822,298					1,334,804		1,334,804	.01		
U. S. notes.....	346,681,016	3,519,330				4,822,298	291,483,165	20,195,371	271,287,794	2.33		
F. R. notes.....	2,072,223,380	1,111,724				3,519,330	343,161,686	51,573,632	291,588,054	2.50		
F. R. bank notes.....	4,950,648	48,024				1,111,724	2,071,111,656	361,304,309	1,709,807,347	14.68		
Nat. bank notes.....	697,191,424	12,819,648				48,024	4,902,624	54,753	4,847,871	.04		
						12,819,648	684,371,776	39,003,130	645,368,646	5.54		
<b>Total Mar. 1 '27</b>	<b>8,538,130,498</b>	<b>4,183,856,901</b>	<b>2,128,012,478</b>	<b>155,420,721</b>	<b>1,700,112,931</b>	<b>200,310,771</b>	<b>6,482,286,075</b>	<b>1,703,399,036</b>	<b>4,778,887,039</b>	<b>41.03</b>	<b>116,469,000</b>	
<b>Comparative totals:</b>												
Feb. 1 1927.....	8,508,172,654	4,177,684,363	2,132,574,480	155,420,721	1,694,320,831	195,368,331	6,463,062,771	1,750,117,331	4,712,945,440	40.51	116,351,000	
Mar. 1 1926.....	8,331,020,801	4,192,874,164	2,147,780,383	154,188,886	1,652,888,335	238,016,560	6,285,927,020	1,471,709,974	4,814,217,046	41.84	115,049,000	
Nov. 1 1920.....	8,326,338,267	4,206,801,772	696,854,226	152,979,026	1,206,341,990	350,626,530	6,616,390,721	987,962,989	5,628,427,732	52.36	107,491,000	
Apr. 1 1917.....	5,312,109,272	4,942,998,527	2,684,800,085	152,979,026		105,219,416	5,053,910,830	953,320,126	4,100,590,704	39.54	103,716,000	
July 1 1914.....	3,738,288,871	4,843,452,323	1,507,178,879	150,000,000		186,273,444	3,402,015,427		3,402,015,427	34.35	99,027,000	
Jan. 1 1879.....	1,007,084,483	212,420,402	21,602,640	100,000,000		90,817,762	816,266,721		816,266,721	16.92	48,281,000	

a Includes United States paper currency in circulation in foreign countries and the amount held by the Cuban agency of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.

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 \$13,447,642 of notes in process of redemption, \$146,343,170 of gold deposited for redemption of Federal Reserve notes, \$14,063,621 deposited for redemption of national bank notes, \$2,830 deposited for retirement of additional circulation (Act of May 30 1908), and \$6,421,200 deposited as a reserve against postal savings deposits.

f Includes money held by the Cuban agency of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.

Note.—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 \$155,420,721 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.

**French Debt Requirements Covered by Dawes Payments.**

According to a wireless message from Paris to the "Times" March 13 (copyright) the Paris market considers that up to the present time the Dawes Plan has worked out satisfactorily. The message adds:

The mechanism at present provided and the gradual payments resulting from the agreements in force would permit France, according to estimates in the Paris banking community, to discharge without drawing on its own resources all engagements under the as yet unratified agreements with England and the United States concerning debt repayment.

It is pointed out that the French share of Germany's payments has thus far exceeded the amount required to make up the annual installments which would contingently be payable to the British and American Treasuries. This surplus would, under the existing Dawes arrangement, never fall below 480,000,000 gold marks. It has at times exceeded it.

**French Treasury's Growing Strength—Proceeds of Foreign Borrowings Now Used to Reduce Bank's Loans to State.**

The following observations are contained in special advices to the "Times" from Paris, March 13:

The Treasury's position continues to improve with each successive week. During the past two months the Treasury has negotiated at the Bank of France the proceeds of foreign borrowings, for which the bank supplied the Treasury with francs by crediting the State's account, thereby reducing its advances to the Treasury. These reductions, therefore, represent in the main borrowings rather than surplus budget receipts.

Such a surplus could not indeed be forthcoming at a period when collection of the direct taxes always brings in reduced receipts. It is even considered likely that budget expenditure is at the moment greater than receipts and that this position will continue for a few months longer, or until the current year's income taxes are collected. But in view of the reserves held by the

Treasury, this position causes no immediate anxiety. The resources of the Caisse d'Amortissement, which are included in this account, have again been increased and now aggregate 12,000,000,000 francs.

**French Bank Buyer of Foreign Exchange—Has to Sell Francs to Take Up Foreign Bills—Increased Note Issue.**

Noting that the Bank of France continues to regulate the exchange market, a wireless message (copyright) to the "Times" from Paris, March 13, stated:

Last week it was confronted with more offers of foreign exchange, which it was obliged to absorb through selling francs. Nevertheless, the rate for francs was not greatly influenced by any tendency of the market and francs moved within narrow limits.

The increase of 301,000,000 in note circulation shown by the Bank statement of Thursday attracted no particular comment, being ascribed to belated end-of-the-month bookkeeping entries in the provincial branches. More attention was paid to the continuing reduction in advances from the Bank to the Treasury, which were cut down 200,000,000 francs during the week and which now aggregate 29,300,000,000 francs, as compared with 36,000,000,000 francs at the end of last year.

**Dawes Plan Efficacy is Doubted in Berlin—Foreign Tariffs an Obstacle.**

A Berlin cablegram March 13 (copyright) is quoted as follows from the "Times":

In the course of the discussion on the ultimate practicability of the Dawes plan revived by Henry Robinson's recent publication of his views, expert judgment here is interesting. Opinions recently published take the ground that developments in Germany's export trade do not promise any speedy settlement of the transfer problem.

The Disconto Bank's monthly report criticizes Parker Gilbert's calculation in his statement of Nov. 30 as to the transferable surplus arising from German exports and payments for services. It declares that foreign protectionism makes it impossible to increase German exports beyond a certain limit. The well-known economist, Dr. Walthour Sulzbach, declares that reparations payments must be effected through a process of industrial adaptation to the needs of the situation, both in Germany and the Allied country concerned; also that as a result of expenditure of energy on such deliveries, the Allies will gain much less than Germany loses.

He predicts that the increased export movement from Germany will end by ruining many individual manufacturers in the Allied countries.

**New Conversion Rate Proposed in Greece—Bill Would Change from Metallic to Paper Drachmas on Duty Payments.**

The following is from the United States Daily of March 11:

A bill has been introduced in the Greek Parliament which provides for an increase in the conversion rate of metallic to paper drachmas for the payment of import duties on wheat and flour, and for the establishment of two qualities of bread, according to a cablegram received by the Department of Commerce from Commercial Attache Gardner Richardson at Athens. The full description of the plan, as contained in an announcement is as follows:

The conversion rate for wheat is increased from 5 to 8.5 and the conversion rate for flour is increased from 6.25 to 14. This means an increase in the import duty on wheat from 30 paper drachmas to 51 paper drachmas per 100 kilos, and an increase in the import duty on flour from 56.25 paper drachmas to 135 paper drachmas per 100 kilos. Pending the adoption by Parliament, the new rates became effective on March 2. Shipments under way or ordered before March 1 will be permitted entry at the former rates.

It is reported that the new regulations constitute practically complete exclusion of imported flour, and that there is strong opposition in Greece to the proposed measures.

**War Speeches Set Russians to Hoarding—Prices Rise.**

The extent of the panic throughout Soviet Russia which followed the recent "war danger campaign" is only now becoming apparent in Moscow and Leningrad, so says a copyright message to the New York "Times" from Riga, March 14, which also has the following to say:

The belligerent speeches delivered in January and February by Rykoff, Voroschiloff, Kallinin, Bulcharin and other leaders so greatly alarmed the masses that they began to hoard foodstuffs, clothing and other things, thus completely neutralizing the efforts to reduce prices.

The authorities issued decree after decree, threatening dire penalties, but prices continued to soar owing to the general scarcity of food products. In many cases the scarcity was quite artificial. This was particularly true of salt, of which Russia has abundant supplies. Nevertheless, a widespread "salt famine" is now officially acknowledged and the Commissariat of Trade has issued "emergency instructions" to alleviate hardships and reduce the "unprecedented demand."

"Ekonomiticheskaya Zhizn," organ of the Council of Labor and Defense, states that the demand for salt is due chiefly to the rumors of war, which produced extreme tension in the salt market, and owing to the spring thaw it is impossible to supply many districts.

Kallinin, Voroshiloff and others now are busy attempting to remove the impression of their own recent utterances. They declare that, although war between Soviet Russia and capitalist countries is certainly inevitable it will not occur this year, and the masses must continue their daily occupations without fear or excitement while the Soviet Government strengthens the Red Army and auxiliary forces for the coming, though not immediate, armed clash.

**G. W. Stephens Quits Saar Commission—Canadian Chairman Resigns Inexplicably, Forcing Vital Problem.**

Associated Press advices from Geneva, Switzerland, Feb. 18, stated:

George Washington Stephens of Montreal has resigned the Presidency of the Saar Valley Governing Commission to which post he was appointed last March.

No reason was given for the resignation, which is regarded as bringing a delicate Franco-German question before the March session of the League Council.

**Dec. 31 Figures of Chartered Banks of Canada.**

The statement of the Chartered Banks for Dec. 31 1926 shows a slight seasonal diminution in both assets and liabilities, according to the March number of the Monthly Review of the Bank of Nova Scotia, which gives as follows the principal items:

	Dec. 31 1926.	Nov. 30 1926.	Dec. 31 1925.
<b>Assets—</b>			
Cash, clearings and bank balances.....	\$457,500,000	\$464,800,000	\$482,600,000
Securities.....	483,600,000	480,700,000	549,600,000
Call Loans—Canada.....	150,900,000	141,400,000	135,700,000
Call Loans—Abroad.....	272,600,000	288,900,000	258,600,000
Current Loans—Canada.....	970,000,000	935,400,000	903,300,000
Current Loans—Abroad.....	269,600,000	241,300,000	238,500,000
Total assets.....	2,939,900,000	2,950,400,000	2,896,100,000
<b>Liabilities—</b>			
Notes outstanding.....	175,100,000	177,800,000	173,900,000
Demand deposits—Canada.....	608,900,000	602,900,000	597,400,000
Notice deposits—Canada.....	1,372,800,000	1,367,300,000	1,318,900,000
Deposits abroad.....	334,500,000	351,300,000	353,800,000
Total liabilities.....	2,925,600,000	2,938,600,000	2,883,600,000

The bank adds:

In comparing the position of the banks in December 1926 with that of December 1925, a slight, but interesting change will be noticed in the distribution of their resources. This change is shown in the following figures, which state the percentage of total assets held under each of the principal headings at both dates:

	December 1926.	December 1925.
Cash, clearings and bank balances.....	15.6	16.7
Securities.....	16.5	19.0
Call loans—Canada.....	5.1	4.7
Call loans—Abroad.....	9.3	8.9
Current loans—Canada.....	33.0	31.2
Current loans—Abroad.....	9.2	8.2

In so far as this change has significance, it indicates that the banks have slightly diminished their holdings of cash and securities and increased the proportion of their resources devoted to the direct financing of business activities through current loans.

**Japanese Internal Loan.**

The following is from the "Wall Street Journal" of last night (March 18):

Japanese Government has issued a new 13,000,000 yen internal loan, to be known as 5% loan Mark "Mo," dated March 18, at 86.60, non-callable for five years and redeemable within 50 years thereafter. It is issued for railroad construction, in accordance with Article 2 of the Imperial Railroad Accounting Act 13. The loan was wholly subscribed by funds in the Government Deposit Bureau.

**Japanese Bank Closed.**

A Tokio cablegram March 17 to the "New York News Bureau" from the "Central News" says:

The Watanabe Bank with deposits of £3,700,000 has closed. The bank's property was affected to a value of £600,000 by the earthquake. A number of institutions admit that the situation is increasingly delicate. It is believed that the Japanese Government will be forced to re-establish the failed bank.

**Forms New Austrian Bank—Harriman Company Reported as Chief Backer of \$4,000,000 Investment Company.**

The following Vienna advices March 11 (copyright) appeared in the New York "Times" of March 12:

The formation of a Central European investment company, backed chiefly by the Harriman Co. of New York, with a capital of \$4,000,000, is announced to-day.

The aim of the company is chiefly to purchase gilt-edged Austrian and other Continental stocks, make loans and place bonds in the American market. It is understood that the company is especially interested in magnesite properties in Styria.

Smaller stockholders of the company include the Bank of Brussels, the Union of European Industrials and Financiers in Paris and the Discount Bank of Geneva.

William A. Harriman of New York and Irving Nossi, general European representative of the Harrimans in Berlin, are the board of directors.

**Report on Bombay Bullion Market Shows Gold and Silver Purchased for Hoarding—Absorption of Metal Said to Be in Response to Demand for Social and Ornamental Use.**

The enormous amount of gold and silver which finds its way each year into India is disclosed in a report on the Bombay bullion market just released by the Department of Commerce, says the "United States Daily" of March 10, which gives the full text of the statement as follows:

During the past five years India has absorbed annually 6,000,000 ounces of gold and 90,000,000 ounces of silver, representing respectively 4 and 30% of the world's annual output of these metals. Estimates place India's present holdings of gold at 125,000,000 ounces valued at \$2,500,000,000 while its silver holdings approximate 4,216,000,000 ounces which at current values represent \$2,750,000,000.

Of India's imports of treasure, gold at present about 70% and silver 30%. About one-fourth of the demand for gold is in the form of sovereigns and other gold coins. The coins are for purely ornamental uses, however, as there is no circulation of gold as currency and no minting of gold. The remainder of the demand is for gold bullion—mostly in the form of standard gold bars—for hoarding and for conversion into ornaments.

*No Demand for Coinage.*

In its reserves the Government of India keeps gold coin and gold bullion, the balance at present amounting to more than 5,250,000 ounces. Because of the great accumulation of silver currency in India, there is no demand for silver for coinage and likewise no demand for the metal as reserves. Accordingly all the absorption is in response to the demand for bullion for social and ornamental uses.

Gold and silver are consumed in huge quantities in India for hoarding, either as bullion or in the form of ornaments and there is also a large use of the precious metals in the arts. The factors governing the tendency to hoard, are many and varied and are bound up with the whole history and tradition of the people, with the economic and social organization of the country, and with the still primitive financial system. It may therefore be expected that the hoarding habit will continue indefinitely to be the largest factor in the Indian bullion market and any changes that take place will be slow.

India's supply of gold is obtained chiefly from imports as the domestic production is negligible. Most of the sovereigns bought are obtained in London, while practically all of the bar gold is now purchased in Durban, South Africa. The bulk of the silver also is from London. For a time silver was obtained largely in New York, but the financial advantages commanded by London have resulted in a reversion to the prewar condition when all of the North American silver sold in India was marketed through the British capital.

*Bombay Center of Trade.*

Bombay is the center of India's bullion trade and one of the great bullion markets of the world, rivaling Shanghai in importance. The Bombay market is a highly developed one, involving banks, brokers, importers, wholesalers and retailers, and it is organized around the Bombay Bullion Exchange, an association of the principal native dealers which regulates the trading in gold and silver. All transactions in gold and silver are cleared in a monthly settlement—a system which lends itself readily to speculation. There are occasional "corners" and "squeezes" but the former is a difficult and dangerous operation and is rarely wholly successful.

**Offering of \$15,000,000 7% Gold Bonds of Republic of Peru—Books Closed—Issue Oversubscribed.**

At 96½ and accrued interest, to yield an average of 7.48%, an issue of \$15,000,000 Republic of Peru secured 7% sinking fund gold bonds of 1927 were offered on March 16 by J. & W. Seligman & Co., the National City Co., E. H. Rollins & Sons, Graham, Parsons & Co., F. J. Lisman & Co. and Ames, Emerich & Co., Inc. It was announced shortly after the opening of the subscriptions that the books had been closed and the bonds oversubscribed. A substantial amount of the issue was reserved for sale in Europe, through Seligman Brothers, and the National City Co., London, and through Pierson & Co., Netherlands Trading Co. and Mendelssohn & Co., Amsterdam. The proceeds of the loan will be used to the extent of approximately \$3,000,000 to retire outstanding indebtedness, and the balance for the purchase of machinery and plants for the manufacture of tobacco products and for construction of railroads and irrigation and sewage systems. The offering circular says:

These bonds will be the direct obligation of the Republic and, after the retirement out of the proceeds of this loan of the \$3,000,000 indebtedness above mentioned, will be secured by a first lien on the gross revenues of the Government tobacco monopoly. These bonds will be the first series of an authorized issue of \$5,000,000 sterling or the equivalent in dollars, \$24,332,500, at par of exchange. Bonds of other series may not be issued

to mature prior to these bonds, nor unless the gross tobacco revenues during the three years immediately preceding shall have averaged, and for the year immediately preceding shall have equaled, at least one and one-half times the maximum service charges on all the bonds to be outstanding.

The bonds will be dated March 1 1927 and will become due Sept. 1 1959. They will be redeemable on any interest date, in whole or in part, at 105 and accrued interest. A cumulative sinking fund will be provided, calculated to retire all these bonds by maturity through semi-annual drawings at 105 and accrued interest. The issue will be in the form of coupon bearer bonds in interchangeable denominations of \$1,000 and \$500. Principal, premium and interest (March 1 and Sept. 1) will be payable in United States gold coin of the present standard of weight and fineness, in New York City at the office of J. & W. Seligman & Co., fiscal agents, free from any Peruvian taxes present or future. The Central Union Trust Co. of New York is trustee. According to M. G. Masias, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Peru, the revenues pledged to secure these bonds averaged annually for the three years from 1924 to 1926, inclusive, £P1,077,957, equivalent to \$4,279,490 at the average rate of exchange prevailing during the period (\$3.97 per Peruvian pound). This sum, it is stated, is more than 3½ times the annual interest and sinking fund requirements on these bonds. Interim receipts or temporary bonds will be deliverable in the first instance. Application will be made to list the bonds on the New York Stock Exchange.

#### Peruvian Loan at Amsterdam.

An Amsterdam cablegram, March 18, to the New York News Bureau from the Central News, stated: "Issue is being made here of \$1,500,000 7% debentures of the Republic of Peru," forming part of a total of \$15,000,000.

#### Offering of \$6,000,000 7% Sinking Fund Gold Bonds of State of Pernambuco (U. S. of Brazil) Books Closed—Issue Oversubscribed.

An issue of \$6,000,000 State of Pernambuco (United States of Brazil) 7% external secured sinking fund gold bonds was offered on March 16 by White, Weld & Co. and the First National Corporation of Boston at 97¾ and accrued interest, yielding over 7.20%. The oversubscription of the bonds and the closing of the books was announced early in the day. The financing, it is stated, represents the first in behalf of Pernambuco in this country. The proceeds of the loan are to be applied chiefly to the construction and equipment of wharves, docks, warehouses and other works in the Port of Pernambuco, and to the payment of certain debts of the State already contracted for this purpose. The bonds, which are part of a total authorized issue of \$8,000,000, will be dated March 1 1927 and will mature March 1 1947. They will not be redeemable before March 1 1932 except for sinking fund. They will be redeemable as a whole on March 1 1932, or any interest date thereafter at 100% and interest upon 60 days' notice. The sinking fund, operating semi-annually, is calculated to retire the entire issue by maturity through purchase up to 100 and interest or redemption by lot at that price. The bonds, coupon, in denominations of \$1,000 and \$500, will be registerable as to principal. Principal and interest (Mar. 1 and Sept. 1) will be payable at the office of White, Weld & Co., New York, paying agents, in United States gold coin of the present standard of weight and fineness, without deduction for any Brazilian national, State or local taxes, present or future. Information from Dr. Estacio Coimbra, Governor of the State, and other sources, regarding the security, etc., states:

#### Security.

These bonds will be the direct obligation of the State of Pernambuco and will be specifically secured by (a) first lien and charge on the payment by the Federal Government of Brazil to the State in respect of a 2% gold tax on imports through the Port of Pernambuco; (b) first lien and charge on the net revenues of the Port; and (c) lien and charge on the export taxes of the State subject only to an existing charge of \$291,996 per annum.

The average annual yield of the pledged revenues for the five years ended Dec. 31 1926, after deducting the existing charge on export taxes, amounts to \$1,988,402, equivalent to over 3½ times the annual service of \$562,000 for interest and sinking fund on this issue. Upon the issuance of the remaining \$2,000,000 authorized amount of bonds, the amount of the annual service will be increased.

#### Additional Security.

The Port of Pernambuco is the property of the Federal Government and is operated by the State under concession from the Federal Government which runs to Dec. 31 1934. Negotiations are now proceeding for an extension of this concession. The State covenants that if such extension be not granted, or if the State should cease to receive the payment from the Federal Government or the net revenues of the Port, this loan shall thereupon have a first lien on the revenues of the State derived from the excise

and property taxes, in addition to the lien on the export taxes. The substitution of these revenues, which must remain available for such pledge as a first lien, would result in an increase in the above five-year average from \$1,988,402 to \$2,170,749.

#### Finances of the State.

Revenues of the State in 1926 amounted to \$4,480,600, expenditures, \$4,006,440. Revenues have increased by more than 50% since 1921 and in the five-year period ending Dec. 31 1926 total revenues exceeded expenditures. The surplus has been employed largely in productive enterprises. The total debt of the State at Dec. 31 1926 amounted to \$13,980,274, of which \$8,590,339 was external debt. The State formally declares that it has at all times regularly met the service on its external debt, which now consists of two 5% loans of 1905 and 1909.

A law of the Federal Government, passed in December 1926, provides for the establishment of Brazilian currency on a gold basis, the milreis to have a value of about \$0.1197 gold.

Conversions into dollars from Brazilian currency have been made at the rate of 12 cents to the milreis, which is approximately the current rate of exchange.

Application will be made to list the bonds on the New York Stock Exchange. It is expected that delivery will be made in the form of interim receipts or temporary bonds about March 24.

#### Ten Million-Dollar Loan for the Sudan Reported.

The Sudan Government is reported to have closed negotiations for a loan of two million Egyptian pounds, for approximately \$10,000,000, the proceeds to be used principally for railway extension, according to a report to the Department of Commerce from Commercial Attache J. F. Hodgson, Cairo, Egypt. It is added:

The loan in question will be guaranteed by the British Government, according to the reports.

The first railroad to be financed from the proceeds of the loan will be one from Kassala to Gedaref. This line is already under construction. Other lines which are being considered are an extension of the railroad from Gedaref to Makwar, and also a line from Rahad to Kadugli.

A part of the proceeds will also, it is said, be used for a considerable extension of the port facilities at Port Sudan.

#### Dr. Winkler of Moody's Urges Caution on Foreign Loans.

Dr. Max Winkler, Vice-President of Moody's Investors' Service, in a statement this week urged caution in the selection of foreign loans. He says:

Any one who has followed closely the various foreign offerings in this country within recent months could not help noticing the steady decline in the quality of such new loans. The overabundance of funds, together with the difficulty of finding the most profitable employment therefor at home, has greatly contributed to the pronounced demand for and the ready absorption of large foreign issues irrespective of their quality. The situation reminds one a great deal of conditions obtaining in England during the latter half of the Nineteenth Century, when enormous sums of money were lost in the acquisition of many new but unsound foreign investments.

The days of high interest rates are still fresh in the memory of our investing public. In consequence, they crave for high rates of interest and unreasonable profits on the investment of their capital, and these cravings are, as is to be expected, being taken advantage of by dishonest contrivances of promoters. England has learned her lesson. It is still time to guard against losses incurred by the British, the Dutch, the French and the Swiss investor.

While high yield on a foreign bond does not necessarily indicate inferior quality, great care must be exercised in the selection of foreign bonds, especially to-day, when anything foreign seems to find a ready market. It is not too late yet. Foreign issues in default held by Americans are still few and far between.

Promiscuous buying, however, is destined to prove disastrous. England had been advancing money to any one who wished to borrow for twenty years before a series of important defaults occurred. It took German financial writers more than ten years to warn investors against Russian bonds. I do not wish to prophesy how long it will take before the gilt on some of the foreign loans sold in this market will begin to wear off. To recommend issues to our investing public on the basis that risks are neutralized by high returns is unsound economically, as it is to be condemned on ethical grounds.

#### Offering of \$100,000 4½% Farm Loan Bonds of First Joint Stock Land Bank of Fort Wayne.

The Fletcher Savings & Trust Co. of Indianapolis announced on March 1 an offering of \$100,000 4½% farm loan bonds of the First Joint Stock Land Bank of Fort Wayne, Ind., at 102, yielding about 4.25%. The bonds (in denomination of \$1,000) are dated Nov. 1 1926 and will become due Nov. 1 1956. They are callable Nov. 1 1936, or at any interest date thereafter at par.

The bonds are issued by and are the obligations of the First Joint Stock Land Bank of Fort Wayne, which is chartered under the provisions of the Federal Farm Loan Act. The capital stock of the First Joint Stock Land Bank of Fort Wayne, amounting to \$400,000, is owned, with the exception of the directors' shares, by the Tri-State Loan & Trust Co. of Fort Wayne. While this bank's charter permits it to operate in the two States of Indiana and Ohio, its policy has been to make loans in the northeastern part of Indiana and the northwestern counties of Ohio adjoining the Indiana-Ohio State line. The following information is



taken from the Dec. 31 1926 statement of condition of the First Joint Stock Land Bank of Fort Wayne:

Loans	\$8,341,550
Federal appraisement	21,504,988
Acres mortgaged	161,006
Percentage of loans to appraisement	38.79%
Average loan per acre	\$51.81

### San Paulo 7% External Water Works Bonds of 1926 Ready in Definitive Form.

Speyer & Co. announce that the definitive bonds of the State of San Paulo 7% secured sinking fund gold bonds external water works loan of 1926 are now ready for delivery at their office, 24 and 26 Pine St., New York City, in exchange for, and upon surrender of, their interim receipts.

### Portions of Czecho-Slovakian Bonds Called for Redemption.

Kuhn, Loeb & Co., the National City Bank and Kidder, Peabody & Co. have issued a notice to holders of Czecho-slovak State Loan of 1922 8% secured external sinking fund gold bonds that certain bonds of the first portion of this loan and also of the series B issue have been drawn for redemption for the sinking funds on April 1 1927, at their principal amount. Such drawn bonds will cease to bear interest from the redemption date. The called bonds will be paid upon presentation and surrender at the offices of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., Kidder, Peabody & Co., or the National City Bank.

### Republic of Peru Sanitation Loan, Series of 1926, Ready for Delivery.

Guaranty Trust Co. of New York is prepared to deliver at its trust department Republic of Peru external sinking fund secured 8% gold bonds (Sanitation Loan, series of 1926), due Oct. 1 1944, against the receipt of the temporary bonds.

### Definitive Gold Bonds of Republic of Chile Ready for Delivery.

Kissel, Kinnicutt & Co. and Hallgarten & Co., as fiscal agents, announced March 14 that definitive bonds of the Republic of Chile 6% external sinking fund gold bonds would be ready for delivery on and after March 15 at the National Bank of Commerce in New York, upon surrender of the interim receipts.

### Members of Faculty of Princeton University Favor War Debt Revision—President Hibben Disputes Arguments of Secretary Mellon.

Members of the Faculty of Princeton University have indicated their indorsement of the desire, expressed by the Faculty of Political Science of Columbia University, for a reconsideration of the settlement of the Allied Debt. The declarations of the Princeton Faculty made public March 11, prompted the issuance of a statement on March 16 by Secretary Mellon taking exception to the contentions of the Faculties of the two Universities, in which he asserts that neither "saw fit to make a thorough and first hand investigation of data available at the Treasury or sought by personal interview to ascertain the views of the American officials who negotiated the settlements." Secretary Mellon (whose statement is given elsewhere in these columns to-day) also declares that the reopening of all of the settlements would, in my judgment, be a step backward and not forward and one calculated to produce discord and confusion rather than to contribute to the economic stability and orderly betterment of world prosperity." A statement in answer to Secretary Mellon was issued on March 16 by Dr. John Grier Hibben, President of Princeton University, and in this it is announced that the statement coming from the Faculty "was based upon the general information which the State Department has made public for the benefit of the American people." President Hibben, also says, "Mr. Mellon's argument that the burden of paying all debts owed to the United States is not a grievous one because it can be paid with amounts received each year from German reparations is not in keeping with the statement of policy made by the Debt Commission." We give herewith Dr. Hibben's statement made in reply to that of Secretary Mellon:

After consultation with several of my colleagues, I wish to make the following comment upon the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury addressed to me of the date of March 15 1927 and appearing in the press of to-day.

It is a matter of gratification to us that Mr. Mellon has made this statement, because it brings the question of foreign debts more forcibly to the thoughtful consideration of the American people.

The statement coming from 116 members of the Princeton Faculty was based upon the general information which the State Department had made public for the benefit of the American people, and it had not occurred to us that there was any essential information concerning the situation that had not been forthcoming. We felt there was no impropriety, as American citizens, in making a statement of conviction even though it ran contrary to a decision. In the history of the American people an enlightened public opinion has often served to change even the vote of Congress.

Mr. Mellon's argument that the burden of paying all debts owed to the United States is not a grievous one because it can be paid with amounts received each year from German reparations is not in keeping with the statement of policy made by the Debt Commission as reported as follows in the New York "Times" of Sept. 30 1925:

"The American Commission has insisted and still remains firm in the decision that the payment of German reparations to France cannot be linked directly with the debt funding agreement, it being held that the German reparations payments and the French wartime debt to the United States are separate problems."

Moreover, the request of France that America should take a position toward France similar to that of Great Britain in reference to the modification of payments due in the event that the German reparations should diminish in amount or fail was refused by our Debt Commission. This proposal was called the "safeguard clause" and was eliminated from the debt settlement question between France and the United States at our insistence. Mr. Mellon's argument, therefore, in this respect has validity only so far as it assumes that Germany will continue to pay the regular amounts of reparation through a period of 60 years. This is an assumption of dubious justification.

According to Mr. Mellon, we in the United States are to get the benefit of the reparations coming from Germany through our Allied debtors and designed originally to repair damages of the war. The nations which suffered cannot use the reparations for the repair of their own destroyed property but must pass it on immediately to their Ally in the war, the United States.

There is no doubt that Mr. Mellon is quite correct that these debts were not contributions of the United States to their allies, but were veritable business transactions, and yet we cannot overlook the fact that they were made in the midst of the exigencies of war when all of the Allied nations were confronted with the serious uncertainty concerning the outcome of the conflict, and in the efforts to realize the common objective there was certainly a common cause. The post-war loans to the Allies were made for a common cause as truly as the loans which were used in providing powder, shot and shell and the general equipment of war.

According to the "Times," President Hibben added that an article by Professor Taussig of Harvard in the last number of the "Atlantic Monthly," dealt with the whole question of foreign debts in a masterly and convincing manner. The "Times" dispatch from Princeton March 17 also carried the following:

The "Daily Princetonian" this morning carried the first half of the letter written to President Hibben by Secretary Mellon and also an editorial, which takes issue with Mr. Mellon. The editorial in part reads:

"Secretary Mellon explains the method by which funds were lent to our Allies by substituting our credit for theirs through the issuance of Liberty bonds equated with foreign bonds of the same rates of interest and the same maturity, which were presented to our Treasury in return for the cash resulting from the sale of the Liberty bonds. Looking at the substance rather than the form of the transaction, he declares that the operation was the same as if foreign bonds had been sold to American citizens, in which latter case there could have been no possible question of debt cancellation.

*Says We Do Not Need the Money.*

"The Secretary, in following this line of reasoning, is looking at the substance of a situation a decade old. In spite of the dependence of the Liberty bonds on the foreign issues which he implies, our budget balanced for several years after the war without any debt payments to speak of, while provision was still made for the gradual redemption of Liberty bonds. If the transaction once in fact consisted of individual loans by American citizens to foreign Governments, that aspect of it has ceased to be significant. The burden has been transferred to the shoulders of all the taxpayers of the country and they are in a position to bear it.

"The fact is that we do not need the money and we are paying for it a price of extortion and ill-will so great that no extraordinary psychic power is necessary to foresee the possibility of another war, which would cost us every penny that we have been able to squeeze and then five times or so as much again. There is an old adage that runs, 'Penny wise, pound foolish,' which seems much to the point."

The announcement regarding the stand taken by the Faculty of Princeton in the matter of Allied debts, was made as follows by President Hibben on March 10:

The signatures of 116 members of the Princeton Faculty constitute one more indication, in a lengthening series, that the enlightened opinion of the country calls for a revision of the debt settlements with our former Allies. However well intentioned may have been the motives of our representatives who approved the terms of these settlements, and however lenient these terms may be represented to be by those who wish to insist on our generosity, there is a growing recognition that the settlements so far effected do not meet the actual situation. Even granting the capacity of our debtors to fulfil our stipulations, which is now openly questioned, we do not desire to impose tremendous burdens of taxation for the next two generations on friendly countries who are struggling to regain their strength, at the very time when we are amassing a national fortune. To urge our Government's obligation to its citizen bondholders and taxpayers is to evade the real issue, which does not concern the relation of the Government to the people, but our national policy toward certain other States. To divorce the financial provisions of the loans from the moral situation in which they were asked for and given is to invent an unreal economic abstraction. Against the contention that this question should not be raised until all our debtors have come to book there is a rejoinder ready that it would be wiser to adopt a policy which would facilitate agreements with the remaining parties and then revise previous settlements. Finally there is good reason to believe that in economics as well as in morals, altruism is indistinguishable from true self-interest.

JOHN GRIER HIBBEN.

*Statement Signed by Faculty.*

We, the undersigned, members of the Faculty of Princeton University, heartily endorse the desire, expressed by the Faculty of Political Science of Columbia University, for a reconsideration of the settlement of the Allied debts.

President John Grier Hibben, Theodore Whitfield Hunt, Herbert Stearns Squier Smith, Henry Van Dyke, Walter Mean Rankin, William Berryman Scott, Andrew Fleming West, Henry Burchard Fine, George McLean Harper, Paul Van Dyke, William Kelley Prentice, Christian Gauss, Edward Capps, Edwin Grant Conklin, Luther Pfahler Eisenhart, William Foster, Frank Jewett Mather Jr., Frank Albert Fetter, Joseph Edward Raycroft, Douglas Labaree Buffum, Varum Lansing Collins, Charles Grosvenor Oswood, Edward Gleason Spaulding, Alan Wilfrid Cranbrook Menzies, Frank Henry Constant, Dana Carlton Munro, George Harrison Shull, Warner Fite, Gordon Hall Gerould, Robert Kilburn Root, Charles Carroll Marden, Edward Cook Armstrong, Harold Herman Bender, Charles Rufus Morey, Donald Clive Stuart, Frank Haigh Dixon, Karl Taylor Compton, James Thayer Gerould, Morris William Croll, Radcliffe Heermance, Allan Chester Johnson, Arthur Leslie Wheeler, Kenneth McKenzie, Jesse Hickman Bond, Henry Robinson Shipman, Charles Ronald MacInnes, John William Basore, Francis Charles MacDonald, Harvey Waterman Hewett-Thayer, George Erle Bergs, Stanley Edwin Howard, Walter Phelps Hall, Robert Scoon, Joseph Coy Green, Norman Browne Tooker, Sherry Warner Morgan, Walter Scott Hastings,

Solomon Lefschetz, Frank Dunstone Graham, Shirley Howard Weber, Charles William Hendel Jr., Richard Montgomery Field, Frank Linley Critchlow, William Koren, Marcus Stults Farr, Henry Bartlett Van Hoesen, Lewis Robinson Gary, Percy Addison Chapman, Donald Bunker Sinclair, John Quincy Stewart, Frederick Courtney Tarr, J. Dayton Voorhees, Sheldon Jenckes Howe, Gregg Dougherty, Walter Lincoln Whittlesey, Robert Greenhagh Albion, Lawrence Francis Hawkins Lowe, Robert Ralston Cawley, Theodore Meyer Greene, Melvin Eugene Bassett, Raymond James Sontag, Philip Khuri Hitti, Allen Brown West, Henry Lyttleton Savage, Arthur Norton Cook, Joseph Epes Brown Jr., Harris Elliott Kirk, James Douglas Brown, Sidney Lawrence Levegood, Chester Chisholm Connell, Frank Cudworth Flint, Clarence Dietz Brenner, Loyle Alexander Morrison, Kenneth Porter Stevens, Batesman Edwards, Albert Rudolph Elasser, Stephen Joseph Herben Jr., Leslie Thomas Fournier, Elmer Adolph Beller, Loring Baker Walton, Donald Wheeler, Francis Adams Comstock, Hamilton Cottier, Gensselaer Wright Lee, Georges Bally, Robert Wallace Elliott Jr., John Edwin Pomfret, Elmer Grimshaw Butler, George Carr Wright, Willard Thorp, Denver Lindley, Grat Cowan Boyce, William Theodore Richards, Erling Dorf.

and services purchased in this country necessary to enable them to make that part of their joint contribution on credit. Here is the fundamental reason which explains why we ended the war with every one owing us and our owing no one. We are now urged to cancel these debts because it is alleged that they were incurred in a common cause, but neither abroad nor in this country has it been suggested that if this is to be done we are to be reimbursed the dollars actually expended by us in France and Great Britain so that the goods and services they sold us might constitute their contribution to the common cause.

In this connection, one other fact may well be called to your attention. Among the purposes for which we made dollar advances was that of maintaining the franc and the pound at somewhere near their normal values. In other words, we loaned our associates the dollars with which to purchase bills on London and Paris and so permit them to peg the exchange. When we were obliged to purchase francs and sterling for our own uses in the Paris and London markets, we did so at the artificial prices maintained by the use of the very funds we had loaned.

Secretary Mellon also alludes to the criticism by the Columbia Professors of the formula "capacity to pay" and says "it is obvious that in the settlement of these huge debts, the burden of which must be borne either by foreign taxpayers or by our own, it was essential that the negotiations must be based on some guiding principle if justice was to be done between all parties." He further notes that "all of our principal debtors are already receiving from Germany more than enough to pay their debts to the United States; and France and Italy, with the exception of this year in the case of the latter, are receiving from the same source more than enough to pay their debts to Great Britain also."

It must be obvious says Secretary Mellon "that if the amounts to be paid by all our debtors are to be reduced and a corresponding reduction is to be made in the amount of reparations to be paid by Germany, the net effect of this change will be to transfer the burden of reparation payments from the shoulders of the German taxpayer to those of the American taxpayer." Secretary Mellon concludes with the statement "the outstanding fact is that these debts have been settled. A fair trial can now be had, not on theory, but in practice, and a reopening of the whole question at the present time would do more to interrupt the steady progress achieved since settlement than might be gained from any ultimate minor adjustments that can be effected."

The proposals of the Columbia Professors for a review of the war debt payments with a view to readjustment were referred to in our issue of Dec. 25 (page 3253). The declarations of the Faculty of Princeton are noted in another item in this issue. Below is the letter in full which Secretary Mellon has addressed to President Hibben of Princeton:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Washington, D. C., March 15 1927.

My Dear President Hibben: Your statement and that signed by 116 members of the Princeton University Faculty endorsing the statement issued by the Faculty of Political Science at Columbia and urging the reconsideration and revision of the debt settlements with our former associates in the war have come to my attention.

I recognize, of course, the propriety of a frank expression of opinion on important public questions on the part of those in responsible positions, but I am somewhat surprised that before giving the public the benefits of their conclusions neither the gentlemen of the Faculty of Columbia University nor those of the Faculty of Princeton University saw fit to make a thorough and first-hand investigation of data available at the Treasury or sought by personal interview to ascertain the views of the American officials who negotiated the settlements.

The training of these gentlemen, their standing as economists, historians and teachers of government, would have led me to believe that they would have conceived it to be their first duty to present a dispassionate analysis of the facts based on original study rather than to submit their conclusions unsupported by facts.

Moreover, it would not have been amiss for you and your associates to have taken into consideration that one of these agreements has not been ratified and that the inevitable effect of such a pronouncement would be to encourage and strengthen the opposition in foreign countries to such a ratification, an encouragement entirely unwarranted by the circumstances, in view of the fact that the American people, expressing themselves through their chosen representatives in the House of Representatives, have approved of this agreement, and that the debate, when the measure was before the House for consideration, indicated that an overwhelming majority of the Representatives were opposed to more lenient terms.

It is highly probable that such expressions of opinion, far from making the adjustment of these outstanding obligations easier, will simply increase the difficulties of obtaining a better understanding and a ratification of the agreement.

*Reopening of Settlements a Step Backward.*

In this connection I cannot refrain from pointing out, in answer to the plea urging the reopening of all debt settlements, that it is not so long since all of our soundest economists claimed, and rightly claimed, that the one prerequisite to the restoration of economic prosperity in the world was an early settlement of these debts between Governments.

The adoption of the Dawes Plan, the ratification of the various agreements between Governments providing for payment of this vast unfunded obligation have, in the course of the last few years, contributed mightily to the progress that has been accomplished. Reopening all of the settlements would, in my judgment, be a step backward and not forward, and one calculated to produce discord and confusion rather than to contribute to the economic stability and orderly betterment of world prosperity.

In your statement you say that to divorce the financial provisions of the loans from the moral situation in which they were asked for and given is to invent an unreal economic abstraction. By this I take it you mean to endorse the argument advanced by the Columbia Faculty that our war advances to our associates were not at the time they were made regarded as business transactions, but rather as joint contributions to a common cause.

In its advices from Princeton on March 17 it was noted in the "Times" that:

Although the resolution signed by members of the Princeton faculty included several names of members of the Department of Economics, among them Frank H. Dixon, head of the Department, and Frank Graham, who accompanied Edwin W. Kemmerer, Princeton "money doctor," on his investigation of the finances of Poland last summer, it is considered significant by some that certain prominent names do not appear among the signatures.

Among those who did not sign Princeton's resolution are Professors Kemmerer, Philip Marshall Brown, Professor of International Law, and Edward S. Corwin, Professor of Jurisprudence.

The views of the faculty of Columbia University were reported in our issue of Dec. 25, page 1926.

### Secretary Mellon Answers Contentions of Princeton and Columbia Faculty on War Debt Revision—Reopening of Issue, Says Secretary, Would Be Step Backward.

In a communication addressed to President John Grier Hibben of Princeton University, Secretary of the Treasury Mellon answers the contentions of the faculty of Columbia University and of Princeton University for reconsideration of the Allied war debt settlements. Secretary Mellon refers to the fact that "the adoption of the Dawes plan, the ratification of the various agreements between governments providing for payment of this vast unfunded obligation, have, in the course of the last few years, contributed mightily to the progress that has been accomplished," and he adds, "reopening all of the settlements would, in my judgment, be a step backward and not forward and one calculated to produce discord and confusion rather than to contribute to the economic stability and orderly betterment of world prosperity."

Secretary Mellon expresses his surprise that "before giving the public the benefits of their conclusions neither the gentlemen of the faculty of Columbia University nor those of the faculty of Princeton University saw fit to make a thorough and first-hand investigation of data available at the Treasury or sought by personal interview to ascertain the views of the American officials who negotiated the settlements." The Secretary makes it plain that "the record indicates beyond dispute that these were loans and not contributions, and though not in form, in actual effect loans from individual American citizens rather than contributions from the Treasury of the United States." In calling attention to a fact bearing on our participation in the war, and which he says is "apparently overlooked" by the faculty Secretary Mellon states:

We purchased supplies and services from France and the British Empire by hundreds of millions. They had to be paid for in francs and in pounds. We did not get those francs and pounds on credit—we paid cash for them, except possibly in a few comparatively minor instances. In other words, we paid cash for the goods and services necessary to enable us to make our joint contribution to the common cause. Our associates got the goods

*Records Indicate Moneys Advanced Were Loans, and not Contributions.*

Admitting, of course, that the Congressional debates indicate clearly that the Congress was quite willing to loan this money, even on the assumption that there was a considerable element of risk in so far as ultimate recovery was concerned, nevertheless the record indicates beyond dispute that these were loans and not contributions, and, though not in form, in actual effect loans from individual American citizens rather than contributions from the Treasury of the United States.

The Act providing for these loans authorized the United States Government to sell Liberty bonds to its own people, and to invest the proceeds of these bonds in the bonds of these foreign Governments, the latter bonds to bear the same interest as the Liberty bonds sold and to have the same maturities. What we allowed our associates to do, in effect, was to borrow money in our investment market, but since their credit was not as good as ours to borrow on the credit of the United States rather than on their own.

Looking at the substance rather than the form of the transaction, the situation was no different than if they had actually sold their own bonds in the American market and our Government had endorsed them. Had this course been followed would any one contend that the sums advanced were intended as contributions to a joint enterprise rather than loans expected to be repaid?

As a corollary to this first proposition it is urged that if these advances were not to be considered contributions as an original measure they ought now to be so considered because our associates were not fighting their own battle alone but ours as well, and that for some months we were unable to put many troops into line. I am not going to attempt a discussion of the military contribution made by the United States to the winning of the war, other than to remark that when the crucial period was reached in the spring and summer of 1928 our troops were there.

I recognize that there is merit in the contention that the associated Governments might well have joined in pooling their resources in a common cause and that even now an argument can be made in favor of writing off debts incurred after our entry into the war to the extent that they were incurred for contributions to a common cause, but, and this is an all-important reservation, there is merit to such an argument only if the proposed adjustment is to be a mutual one and is to be applied on a strictly equal basis. This factor, however, is one that seems to have been completely overlooked by the faculties of Columbia and Princeton universities and by other advocates of debt cancellation urging the common cause contribution argument.

Early in the war, in order to minimize the dislocation of exchanges and for sound economic reasons the general principle was established that goods and services purchased by one ally in the country of another ally should be financed by the latter.

That is to say, that if France purchased supplies and services in England the British Government would furnish the pounds with which to buy them, and, vice versa, when Great Britain bought goods and services in France the French Government would undertake to furnish the francs. As to whether in the latter case the francs were furnished on credit or for cash I do not know, but in the former case the pounds were furnished on credit.

When we came into the war we readily agreed to apply this sound principle to our transactions with our associates. That is to say, we agreed to furnish them the dollars with which all their purchases in the United States should be consummated and, what is more, we agreed to lend them those dollars. This was the origin of these debts. But here is the fact that is not mentioned and which you gentlemen have apparently overlooked.

*Supplies Purchased from France and Great Britain for Cash.*

We purchased supplies and services from France and the British Empire by hundreds of millions. They had to be paid for in francs and in pounds. We did not get those francs and pounds on credit—we paid cash for them, except possibly in a few comparatively minor instances. In other words, we paid cash for the goods and services necessary to enable us to make our joint contribution to the common cause. Our associates got the goods and services purchased in this country necessary to enable them to make that part of their joint contribution on credit. Here is the fundamental reason which explains why we ended the war with every one owing us and our owing no one.

We are now urged to cancel these debts because it is alleged that they were incurred in a common cause, but neither abroad nor in this country has it been suggested that if this is to be done we are to be reimbursed the dollars actually expended by us in France and Great Britain so that the goods and services they sold us might constitute their contribution to the common cause.

*Dollar Advances to Peg Franc and Pound.*

In this connection, one other fact may well be called to your attention. Among the purposes for which we made dollar advances was that of maintaining the franc and the pound at somewhere near their normal values. In other words, we loaned our associates the dollars with which to purchase bills on London and Paris and so permit them to peg the exchanges.

When we were obliged to purchase francs and sterling for our own uses in the Paris and London markets, we did so at the artificial prices maintained by the use of the very funds we had loaned.

I have no desire to emphasize this point. I mention it, together with the situation above described, as factors which had to be considered by those charged with the responsibility of negotiating the settlements on behalf of the American Government, and which, with other important ones, could have been readily ascertained by those undertaking to advise our people had they availed themselves of the opportunity which would have been gladly afforded them to ascertain all of the facts.

*Present Value of Debt Settlements at 5%.*

Before leaving the question of the purposes for which the debts were incurred, may I remind you that I have already had occasion to point out that the present value of these debt settlements at 5%, a rate less than most of the debtor nations now have to pay for money, is, except in the case of Great Britain, either less than or approximately the same as the amounts borrowed after the Armistice?

France's after-war indebtedness with interest amounts to \$1,655,000,000; the Mellon-Berenger settlement has a present value of \$1,680,000,000. Belgium's post-Armistice borrowings with interest were \$258,000,000, and the present value of the settlement is \$192,000. The post-Armistice indebtedness of Italy with interest is \$800,000,000 and the present value of its debt settlement is \$426,000,000.

The principal of Serbia's post-armistice indebtedness aggregates \$16,175,000 and the present value of its debt settlement is \$15,919,000. The loans to Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Austria and Rumania were all made after the Armistice.

*Capacity to Pay Formula Just.*

The Columbia professors criticized capacity to pay as a formula difficult, if not impossible, of just application, a criticism, I understand you endorse. But no other formula is suggested. It is obvious that in the settlement of these huge debts, the burden of which must be borne either by foreign taxpayers or by our own, it was essential that the negotiations must be

based on some guiding principle if justice was to be done between all parties; that is to say, not only as between creditor and debtor, but as between debtors.

Frankly, I know of no fairer formula than that of capacity to pay generously applied. To ask a debtor nation to pay substantially less than it is able to without undue burden on its people is to do an injustice to our own taxpayers; while to ask a foreign debtor to pay more than its capacity is to be guilty of an act of injustice such as I can assure you cannot be charged against us.

Apparently you would have all debtors treated on an equality. Does this mean that the Italian settlement should be raised to a point where it will correspond to the British which, of course, would impose a burden impossible of performance by Italy, or do you propose that the British be reduced to 50% and the Italian raised to 50%, which would make an easy settlement for Great Britain and a still impossible settlement for Italy.

Or do you propose that the British settlement shall be brought down to the Italian 26%, thus imposing no real burden on England at all.

You say that "we do not desire to impose tremendous burdens of taxation for the next two generations on friendly countries." Are you sure that this is an accurate statement of the facts? In estimating the debtor's capacity to pay without inflicting such a sacrifice as would cause a lowering of its standard of living, only incidental consideration was given to the reparation payments to be received by the debtor countries from Germany.

*Debtors Receiving from Germany More Than Enough to Pay Debts to United States.*

Now, the fact is that all of our principal debtors are already receiving from Germany more than enough to pay their debts to the United States; and France and Italy, with the exception of this year in the case of the latter, are receiving from the same source more than enough to pay their debts to Great Britain also.

France, in the year 1926-1927, will receive from Germany approximately \$176,000,000. Under the agreements with Great Britain and with the United States, France will pay \$30,000,000 to us and some \$71,000,000 to Great Britain, leaving to France a balance of \$75,000,000. In 1927-1928, that balance will grow to \$108,000,000. In 1928-1929, in spite of the fact that the payment to Great Britain rises to \$85,000,000, the balance available to France will amount that year to \$186,000,000; and, in 1930, after meeting her obligations to the United States and to Great Britain, there will be a balance from reparation payments of \$237,000,000.

Italy is paying us this year \$5,000,000 and to Great Britain \$19,000,000. They will receive from Germany \$22,000,000, which is just \$2,000,000 less than is necessary to meet their obligations to Great Britain and the United States. But, in 1929, German reparations will have risen to \$45,000,000, leaving to Italy a balance, after her payments as debtor, of \$21,000,000. And even in 1936, when her payments to us will amount to \$16,000,000 and to Great Britain approximately \$20,000,000, those two amounts will still fall short by \$15,000,000 of the sum received from Germany.

Belgium this year will receive from Germany \$16,000,000 more than she will pay to other countries; in 1927-28, \$18,000,000 more; in 1929-30, \$27,000,000 more.

Yugoslavia will receive this year \$11,000,000 more than they will have to pay, and next year \$13,000,000 more.

All of the other Powers that owe us money will, in the aggregate, receive this year \$3,000,000 less than they have to pay, but by 1929 will be receiving \$3,000,000 more than they have to pay.

Finally, we come to Great Britain. Under the agreements with France, Great Britain will receive from France approximately \$71,000,000 this year; from Italy approximately \$19,000,000; from Germany approximately \$72,000,000, and will pay us \$160,000,000, or in other words, Great Britain will receive this year from her debtors \$2,000,000 more than she pays us.

Next year Great Britain will receive from France \$69,000,000; from Italy \$19,000,000; from Germany \$87,000,000, or a total of \$175,000,000. Great Britain will pay us \$160,000,000, leaving a balance of \$15,000,000.

In 1928-29 Great Britain will receive from France \$85,000,000; from Italy \$19,000,000; from Germany \$127,000,000, or a total of \$231,000,000. Great Britain will pay us \$161,000,000, making a credit balance of \$70,000,000.

It is true that in the past two years Great Britain has received from Germany, France and Italy about \$100,000,000 less than she has paid to the United States, but it is equally true that from this year on, Great Britain, very year will receive from her debtors a substantial amount more than she will pay to us, so that her American payments will not constitute a drain upon her own economic resources.

It is true that Great Britain has agreed not to accept more from her debtors than the sums which, when added to reparation payments, will equal those which she pays the United States. But, even taking this into consideration, it is obvious that your statement that the debt agreements which we have made impose a tremendous burden of taxation for the next two generations on friendly countries is not accurate, since the sums paid us will not come from taxation, but will be more than met by the payments to be exacted from Germany.

*Reduction in Payments Would Place Burden on American Taxpayer.*

It must also be obvious that if the amounts to be paid by all our debtors are to be reduced and a corresponding reduction is to be made in the amount of reparations to be paid by Germany, the net effect of this change will be to transfer the burden of reparation payments from the shoulders of the German taxpayer to those of the American taxpayer.

*European Attitude Toward United States.*

Finally, the joint Faculties of Columbia and Princeton urge the American people to reconsider the debt schemes with Allied countries "because of growing odium with which this country is coming to be regarded by our European associates." I doubt whether European nations dislike us as much as some people tell us they do.

But I know this, that if they do, the cancellation of that part of their debts which has not already been cancelled will not of itself change their dislike into affection. Neither in international relations any more than in private life is affection a purchasable commodity, while my observation and reading of history lead me to conclude that a nation is hardly likely to deserve and maintain the respect of other nations by sacrificing its own just claims.

No one can insure the future; but given normal conditions, it is believed a true balance has been held between the duty of the Debt Commission to the American taxpayer and fairness toward those nations to which was extended aid during and after the war. The debts have not been cancelled, but excessive demands have not been made.

Certainly, the debt settlements cannot become too heavy a load in the next few years. In the future, with peace and the development of trade internally and externally, it is not too much to expect that this will be equally true of the later years also.

The outstanding fact is that these debts have been settled. A fair trial can now be had, not on theory, but in practice, and a reopening of the

whole question at the present time would do more to interrupt the steady progress achieved since settlement than might be gained from any ultimate minor adjustments that can be effected.

Very sincerely yours,

A. W. MELLON, *Secretary of the Treasury.*

*Dr. John Grier Hibben, President, Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.*

### Text of Accord with Turkey Signed at Angora—Treaty Relations and Exchange of Ministers Provided for.

The notes by which Rear-Admiral Mark L. Bristol, American High Commissioner at Constantinople, reached an agreement for resumption of diplomatic and consular relations between the United States and Turkey were made public by the State Department March 14. The new accord was made necessary by the failure of the United States Senate to ratify the Lausanne Treaty. The first of Admiral Bristol's notes to Tewfik Rushdi Bey is as follows:

*Angora, Feb. 17 1927.*

*Excellency:*—I have the honor to make the following statement of the agreement which has resulted from the conversations that have been held in Angora on behalf of the Government of the United States and the Government of Turkey with reference to the regularization of relations between the United States and Turkey:

1. The United States of America and Turkey are agreed to establish between themselves diplomatic and consular relations based upon the principles of international law and to proceed to the appointment of Ambassadors as soon as possible. They are further agreed that diplomatic and consular representatives shall enjoy on the basis of reciprocity in the territory of the other the treatment recognized by international law.

2. (a) The United States of America and Turkey are agreed to regulate, in conformity with the principles of international law and on a basis of complete reciprocity, the commercial and consular relations as well as the conditions of establishment and residence of their nationals in the territories of the one and the other respectively, by treaties or special conventions.

(b) In the event the Turkish-American Treaty signed at Lausanne Aug. 6 1923 is ratified by the United States and Turkey on or before June 1 1928, the stipulations set forth in that treaty, together with its annexes, shall be considered as meeting the requirements specified in sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph as regards the regularization of commercial, consular and establishment and residence relations, it being understood that in the event the Turkish-American Treaty is ratified on or before June 1 1928, Article 31 thereof shall be modified at the time of its ratification, in the following sense: The articles of the said treaty which have a temporary character shall expire on the same date as the corresponding provisions of the treaties and conventions signed by Turkey and the Allies at Lausanne July 24 1923.

(c) The United States of America and Turkey are agreed that the treaty of extradition signed at Lausanne Aug. 6 1923 shall at a time mutually convenient to them be submitted to the competent authority of their respective Governments for ratification. Further, the negotiations for a naturalization convention shall be undertaken within six months after the coming into effect of the consular convention and the establishment and residence conventions referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of the present paragraph, or the coming into effect of the Turkish-American Treaty mentioned in sub-paragraph (b).

The questions of claims shall be dealt with in accordance with the terms of the notes exchanged between the Turkish and American Governments at Constantinople on Dec. 24 1923, it being understood, however, that the provisions of those notes will come into force six months after the exchange of ratifications of the commercial convention and the convention of establishment and residence referred to in sub-paragraph (a) in the event that the Turkish-American Treaty mentioned in sub-paragraph (b) is not ratified.

3. Pending the coming into effect of the consular convention and the convention of establishment and residence referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 2, or the coming into effect of the Turkish-American Treaty mentioned in sub-paragraph (b), the principles enumerated in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this note, together with the essential provisions of the Turkish-American Treaty signed at Lausanne Aug. 6 1923, and its annexes, shall constitute the basis for the treatment which, on condition of reciprocity, shall be accorded nationals of Turkey in the territory of the United States and nationals of the United States in the territory of Turkey.

4. The present agreement shall become operative on the date of signature. I shall be glad to have your confirmation of the accord thus reached.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

MARK L. BRISTOL.

The second note to the Turkish Foreign Minister reads:

*Angora, Feb. 17 1927.*

*Excellency:*—I have the honor to make the following statement of the agreement which has resulted from the conversations that have been held at Angora on behalf of the Government of the United States and the Government of Turkey with reference to the treatment which the United States shall accord to the commerce of Turkey and which Turkey shall accord to the commerce of the United States:

Pending the coming into effect of the commercial convention referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 2 of the notes exchanged to-day concerning the relations between the United States and Turkey or the coming into effect of the Turkish-American Treaty signed at Lausanne Aug. 6 1923, the status quo resulting from the exchange of notes dated July 20 1926 regarding commercial relations between the United States and Turkey, shall be preserved for a period of one year dating from Feb. 20 1927.

At the expiration of this period the status quo shall automatically continue for a further term of three months unless in the meantime the provisions of this note shall have been modified by mutual agreement or unless either one of the contracting parties shall have asked for a reconsideration of its provisions.

I shall be glad to have your confirmation of the accord thus reached.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

MARK L. BRISTOL.

### Formation Undertaken by F. W. Peabody of American Association Favoring Reconsideration of War Debts.

F. W. Peabody of Ashburnham, Mass., whose campaign to bring about the cancellation of the war debts owed by the Allies to the United States, was referred to in these columns last August, announces the incorporation at Albany, N. Y., on March 7 of the American Association Favoring Recon-

sideration of War Debts. The incorporators are reported as follows: William Barclay Parsons, George W. Wickersham, Robert Underwood Johnson, Major-General John F. O'Ryan, R. Fulton Cutting, Henry B. Joy, former Judge George C. Holt, John R. Delafield, Francis Peabody, Walter W. Price, Frederick W. Peabody, Isaac Roberts, Herbert T. Allen and Nelson L. Robinson. It is stated that readjustment of the war debts is the object of the association "upon a basis that shall give due weight to the service rendered the United States by the armed forces of its associates during the war, to the fact that our advances to the Allies were by law declared to be for the prosecution of the war and the security and defense of the United States, and to the present financial condition of our partners in the war." The association, it is also said, will seek "to obtain, through an informed public opinion, a reconsideration by the Government of the United States of the so-called debts of our associates in the World War from the time of our entry into the war until the conclusion of peace." In referring to the movement, the "Herald Tribune" of March 5 said:

Mr. Peabody made it plain that while the new group strongly favors governmental reconsideration, it is not committed to any particular form of readjustment.

While himself in favor of cancellation of all debts, Mr. Peabody said he wanted it understood that as managing director of the association he will not commit the group to his preference. The association was organized to communicate to the public "a full understanding for the circumstances out of which the so-called war debts have arisen." The exact form of the reconsidered settlement Mr. Peabody is willing to leave to Congress.

It also stated:

An advisory council of a hundred men and women, from all sections of the country, will soon be formed. Membership in the association will be voluntary, and the founder said he had no doubt the organization would be abundantly financed by voluntary contributions to carry on the work for which it is organized.

In addition to the item in our Aug. 14 issue we printed in these columns July 24 (page 412) Mr. Peabody's argument for the cancellation of the debts and on page 413 the reply thereto made by Secretary Mellon.

### War Debt Discussion Before Foreign Policy Association—Representative Burton Says Release Would Result in Larger European Armies—A. Piatt Andrew Favors Leniency.

"War Debts, Status Quo or Revision" was the subject of a discussion before the Foreign Policy Association at a luncheon in the Hotel Astor, this city, on March 12. Representative Theodore E. Burton, a member of the World War Foreign Debt Commission, declared emphatically against cancellation; he pointed out that "our Allies have not released claims for reparations from the Central Powers," and asserted that "a release or cancellation of the indebtedness would assuredly furnish an impetus for larger expenditures for armies and navies in Europe and thus constitute a threat to the peace of the world." Representative A. Piatt Andrew of Massachusetts, formerly Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, advocated leniency in the treatment of the war debts. Frank Vanderlip and Francis R. Sisson, Vice-President of the Guaranty Trust Co. (says the "Herald-Tribune") added short informal talks, supporting, in general, Representative Burton's argument, while Herbert Adams Gibbons, just returned from looking into the situation in Europe, upheld Colonel Andrew.

James G. McDonald presided, and, according to the "Times," in opening the question of settlement of debts he said that while the subject had been considered "closed" in certain quarters the association received more inquiries from the public on that topic than any other of current issue. As to what Representatives Burton and Andrew had to say, we quote as follows from the "Times":

"I repeat," said Representative Burton, "several arguments heretofore made why these debts should not be canceled. First, there is the sanctity of international obligations, which is a rule essential for debtor nation as well as creditor, for in case of an emergency or another war a country which failed to recognize its obligations could not again become a borrower.

"Second, the loans made by the United States were not made from an overflowing Treasury, but were from the proceeds of loans made by our citizens to the Government as the result of intensive campaigns and sacrifice and they imposed a serious burden upon our people. Thus the Federal Government is, in an important sense, but a trustee for the people. Those who advocate cancellation should surrender their own bonds. The third reason against cancellation is that proportionately, the increase in debt and the burden of taxation as the result of our participation in the war has been as great, or greater, than that of any of our Allies. By reason of our entrance into the struggle our debt at one time amounted to \$25,000,000,000.

"It must be conceded that mutual liability was the rule observed during the war and after. The United States asked for and received no concessions from the Allies in the expense of transporting and maintaining her army in Europe. Our Allies have not released claims for reparations from the Central Powers. A release or cancellation of the indebtedness would assuredly furnish an impetus for larger expenditures for armies and navies in Europe and thus constitute a threat to the peace of the world."

*Cites Military Expenditures.*

Mr. Burton gave figures designed to show that European debtor nations were spending much more on military purposes than they were paying us in yearly installments on their debts. The most recent French budget, he said, carried about \$200,000,000 for military and naval expenses, whereas her initial payment to this country, without interest, is only \$30,000,000. He took up the high tariff complaint of Europe and, singling out France, said that in 1925 alone American tourists left \$225,000,000 in France. He declared as evidence that the tariff was not a valid European argument that in the years between 1922 and 1926 American imports had increased 92%, while exports had gained only 22%.

Returning to his comparison of expenditures for military purposes, the speaker said that Rumania last year spent \$27,000,000 for military projects and added that at this rate the Rumanian people would spend in a year and a third more than her whole debt to the United States. England, he reported, spends approximately \$582,000,000 on her army and her navy, as against \$161,000,000 on the debt. The Representative had high praise for the British determination to pay and ask no favors on the debt question, and his tribute brought applause from the floor, where 1,000 members listened.

"America," he concluded, "has not been a Shylock, but we cannot enter into any agreement to cancel honest debts."

*Colonel Andrew Disagrees.*

Colonel Andrew at the outset disagreed with his colleague's statement that America's participation in the World War had been "altruistic."

"I do not admit," he continued, "that the credits extended to our partners in the war were in any way analogous to ordinary commercial debts. I do not admit that the settlements arranged by our Debt Funding Commission are generous, wise or fair. It is surprising how many people now appear to think that we entered the war in a spirit of knight-errantry. President Wilson, to be sure, encouraged that idea in some of the grandiloquent phrases that he used after our entrance, as when he said that it was 'a war to end war,' or 'a war to make the world safe for democracy.' Curiously enough, most of those to-day who take a 'hard-boiled' attitude on the debt question adhere to that visionary and, I might say, sentimental notion of why we entered the war."

Representative Andrew said America went into the war for her own grievances. He said this nation had sat silent while alleged outrages were being perpetrated and that no spirit of altruism had then been made manifest.

"Our part in the war," he said, "was not a philanthropy and not a reckless adventure for the sake of others. It was our war on our own behalf because of our manifold and sufficient grievances."

*Sent Money Instead of Troops.*

He recalled that when the United States finally decided to make common cause, the nation had been unable to send troops to aid. Only money and munitions—great quantities of which had been sold at high prices to the Allies up to our entry—were available and the loans were made so that American assistance could be rendered quickly and effectively.

"It is a fact, of course, to which the 'debt collectors' point with legal validity," he said, "that these 'credits' then granted to our partners were not described in the law as gifts or contributions or subsidies, but were technically in the form of loans. That is perfectly true and no one can or will deny it. But if you will read the debates in the Congress you will see that leaders did not regard the loans as ordinary loans.

"We were in the war all told for nineteen months before the guns ceased firing, and during three-quarters of that time we only furnished materials while our partners furnished human lives. They sacrificed 500,000 lives and 1,000,000 wounded in holding the enemy back after we entered the war and before we could take part in it. And now from the standpoint of our erstwhile partners we are asking the survivors and their descendants to pay for the uniforms which these men wore and for the guns and ammunition which they used when they died or were mutilated."

In addition to Representative Burton's statements as given in the "Times," we find the following credited to him in the "Herald Tribune":

Payments which European nations must make to us for the first five years average \$210,000,000; by the sixth year there will be an increase of \$20,000,000 and on the tenth year of \$65,000,000. The expenses of our tourists in Europe conservatively estimated amount to twice as much as the five-year annual average of indebtedness which must be paid to us.

A distinction should be made between indebtedness incurred prior to and later than the armistice. Save a small amount to Czechoslovakia, advances were made to six nations only prior to the armistice—England, France, Belgium, Italy, Serbia and Russia. For the remaining nations the loans were made after the armistice and the question of borrowing while suffering from hardships of war cannot be raised. In the advances of the principal amounts to France, the amount before the armistice was \$1,970,000,000 and the post-armistice \$1,370,000,000. If interest should be computed on this latter amount at 5%, it would be almost exactly the equivalent of what France must pay under the Mellon-Berenger agreement. In other words, advances before the armistice would be canceled.

*Debts Half Canceled.*

If we were to compute settlements on the basis of the ordinary rate of interest of our own obligations, we have canceled 20% of the debt to Great Britain, 75% of that to Italy and 53% of that of France—an average of 58% of the debts of countries on the Continent of Europe, and, including Great Britain and all debtor nations, of 43%. If a computation should be made on the basis of 5%, which is below ordinary rates paid in Europe, the amount of cancellation would be 51%, or more than half.

Quoting Col. Andrew as saying that, unable to send men at first, we gave money, less in the sense of loans in the ordinary business sense of the word than as "our contribution," the "Herald-Tribune" account also said:

*Cites Page's "Gift" Statement.*

Colonel Andrew quoted Ambassador Page as writing at that time that "a gift of \$1,000,000,000 to France will fix Franco-American history for several centuries," and Ambassador Jusserand as saying France was assured that she would have all the money she needed, that she "need not trouble about interest, and as for repayments they would easily be arranged in the future." He also quoted a French author, Roland Dorgeles, as saying of the United States, "they have not forgotten a box of corned beef or a ton of coal, but they have not counted a drop of blood. Life is given, coal is sold."

*Mr. Vanderlip's Views.*

Mr. Vanderlip disagreed with Colonel Andrew's statement that the loans were "contributions," and said that he agreed with some one who had said, "if that is history, then history is bunk."

*Dr. Gibbon's Comments.*

Dr. Gibbons, in supporting Colonel Andrew, pointed out that a nation might spend a lot of money within its own borders on military expenses and yet couldn't export any such sum of ready money as was demanded in reparations.

### United States Invites France and Italy to Be Represented at Three Power Naval Conference in Which United States, Great Britain and Japan Will Be Participants.

An invitation has been extended by the United States to France and Italy to be represented at the proposed three power naval parley between Great Britain, Japan and the United States. The memorandums were delivered to the representative ambassadors of the two countries on March 14. These overtures express the hope that both France and Italy will see their way "clear to be represented in some manner at these conversations in order that" they "may be fully cognizant of the course of negotiations and of the agreements which may be reached." Last week (page 1462) we referred to the acceptance by Great Britain and Japan of the invitation of the United States to participate in a three power conference on naval limitation, which had followed the declination of France and Italy to join in the five power conference originally proposed. Communications addressed to Great Britain and Japan on March 11 with reference to their willingness to enter into a three power conference are given another item in this issue; the date of the conference is tentatively fixed therein for June 1. The following is the memorandum delivered by Ambassador Herriek in behalf of the United States to the French Government on March 14:

With reference to the memorandum of the French Government of Feb. 15 1927, in reply to that of the American Government of Feb. 10, inquiring whether the French Government was disposed to empower its representatives at the forthcoming meeting at Geneva of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference to enter into negotiations looking toward an agreement providing for limitation in the classes of naval vessels not covered by the Treaty of Washington of 1922, the Government of the United States has noted with pleasure that the French Government is animated by the same spirit that prompted the President of the United States upon the occasion of his message to Congress on the day in which the above-mentioned memorandum of the American Government was handed to the Governments of the powers signatory to the Washington Treaty.

With regard to the fear expressed by the French Government that such negotiations would risk compromising the success of the work of the Preparatory Commission at Geneva, the Government of the United States is of the opinion that all appropriate measures taken by the large naval powers cannot but contribute toward facilitating the task of the commission.

In the last paragraph of the memorandum of the French Government the view is set forth that it is at Geneva and by the Preparatory Commission itself that the proposal of the American Government can be effectually examined. The Government of the United States desires to emphasize the fact that it proposed the initiation at Geneva of negotiations by representatives of certain powers at the forthcoming meeting of the Preparatory Commission, and is therefore of the opinion that, far from undermining the authority of the League of Nations, such conversations as those proposed would be of great service to that body in an advance toward the solution of a difficult problem.

The Government of Great Britain and Japan have now acceded to the proposal of the American Government which had before decided to enter into conversations with these powers and sincerely hopes that the French Government will see its way clear to be represented in some manner in these conversations, in order that it may be fully cognizant of the course of negotiations and of the agreements which may be reached.

As the French Government already knows, the American Government has no preconceived ideas regarding any definite ratio for the limitation of French tonnage. It does not desire to open up questions already settled by treaty, but wishes to point out that all other questions relative to limitation of naval armament are open and that in the projected conversations each power would have the privilege of taking any position it thinks best for its own protection as a basis for negotiation.

The Government of the United States would be especially gratified by the presence of representatives of a nation holding the ideals set forth in the memorandum of the French Government, a nation which has in the past been associated with the United States in efforts to further the cause of world peace.

The memorandum delivered by Ambassador Fletcher to the Italian Foreign Office on March 14 follows:

With reference to the memorandum of the Italian Government of Feb. 21 1927, in reply to that of the American Government of Feb. 10, inquiring whether the Italian Government was disposed to empower its representatives at the forthcoming meeting at Geneva of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference to enter into negotiations looking toward an agreement providing for limitation in the classes of naval vessels not covered by the Treaty of Washington of 1922, the Government of the United States has noted with pleasure that the Italian Government is animated by the same spirit that prompted the President of the United States upon the occasion of his message to Congress on the day on which the above-mentioned memorandum of the American Government was handed to the Governments of the Powers signatory to the Washington Treaty.

With regard to the assertion of the Italian Government that there exists an interdependence of every type of armament, the American Government is, nevertheless, of the opinion that all appropriate measures taken by the large naval Powers in limitation of the naval branch of armament must greatly contribute in advancing the solution of the problem as a whole.

As for the statement in the memorandum of the Italian Government that, owing to geographical position and strategic consideration, Italy could not expose itself without grave risks to a binding limitation of its maritime armaments, it is feared that there may exist some misapprehension regarding the terms of the proposal of the President of the United States.

The American Government has no preconceived ideas regarding any definite ratio for the limitation of Italian tonnage in the classes referred to

but regards this question as one to be determined during the proposed conversations. While the American Government does not desire to open up questions already settled by treaty, all other questions relative to limitation of naval armament are open, and each power would have the privilege of taking any position it thought best for its own protection as a basis for negotiation.

The American Government is also of the opinion that an agreement for partial limitation of armaments could expose no power to danger from the navies of the powers not included in such an understanding, since no agreement is contemplated which would not be subject to reconsideration or revision should the security of any party to it be menaced by the naval program of a nation not included in the understanding.

The Governments of Great Britain and Japan have now acceded to the proposal of the American Government, which has therefore decided to enter into conversations with these powers and sincerely hopes that the Italian Government will see its way clear to be represented in some manner at these conversations in order that it may be fully cognizant of the course of negotiations and of the agreements which may be reached. The Government of the United States would, moreover, be especially gratified by the presence of the representatives of a nation holding the high ideals set forth in the memorandum of the Italian Government, a nation which has in the past been associated with the United States in efforts to further the cause of world peace.

The text of the note of the French Government declining to participate in the five-power conference was given in our issue of Feb. 19, page 1003. Italy's decision not to participate was noted in our issue of Feb. 26, page 1124.

#### United States in Notes to Great Britain and Japan Suggests June 1 as Date for Naval Armament Conference.

In notes handed to the British and Japanese Ambassadors on March 11 by Acting Secretary of State Joseph C. Grew, the United States suggests that the proposed three-power conversations on naval limitations "could most advantageously and conveniently begin at Geneva on the first day of June, or soon thereafter." The text of the notes given to Ambassador Howard of Great Britain and Ambassador Matsu-daira of Japan are identical, and are as follows:

March 11 1927.

*Excellency:*—With reference to the memorandum handed by the American Ambassador to his Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (to the Imperial Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs), Feb. 10 1927, regarding the possibility of the initiation of negotiations at Geneva concerning the limitation of naval armament between the representatives of the powers signatories of the Washington Treaty of 1922, my Government is pleased as the result of informal conversations that the British Government (that the Imperial Japanese Government) is willing to participate in negotiations with the United States and Japan (Great Britain).

The American Government regrets that France and Italy should have formally refused the President's invitation and shares the opinion of his Majesty's Government that their presence would be most welcome at such a conference. This Government sincerely hopes, therefore, that they may decide to be represented at least in some informal manner at the conversations contemplated.

These conversations, it now appears, could most advantageously and conveniently begin at Geneva on the first day of June, or soon thereafter.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

JOSEPH C. GREW, Acting Secretary of State.

#### President Coolidge Signs Bill Authorizing Secretary of Agriculture to Collect Statistics of Grade and Staple Length of Cotton Known as "Carry-Over"—Number of Cotton Estimate Reports Reduced to Five.

On March 3 President Coolidge signed Senator Mayfield's bill which authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to collect and publish annually statistics or estimates of the grades and staple length of cotton known as "carry-over" on hand Aug. 1 in warehouses and other establishments. Not less than three such estimates are to be published with respect to each crop. The bill as finally passed by Congress and signed by President Coolidge also limits to five the number of cotton estimate reports issued by the Department of Agriculture—instead of the eleven semi-monthly reports which had previously been called for. The bill likewise calls upon the Secretary of Agriculture to issue a report on or about July 10 each year showing by States, and in toto the number of acres of cotton in cultivation on July 1, to be followed on Sept. 1 and Dec. 1 with an estimate of the abandoned acreage since July 1. The following is the bill in the form in which it was signed by the President.

AN ACT authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect and publish statistics of the grade and staple length of cotton.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of Agriculture be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to collect and publish annually, on dates to be announced by him, statistics or estimates concerning the grades and staple length of stocks of cotton, known as the carry-over, on hand on the 1st of August of each year in warehouses and other establishments of every character in the continental United States; and following such publication each year, to publish, at intervals in his discretion, his estimate of the grades and staple length of cotton of the then current crop: *Provided*, That not less than three such estimates shall be published with respect to each crop. In any such statistics or estimates published, the cotton which on the date for which such statistics are published may be recognized as tenderable on contracts of sale of cotton for future delivery under the United States Cotton Futures Act of Aug. 11 1916 as amended,

shall be stated separately from that which may be untenderable under said Act as amended.

Sec. 2. That the information furnished by any individual establishment under the provisions of this Act shall be considered as strictly confidential and shall be used only for the statistical purpose for which it is supplied. Any employee of the Department of Agriculture who, without the written authority of the Secretary of Agriculture, shall publish or communicate any information given into his possession by reason of his employment under the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not less than \$300 or more than \$1,000, or imprisoned for a period of not exceeding one year, or both so fined and imprisoned, at the discretion of the court.

Sec. 3. That it shall be the duty of every owner, president, treasurer, secretary, director, or other officer or agent of any cotton warehouse, cotton gin, cotton mill, or other place or establishment where cotton is stored, whether conducted as a corporation, firm, limited partnership, or individual, and of any owner or holder of any cotton and of the agents and representatives of any such owner or holder, when requested by the Secretary of Agriculture or by any special agent or other employee of the Department of Agriculture acting under the instructions of said Secretary to furnish completely and correctly, to the best of his knowledge, all of the information concerning the grades and staple length of cotton on hand, and when requested to permit such agent or employee of the Department of Agriculture to examine and classify samples of all such cotton on hand. The request of the Secretary of Agriculture for such information may be made in writing or by a visiting representative, and if made in writing shall be forwarded by registered mail, and the registry receipt of the Post Office Department shall be accepted as evidence of such demand. Any owner, president, treasurer, secretary, director, or other officer or agent of any cotton warehouse, cotton gin, cotton mill, or other place or establishment where cotton is stored, or any owner or holder of any cotton or the agent or representative of any such owner or holder, who, under the condition hereinbefore stated, shall refuse or willfully neglect to furnish any information herein provided for or shall willfully give answers that are false or shall refuse to allow agents or employees of the Department of Agriculture to examine or classify any cotton in store in any such establishment, or in the hands of any owner or holder or of the agent or representative of any such owner or holder, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than \$300 or more than \$1,000.

Sec. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture may co-operate with any department or agency of the Government, any State, Territory, District, or possession, or department, agency, or political subdivision thereof, or any person; and shall have the power to appoint, remove, and fix the compensation of such officers and employees, not in conflict with existing law, and make such expenditures for the purchase of samples of cotton, for rent outside the District of Columbia, printing, telegrams, telephones, books of reference, periodicals, furniture, stationery, office equipment, travel, and other supplies and expenses as shall be necessary to the administration of this Act in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and there are hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary for such purposes.

Sec. 5. That, of the reports issued by the Secretary of Agriculture, pursuant to the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Department of Agriculture to issue semi-monthly cotton crop reports and providing for their publication simultaneously with the ginning reports of the Department of Commerce," approved May 3 1924, only five shall be issued hereafter, one as of August 1, one as of September 1, one as of October 1, one as of November 1, and one as of December 1, each of which shall state the condition and progress of the crop and the probable number of bales which will be ginned, these reports to be issued simultaneously with the cotton ginning reports of the Bureau of the Census relating to the same dates, the two reports to be issued from the same place at eleven antemeridian of the eighth day following that to which the respective reports relate. When such date of release falls on Sunday or a legal holiday the report shall be issued at eleven o'clock antemeridian of the next succeeding workday.

Sec. 6. The Secretary of Agriculture shall cause to be issued a report on or before the 10th day of July of each year showing by States and in toto the number of acres of cotton in cultivation on July 1, to be followed on September 1 and December 1 with an estimate of the acreage of cotton abandoned since July 1.

#### Proposal Before New York Cotton Exchange to Include Trading in Wool Futures.

A petition, signed, it is said, by a substantial number of members, is pending before the New York Cotton Exchange proposing the appointment of a Committee to study the feasibility and desirability of broadening the trading facilities of the Exchange to include wool futures. The Washington bureau of the New York "Journal of Commerce" on March 15 in stating that the proposal has attracted attention in Washington, went on to say:

A somewhat similar inquiry was made some years ago by the Chicago Board of Trade, and the matter was taken up with the Department of Agriculture. Inasmuch as the expansion considered was not entered into, it is thought probable that the difficulties would far exceed the benefits that normally could be expected.

If trading could be done on a scoured wool basis the situation would be simplified, it was pointed out, since the Government already has established standards on a diameter system, but the vast bulk of the wool purchased by the manufacturers is wool in the grease. The shrinkage in weight in scouring can hardly be averaged, it was pointed out by wool experts, since it ranges from 35 to 75%, varying with the percentage of merino blood and the conditions under which the sheep are raised.

#### Grave Difficulties Seen.

Department of Agriculture officials are disinclined to discuss the proposal of the members of the New York Exchange merely on the basis of newspaper reports, but their attitude was one indicating that there are grave difficulties ahead. Apparently they feel that it would be hard to work out a contract, yet they do not want to put any obstacles in the way of constructive effort. They can sympathize with the consumers of wool in their desire to obtain the protection given the cotton buyer through hedging operations. It is suggested that, for instance, a schedule of differentials might be set up, with perhaps 48% fixed as the average shrinkage, and premiums could be given below that and discounts taken where the percentage of shrinkage is greater than the basic figure.

The situation as to wool, it is pointed out, differs vastly from that affecting cotton, where it is possible to closely classify the staple. Suggestions have been made to Government men that there be established scouring test plants in various parts of the country to work on samples.

*Scouring Loss a Problem.*

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics now is trying to work out a plan whereby it may be possible to take a small sample of fleece, scour it and from the scoured content arrive at the probable percentage of loss from scouring, not only as to the single fleece from which the sample is taken but as to that from any number of sheep. The results of any such test, however, could be applied only to sheep with fleece of approximately the same quality, feeding conditions the same, and produced in the same territory.

The same paper in its reference on March 15 to the petition also said:

The petition, which has been circulating for some little time past, was submitted a few days ago, too recently for the board of managers to have had time to give it full consideration as yet, and, so far as could be learned yesterday, no definite action of any sort has as yet been taken.

It is understood that the recently published annual statement of the American Woolen Co., showing as it did, according to members of the cotton trade, rather heavy losses due to fluctuations in the price of raw wool, stimulated the movement in question at this particular time.

In its issue of March 16 the "Journal of Commerce" printed the following in the matter:

If sentiment in the local cloth market seemed to be rather lukewarm with regard to the plan now afoot to establish trading in wool futures on the Cotton Exchange it was ascribed to the fact that New York mill agents are not seriously concerned with wool purchases and are not familiar with the details of the plan. While it is conceded that trading in wool futures may be of some importance to the wool trade, local factors cannot see how the mills and cloth sellers can benefit materially in such a project.

No formal overtures have yet been made to the American Association of Woolen and Worsted Manufacturers, comprising leading independent mill men and selling agents here, according to J. J. Nevins, Secretary of the organization, though he stated he had had unofficial notice of the plan from a member several months ago. This member, a prominent mill agent, had an inquiry from "downtown" seeking to sound out sentiment in the wool goods market.

#### Application for Appointment of Receiver for McCown & Co. Withdrawn—Referee to Be Appointed—Special Investigation into the Company's Affairs Ordered.

The receivership application by certain customers of the failed stock brokerage house of McCown & Co., Philadelphia, to which reference was made in last week's issue, page 1926, was withdrawn on March 4, when Henry P. Brown, attorney for the firm, agreed to file an immediate consent that the firm be declared bankrupt and the case assigned at once to a referee in bankruptcy for the appointment of a trustee, according to the Philadelphia "Ledger" of March 5. The assignment of this firm to the Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Co. of Philadelphia, for the benefit of its creditors, brought about by a sharp decline in Estey-Welte Corp. class A stock, was referred to in our issue of Jan. 29, page 592, and subsequent issues. In reporting the withdrawal of the application for a receiver, the paper mentioned said in part:

Withdrawal of the receivership application came at the close of a long discussion of the failure. In this discussion Owen J. Roberts made specific denial of allegations of fraud in the exploitation of Estey-Welte Corporation stock, in which the McCown firm had a large interest. He also said there was no basis for charges of fraud in the failure and he defended the selection of the Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Co. as the firm's assignee.

Mr. Roberts's denial was made following an address by J. Howard Reber, an attorney representing a group of marginal creditors of the McCown firm. He had filed the petition in involuntary bankruptcy and in his appeal to the Court for the appointment of a receiver Mr. Reber severely commented on the failure.

He also objected to the Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Co. being either appointed receiver or allowed to continue in possession of McCown's assets, asserting that the assignee had been chosen by McCown.

The assignment made for the benefit and protection of creditors took place Jan. 24, following a sharp break in the price of Estey-Welte stock on the New York Curb Market.

The Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Co. was represented by Mr. Roberts at the receivership hearing. He said that when Estey-Welte stock began to rise, customers of McCown rushed in and sold, taking their profits, and thus flooding the market. This caused a sharp recession in the price and ultimately forced McCown to the wall he said.

Respecting charges that McCown selected the Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Co. to handle his affairs, Mr. Roberts informed the Court that the larger creditors of the firm had selected the trust company and that these creditors forced McCown to agree to the proceedings.

A month after the assignment was made, more than 300 creditors of the firm voted in favor of continuing the trust company as the sole assignee. Henry P. Brown, counsel for McCown, agreed with Mr. Roberts's explanation of the assignee's selection.

The hearing lasted more than an hour. Strong opposition, from an array of legal talent that is rarely seen in one case, to any change being made in the situation as it existed, led Mr. Reber to withdraw his motion for a receiver, after Mr. Brown agreed to file an immediate consent that McCown be declared a bankrupt and the case assigned at once to a referee in bankruptcy for the appointment of a trustee.

According to Mr. Reber, this action will result in an investigation to ascertain "who in the brokerage firm was responsible for transactions, which have cleaned out many of the marginal customers." Mr. Reber said he represented about fifty marginal customers, who have claims for approximately \$150,000, and that the firm had hypothecated securities owned by its customers.

Several other attorneys from this city and New York, representing marginal clients and brokers with claims ranging from \$15,000 to \$145,000, supported Mr. Reber's petition for a receiver, but a greater number of lawyers, representing other groups, who favored the retention of the Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Co., opposed it. Attorneys, in addition to those named, who appeared in the proceedings included Ellis Ames Ballard, Maurice Bower Saul and Franklin Spencer Edmonds.

Finally, on a suggestion made by Judge Thompson, the consent action was agreed to.

McCown's estate, according to a schedule filed with Common Pleas Court, has assets of \$4,978,623, and liabilities of \$5,898,526. A complete and final report of the firm's affairs, which may require several months, is likely to show an increase in the liabilities and a decrease in the assets.

According to Mr. Brown, McCown had an investment of more than \$2,000,000 in the business. The attorney said that if the receivership proceedings had not been started, the Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Co. was on the threshold of accomplishing enormous good for both the creditors and McCown. "They had hoped to work out a full settlement for all, and to save Mr. McCown," he continued.

A special investigation into the tangled affairs of McCown & Co. was ordered on March 9 by Judge Thompson of the United States District Court. The Philadelphia "Inquirer" of March 10 stated that Charles H. Hulgen, one of the firms' customers, made the application to Judge Thompson for a special investigation through J. Howard Reber, an attorney, charging in a petition he filed that Frank C. McCown (the sole partner in the firm) appropriated the customers' securities to raise money to create a fictitious market for Estey-Welte stock.

#### Gilbert H. Montague on "The Government's Attitude Toward Business."

Gilbert H. Montague of the New York Bar in an address before the National Association of Office Appliance Manufacturers at Atlanta, Georgia, on March 10 averred that "business and the law are to-day closer in step than they have been at any time since the passage of the Sherman Act in 1890." "The significance of this accomplishment in the industrial and social life of America," he observed "is so great that even now it is not entirely appreciated."

Mr. Montague also said in part:

Many factors have contributed, of course, to the American people's record-breaking \$9 billion dollar income in 1926.

Among the most potent of these factors, though it is seldom considered in that light, is undoubtedly the friendly attitude toward business that has been shown by the government and the public during the past few years.

This situation, with all the opportunities and responsibilities that attend it, has resulted from the sound policy that has latterly been adopted by the courts with respect to the interpretation and enforcement of the anti-trust laws.

Business and the law are to-day closer in step than they have been at any time since the passage of the Sherman Act in 1890.

Production, it has long been recognized, is most efficient only when working people are happy and contented.

Management, it is now being demonstrated, can attain its highest efficiency only when those on whom rest the responsibilities and duties of managing and directing the industrial energies of the country actually know that they have the understanding, the sympathy, and the approval of the government and the public.

Unsettlement, anxiety, strain, and loss of morale have for generations been the toll that business uncertainty has taken from men, women and children in every station of business and social life.

To prolong prosperity, to raise the valleys and lower the peaks of business activity, and to substitute reasonably continuous well-being for alternate feast and famine in industry, are accomplishments that make happy and contented working people, cheerful business men, and a higher standard of life and enjoyment throughout the entire scale of civilization.

What miraculous results may be accomplished by restoring the morale, enhancing the self respect, and increasing the confidence of the working people and business men of the United States in their business, their laws, their business leaders, and their government, has been strikingly shown in the unprecedented prosperity of the American people during the past few years.

#### Call Money Market.

The following are the daily statements issued this week by the New York Stock Exchange regarding the call money market:

##### CALL LOANS ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Mar. 14—Renewal, 4%; high, 4%; low, 4%; last, 4%. A normal volume of transactions with ample funds for all requirements and a surplus.

Mar. 15—Renewal, 4%; high, 4%; low, 4%; last, 4%. Funds were in free supply, with but a moderate demand.

Mar. 16—Renewal, 4%; high, 4%; low, 3½%; last, 3½%. Accumulation of funds occasioned by Government financing and income tax payments made a temporary plethora of money and brought about a reduction in the rate to lowest figure of the year.

Mar. 17—Renewal, 4%; high, 4%; low, 4%; last, 4%. Moderate turnover. Ample supply all day.

Mar. 18—Renewal, 4%; high, 4%; low, 4%; last, 4%. Steady condition with somewhat firmer tone.

Statements of previous weeks have appeared weekly in our issues since July 10 1926; the last statement will be found on page 1453 of our issue of March 12.

#### Movement Looking to Amendment of Constitution of Stock Exchange to Enable Alternates to Act for Members.

A suggestion that the constitution of the New York Stock Exchange be amended so as to permit members to designate alternates to represent them on the floor of the Exchange during their absence has been made by George P. Smith of the firm of Smith & Gallatin, 66 Broadway, members of the Exchange, according to the "Herald Tribune" of March 15, which said in part:

Officials of the Exchange explained yesterday that the initiative in making the suggestion was taken by Mr. Smith as a member and not as a representative of the Exchange itself, although it was explained at the offices of Smith & Gallatin that the Exchange had been queried on the matter before the latter making the suggestion had been mailed to members. If approval is voiced by a large number of members, it is planned to bring the matter before the Board of Governors and the Exchange as a body for official action.

Briefly, the letter mailed by Mr. Smith asks members to signify their approval or disapproval of the suggestion. It contains names of some members who favor it, of those who would use it and of some who object to it.

The alternative member would take the place of the regular member on the floor and for this privilege would pay an initiation fee of \$1,000 plus a monthly fee of \$1,000, or \$10,000 for a full year. This, it is pointed out, would greatly increase the revenues of the Exchange, possibly making a reduction in regular dues advisable.

It is provided in the proposal that the alternate members must be business partners of the regular member, and that this name must be passed upon by the Committee on Membership. In this manner the business transacted by a firm would still be in the hands of a member of that firm. The advantage would be that the regular board member would on occasion be afforded leisure from the strain of trading.

#### *Might Reduce Regular Dues.*

In addition to the possibility that regular dues could be reduced through the receipt of large sums from the alternate members, it is pointed out that these revenues could be used for much needed expansion. At present the Exchange is remodeling part of the Postal Telegraph Building for the use of the bond crowd.

Opposition to the proposal on the part of the "two-dollar brokers" is expected to develop, inasmuch as these brokers reap a large harvest from the out-of-town members and others unable to go on the floor of the Exchange to transact their business. There are numerous members, including such figures as J. P. Morgan and John D. Rockefeller, and a host of others, who never appear on the floor. Their business goes through the hands of other firms or other brokers who are members of the Exchange, who charge a flat rate greatly below the commission charged non-members. As the profit for much of this business accrues to the "two-dollar brokers," they are not likely to favor a plan which would admit to the floor business partners of many of their largest customers.

### **Bond and Stock Exchange Opened in Seattle, Wash.**

The opening of the Seattle Bond and Stock Exchange, the first institution of its kind in the Pacific northwest with a membership limited to 22 for the present, took place on March 14 and represents the outcome of plans laid more than a year ago. The Board of Governors of the Exchange, is made up of the following: Deitrich G. Schmitz, Vice-President, National Bank of Commerce, Seattle; Ben B. Ehrlichman, President, Dumheller, Ehrlichman and White, Investment Bankers; Duncan Shaw, Resident Manager, Bond and Goodwin and Tucker; Fred J. Blanchett, Vice-President, George Burr, Conrad and Broom; K. Winslow, Jr., Vice-President, Bailargoon, Winslow and Co. J. Harrison of Blyth, Witter & Co. is Vice-President of the new exchange, Lawrence Arnold, Vice-President of the National Bank of Seattle is Treasurer and H. S. Grande, Manager of the bond department of the Seattle National Bank is Secretary of the exchange. Twelve Seattle bond houses and four of its banks are charter members of the exchange. The board of governors is empowered to increase the number of seats by adding not to exceed one new member every three months. The Exchange will open each weekday except Saturdays at 11:45 a. m. The rules governing the exchange were patterned after those of the leading stock exchanges.

### **Bill Before New York Legislature Permitting Bank of Manhattan Co. of New York to Change Par Value of Its Stock.**

It was made known on March 16 that a bill has been introduced in the New York Legislature (by Senator Campbell) authorizing the Bank of the Manhattan Co. of New York to change the par value and number of its shares. With reference to the proposed change the New York "World" of March 17, stated:

Stephen Baker, President of the Bank, explained that the bill has no other significance than that it was intended to rectify a situation which has operated to the detriment of the bank. It is the only New York institution whose shares are of \$50 par value. This gives an apparent low quotation for the stock and is said to have been a deterrent to getting new business. Mechanics Bank, Brooklyn, has \$50 par shares.

Although the Bank of the Manhattan Co. observes New York State banking laws when it wishes to change its capital or corporate powers, it must by the charter granted it in 1799 go direct to the Legislature, which is the charter grantor. The charter provided for a water company, but the water company established a banking department, and the former no longer functions.

Stephen Baker, who controls the destinies of the bank with its thirty-nine branches, is one of the oldest bank Presidents in New York, having been elected to his present office in 1893. Speyer & Co. have 8,000 shares of the bank. James Speyer is a director. The bank declared a 100% stock dividend Nov. 28 1922, and increased its capital from \$10,000,000 to \$10,700,000 Aug. 14 last to buy the Greenpoint National Bank.

H. F. Poor, President of the Garfield National Bank, yesterday, commenting on rumors that the bank would be sold to either the National City Bank or the Bank of the Manhattan Co., said no merger negotiations were under way and that the Garfield was not for sale.

An advance of over 53 points has been witnessed in the shares of the Bank since the first of the year. It was stated

in the "Times" of March 16 that President Baker, of the Bank of the Manhattan Co., declined to comment on rumors that his bank was to merge with another large Wall Street bank which have circulated for some time and which were revived when the bid price of Bank of Manhattan stock rose on March 15 from 270 to 280. The item also said:

Other officers of the bank disclaimed knowledge of any merger plans. "Every time our stock rises in price I am asked to discuss rumors about a merger," said Mr. Baker. "I see no reason why I should continue to comment on them."

### **Analysis of McFadden Banking Act by Comptroller of Currency.**

An analysis of what are considered by officials of the office of the Comptroller of the Currency to be the leading provisions of the new McFadden law amending the National Banking Act has just been compiled, says the "United States Daily" of March 12, which states that this analysis will be included in the revision of the banking regulations being prepared by the Comptroller.

The full text of the analysis is given as follows in the "Daily":

Act of Nov. 7 1918: 1. State bank may be consolidated with national the same as two national banks may be consolidated on two-thirds vote of each, or more on part of State bank if State laws require, and on notice required by State laws.

2. Important clause: Consolidated bank succeeds to all right of State bank, including trustee, executor, and all fiduciary rights.

#### *Indeterminate Charter.*

Section 5136, U. S. R. S. 1. Charter for indeterminate time: until dissolved by shareholders, or until franchise forfeited, or until terminated by Act of Congress, or until receiver appointed to wind up.

2. Buying and selling investment securities shall hereafter (Feb. 25 1927) be without recourse and limited to marketable obligations in form of bonds, notes, debentures. Comptroller to further define term and regulate. Amount of one obligor or maker not more than 25% unimpaired capital and surplus. Exceptions: United States, State, political subdivisions and Federal Farm Loan Act obligations.

3. Bank may, in carrying on safe deposit business, invest in capital stock of a corporation organized under State law to conduct safe deposit business not more than 15% of capital and surplus of bank.

Section 5137, U. S. R. S., amended to omit word "immediate" prior to "accommodation," leaving a leeway for holding banking house property prior to occupancy.

Section 5138, U. S. R. S. Permits organization and continuation of existing national banks in cities of over 50,000 located in outlying districts of such city, to have capital of not less than \$100,000 (instead of \$200,000 as heretofore) if State laws permit State banks to be organized with \$100,000 or less capital therein.

#### *Changes Par of Stock.*

Section 5139, U. S. R. S. Changes par of stock to 100 or such less amount as articles of association provide.

Section 5142, U. S. R. S. Provides for the increase of capital stock by means of a stock dividend (heretofore permitted by ruling only), surplus fund to be at least 20% of capital as increase.

Section 5146, U. S. R. S. Directors must own stock having par of \$1,000, except banks with capital of \$25,000, par of \$500.

Section 5150, U. S. R. S. President of bank a director and also chairman of board, unless board designates another director as chairman to perform duties designated by board.

Section 5155, U. S. R. S. 1. National banks having not more than one branch maintained and operated more than 25 years immediately preceding Feb. 25 1927, may continue to maintain branch.

2. State bank converting and national banks consolidating may retain and operate any branches in lawful operation Feb. 25 1927.

3. New branches may be established in same city, town or village if State laws permit State banks to do so, except none permitted where population is less than 25,000, one where population not more than 50,000, two where population not more than 100,000; number within discretion of Comptroller where population is over 100,000.

4. Branches may not be moved except with consent of Comptroller.

5. Branch defined as branch bank, office, agency, additional office or any branch place of business.

Section 5190, U. S. R. S. Place of business to include branch or branches.

Section 5202, U. S. R. S. Exempts from limit liabilities to Federal Intermediate Credit banks.

Section 5208, U. S. R. S. Omits requirement that the amount of a certified check must be entered to the credit of the drawer on the books of the bank, and makes the requirement read "regularly deposited in the bank by the drawer thereof."

#### *Reports of Conditions.*

Section 5211, U. S. R. S. Reports of condition may be sworn to by Vice-President or Assistant Cashier designated by board in absence of President and Cashier.

Section 22, Federal Reserve Act. Makes it a crime for any assistant examiner to borrow or accept gift from bank, same as examiner heretofore; also provides penalty for stealing, taking or unlawfully concealing anything of value in the possession of a member bank, or from safe deposit box in or adjacent to premises of such bank, by an examiner or assistant examiner.

Section 24, Federal Reserve Act. Heretofore real estate not farm land was only eligible as security for loan if located within 100 miles of bank.

1. Now all kinds of improved real estate may be anywhere in same Federal Reserve district or within 100 miles of bank.

2. All real estate loans may be for five years and must be secured by a first lien.

3. Cannot be participant in real estate loan, but bank must hold all.

4. Aggregate changed from 25% of capital and surplus or one-third of time deposits to 25% of capital and surplus or one-half of savings deposits.

5. Individual loans subject to Section 5200, U. S. R. S.

6. Interest on time and savings deposits limited to maximum allowed by State.

7. Central Reserve city banks now make loans on real estate.

Referring further to Section 5136, U. S. R. S., it will take the Comptroller about three months to prescribe rules and regulations in connection with investment securities. In the meantime he will pass upon individual specific cases as presented.



Text of the McFadden banking bill, which was signed by President Coolidge on Feb. 25, was given in our issue of Feb. 26, p. 1162, 1164.

**Forms Sent to Banks for Use in Asking Permits to Open Branches under McFadden Law.**

The following is taken from the "United States Daily" of March 8:

Blank forms upon which to make application for permission to establish branches under the McFadden Banking Act have just been compiled and distributed by the Comptroller of the Currency.

The new forms, which constitute the first action taken by an executive branch of the Government under the law recently passed by Congress, read as follows:

APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO ESTABLISH BRANCHES.

(Date)

To the Comptroller of the Currency,  
Washington, D. C.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Bank)

of \_\_\_\_\_ located at \_\_\_\_\_  
(City and State) (Street Location)

\_\_\_\_\_ hereby applies for permission to establish  
\_\_\_\_\_ branch in the said city of \_\_\_\_\_  
having a population of \_\_\_\_\_

2. It is proposed to locate said branch at the vicinity of the following place  
within said city of \_\_\_\_\_

3. State banks are permitted to have branches (as branches are defined by  
the McFadden Act) under the laws of the State of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Copy of Provisions of Statutes, Court Decision, Opinion of Attorney-  
General or Regulations of State Banking Department authorizing branches or  
agencies must be attached.)

4. A statement of the condition of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Bank)

as of date of this application is hereto attached.

5. A certified copy of the resolution of the board of directors showing au-  
thority of the \_\_\_\_\_ to make this application  
(Name of Bank)

for the above-named branch is hereto attached.

6. REMARKS: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gates W. McGarrah Sails for Europe.**

Gates W. McGarrah, who was recently named as Chairman of the Board of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, sailed on the Berengaria, on March 12 to attend his final meeting as a director of the Reichsbank, Berlin. He will assume his new duties May 1 at the Federal Reserve Bank.

**March Collections of Federal Income Taxes Expected to Exceed \$625,000,000—President Reported as Indicating That Tax Cuts Are Justified.**

It was stated yesterday (March 18) in Associated Press accounts from Washington that reports on tax collections presented to President Coolidge have convinced him that unless a business recession occurs in the present year Congress at its next session will be justified in cutting the income and other revenue rates. In addition, it was stated in the dispatches:

Determination of a tax reduction program, it was said at the White House to-day, is out of the question, however, until all returns have been made.

While the present flow of revenue into the Treasury is satisfactory, the President has been told by tax experts that a recession of general business activities amounting to as much as 10% would wipe out entirely the anticipated surplus for this fiscal year.

There are no signs of such a recession, the President has been told, and when the surplus has been fully disclosed, he believes it will be possible for Congress to determine how much of a cut can be made.

Secretary Mellon is said to have expressed the belief on March 17 that the Treasury surplus will exceed \$500,000,000 this fiscal year. The collection of income taxes due March 15 is expected to exceed \$600,000,000.

While the Secretary, it is reported, still holds the surplus does not necessarily mean that the Revenue Act of 1926 will produce sufficient revenue in the next year to warrant tax reduction, he said it would indicate successful operation of the Act. The surplus accumulating this fiscal year, which will be increased by the failure of Congress to pass the second deficiency bill, will be applied to the public debt. It was stated by the Washington correspondent of the New York "Journal of Commerce" on March 17 that despite assurances of an unprecedentedly large surplus at the close of the present fiscal year, Secretary Mellon refused to concede that permanent tax reduction can be wisely effected for next year. In part the advices continued:

Congress, however, will take a vastly different view of the matter and it may be found that Republicans will endeavor to outdo the Democrats in their efforts to win favor with the public by cutting taxes.

The forthcoming official announcement of Secretary Mellon as to the receipts for the first quarter of 1927 is being awaited with a great deal of interest, particularly in view of an invitation extended yesterday by Chairman William R. Green of the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, to individuals and associations to submit recommendations for the simplification of the tax laws, and to some of these to participate in a conference to be held early next month for a discussion of tax law simplification. Representative Green is also the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and this activity is merely a forerunner of a pre-session

meeting of the committee within which to draft a new tax law embodying administrative features and rates.

Admitting that the large income taxes now being received and the huge surplus which he expects to exceed half a billion dollars will provide a gauge for determining the outlook for permanent tax reduction by the next Congress, Secretary Mellon declared that those considerations would have no direct effect on the Government's finances for 1928.

"The existence of a surplus in any particular year, or group of years, is not prima facie evidence that the Government has sources of revenue in excess of normal needs for the exercise of its functions," the Treasury head declared.

*Surplus for Debt Reduction.*

The surplus at the end of this fiscal year will automatically be applied to the reduction of the public debt, in accordance with the post-war policy of the Treasury to effect relief from heavy debt charges, he stated. Congress's failure to pass the second deficiency appropriation bill, carrying \$93,000,000, accounts for one large non-recurring item that will go toward making up this year's surplus, he pointed out, but this item must be given allowance as an expenditure for 1928, he declared.

**W. H. Woodin Nominated as Class B Director of Federal Reserve Bank of New York.**

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York issued the following notice to members on March 14:

As a result of the nominations provided for in our circular No. 765 of Feb. 7 1927, which were closed at noon on Saturday, March 12, William H. Woodin, President of the American Car & Foundry Co., has been nominated by member banks in group 1 as candidate for class B director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. We are sending herewith to all member banks for their information the names of the banks making the nomination.

Only the banks of Group 1, however, that is, those having capital and surplus above \$1,999,000, will vote at this election.

On or about April 4 the result will be announced to all member banks.

Announcement that Mr. Woodin had been recommended for the post by the Committee on Nominations was made in these columns Feb. 12, page 878.

**Over \$1,000,000,000 Bonds of Second Liberty Loan Offered in Exchange for New Treasury Notes—Books to Remain Open until March 22.**

The Treasury Department announced on March 15 that over \$1,000,000,000 Second Liberty Loan converted 4 1/4% bonds had been offered in exchange for the new 3 1/2% five-year Treasury notes; details of the exchange were given in our issue of Saturday last, page 1457. Secretary Mellon's announcement of March 15 follows:

The Department of the Treasury announces that up to the close of business on March 15, over \$1,000,000,000 of the Second Liberty Loan 4 1/4% bonds, or more than one-third of the total second 4 1/4% outstanding, had been presented for conversion into five-year 3 1/2% Treasury notes in accordance with the terms of the offering made public by the Treasury on March 8.

The Department is gratified at the favorable response, which fully meets its expectation. In order to give other holders of Second Liberty 4 1/4% bonds an opportunity to avail themselves of this offer, the Treasury plans to keep the books open until the close of business Tuesday, March 22.

On March 17 it was made known that at the close of business March 16 71,146,000,000 had been converted, of which \$684,000,000 was from the New York Federal Reserve District.

**Definitive Notes on New 3 1/2% Treasury Notes, Offered in Exchange for Second Liberty Loan, Ready for Delivery.**

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York announced on March 17 that it now has ready for delivery the definitive 3 1/2% 5-year Treasury notes of Series A-1930-32 which are being offered by the Secretary of the Treasury in exchange for Second Liberty Loan converted 4 1/4% bonds. The new notes may be obtained from the Government bond and safe-keeping department of the Federal Reserve Bank. The subscription books for this offering of Treasury notes will close on Tuesday, March 22, and Second Liberty Loan converted 4 1/4% bonds offered in exchange must be tendered at the Federal Reserve Bank before the close of business on that day.

**Subscriptions in Excess of a Billion Dollars Received for Treasury Certificates of Indebtedness Offered to Amount of \$450,000,000—Allotments \$484,296,000.**

Total subscriptions of \$1,255,082,500 were received in response to the offering on March 7 of the two issues of Treasury certificates of indebtedness. The aggregate offering had been for \$450,000,000 or thereabouts, and the total amount allotted is \$484,296,000. In the case of the certificates designated Series TS2-1927, maturing in six months (Sept. 15 1927) and bearing interest at 3 1/8%, the amount offered was \$150,000,000 or thereabouts; the subscriptions to this offering were \$449,670,500, while the allotments were \$169,888,000. The subscriptions to the other issue of certificates (Series TM-1927, offered to the amount of \$300,000,000 or thereabouts, running for one year and bearing interest at 3 1/4%) were \$805,412,000; the amount allotted was

\$314,408,000. The offering of the two issues was noted in these columns last week, page 1456. In announcing on Mar. 12 the subscriptions and allotments, Secretary of the Treasury Mellon said:

The total amount of subscriptions received for the two issues of Treasury certificates of indebtedness, Series TS2-1927, 3 1/4%, dated March 15 1927, maturing Sept. 15 1927, and Series TM-1928, 3 1/4%, dated March 15 1927, maturing March 15 1928, was \$1,255,082,500. The total amount of subscriptions allotted was \$484,296,000, of which \$24,416,000 represents allotments on subscriptions for which Treasury notes of Series B-1927, maturing March 15 1927, were tendered in payment. All of such exchange subscriptions were allotted 50%. Allotments on other subscriptions were made on a graduated scale on the basis already announced.

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

SERIES TS2-1927.		Total	Total
Federal Reserve District—	Subscriptions Received.	Subscriptions Allotted.	Subscriptions Allotted.
Boston	-----	\$51,102,000	\$20,454,000
New York	-----	164,334,500	52,426,000
Philadelphia	-----	46,939,500	25,075,000
Cleveland	-----	25,075,000	9,570,000
Richmond	-----	18,148,500	7,186,000
Atlanta	-----	28,763,000	12,186,000
Chicago	-----	41,323,500	16,667,000
St. Louis	-----	11,647,000	4,999,000
Minneapolis	-----	7,302,000	3,135,500
Kansas City	-----	2,464,500	1,067,500
Dallas	-----	11,244,500	4,656,500
San Francisco	-----	41,326,500	17,037,500
Total	-----	\$449,670,500	\$169,888,000

SERIES TM-1928.		Total	Total
Federal Reserve District—	Subscriptions Received.	Subscriptions Allotted.	Subscriptions Allotted.
Boston	-----	\$62,660,500	\$24,292,000
New York	-----	271,950,000	92,799,500
Philadelphia	-----	104,930,500	46,808,500
Cleveland	-----	54,585,000	21,622,000
Richmond	-----	35,093,000	13,702,500
Atlanta	-----	35,024,000	14,880,000
Chicago	-----	94,320,000	38,879,000
St. Louis	-----	23,491,000	11,168,000
Minneapolis	-----	7,785,500	3,300,500
Kansas City	-----	14,101,500	6,144,500
Dallas	-----	25,756,000	10,770,500
San Francisco	-----	75,715,000	30,041,000
Total	-----	\$805,412,000	\$314,408,000
Total subscriptions, both series	-----	\$1,255,082,500	\$484,296,000
Total allotments, both series	-----	-----	484,296,000

The Treasury certificates which represented the December financing of the Government bore 3 1/4%; these mature in nine months, being dated Dec. 15 1926 and due Sept. 15 1927. That offering was for \$200,000,000 or thereabouts, and the subscriptions exceeded a billion dollars; the allotments were \$229,264,500.

### Senators and Representatives Who Retire with the Expiration of Congress—Withdrawal of Oscar Underwood.

Nine Senators and 53 Representatives retired to private life or went to other public office with the death of the Sixty-Ninth Congress, says Associated Press advices from Washington March 5, which further state:

Eight Senate committees lost their Chairmen, while in the House only two minor committee chairmen retired.

Among the stalwarts of the Senate to retire was Senator Oscar W. Underwood, Democrat of Alabama, who closed a 30-year career in Congress, where as Democratic leader in both the House and Senate he held the highest places his party could offer there. He plans to take things easy in an effort to regain his health.

The Republicans lost two of their veterans in Wadsworth of New York and Lenroot of Wisconsin, who were defeated for re-election after serving in the Senate for 12 and nine years, respectively.

Wadsworth returns to his farm in New York, while Lenroot will practice law in Washington.

#### Ogden L. Mills Enters Treasury Service.

In the House, Ogden L. Mills of New York, powerful factor on the Ways and Means Committee, went out of office to accept the post of Under-Secretary of the Treasury and J. N. Tincher of Kansas, the largest man in Congress and a picturesque figure in the Republican Party for years, will go back home to engage in the oil business.

Other spectacular representatives to leave the House were William D. Upshaw, Democrat of Georgia, and John Phillip Hill, Republican of Maryland, who respectively represented probably the most outspoken views for and against Prohibition in Congress. Upshaw, who was defeated for re-nomination, will go on the Chautauqua platform, while Hill, who failed to win a Senate nomination, will retire to his Baltimore home to watch the Prohibition battle from the side lines.

Of the nine new Senators, four were drawn from the ranks of the House. They are: Carl Hayden, Democrat of Arizona; who unseated Cameron, Republican; Albert Barkley, Democrat of Kentucky, who will succeed Ernst, Republican; William S. Vare, Republican of Pennsylvania, elected to replace Pepper, also Republican, and Millard E. Tydings, Democrat of Maryland, who defeated Weller, Republican.

The other five include Smith W. Brookhart, former Republican insurgent member from Iowa, who will succeed David W. Stewart, Republican, who served under a Governor's appointment. Four strangers to the Senate will be: John J. Blaine, Republican of Wisconsin, replacing Lenroot; Charles W. Waterman, Republican of Colorado, succeeding Rice W. Means, Republican; Hugo Black, Democrat of Alabama, succeeding Underwood, and Robert F. Wagner, Democrat of New York, replacing Wadsworth.

Senate committees which lost their Chairmen were: Elections, Ernst; Indian Affairs, Harrelld; Claims, Means; Printing, Pepper; Public Lands, Standfield; Military Affairs, Wadsworth; Manufactures, Weller, and Public Buildings, Lenroot.

In the House Representative Scott, Republican of Michigan, retired as Chairman of the Merchant Marine Committee, and Representative Swoope, Republican of Pennsylvania, left the head of the Pension Committee.

Other members retired who were long prominent in affairs were Voigt of Wisconsin, Fairchild of New York, Patterson of New Jersey, and Keller

of Minnesota, all Republicans. Democrats lose Lesse of Georgia, Carter of Oklahoma, O'Connell of Rhode Island, and Smithwick of Florida. The Farmer-Labor Party lost Wefald, one of its two members.

### Unvetoed Bill Held Law—House Accepts This Opinion and Provides for Appropriation—To Carry Out Treaty with Shawnee Tribe of Indians.

Under date of Feb. 26 an Associated Press dispatch published in the New York "Times" said:

The House to-day accepted an interpretation of its Judiciary Committee that a bill becomes a law if the President neither vetoes nor signs it after the end of Congressional sessions other than those which expire automatically every two years on March 4.

In doing so it inserted in the pending Deficiency bill a \$486,000 appropriation to carry out a treaty with the Shawnee Tribe of Indians in Oklahoma. The bill authorizing the appropriation was passed in the closing days of the last session, President Coolidge failing to act on it, and there has been some controversy as to whether it really became law.

Guided by a Judiciary Committee opinion, the House to-day decided that it had.

### President Coolidge Signs Bill Authorizing Purchase of Property in New York Owned by Trinity Corporation for New Custom House Building.

President Coolidge on March 4 signed a bill appropriating \$8,000,000 for the purchase of Trinity Corporation ground in New York City and the erection of a building to be used by the United States custom and other Government officers. The "Times" on March 4 in reporting the signing of the bill said:

The plot contains 998,000 square feet and is bounded by Varick, King, Hudson and West Houston streets.

It was said to-day this is the first piece of land the Trinity Corporation has ever offered for sale. If the corporation should decline to sell the land, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to acquire it by condemnation.

An earlier account (Feb. 28) in the "Times" regarding the measure said in part:

The Senate bill provided for a lease by the Treasury Department for twenty years of a building to be erected in New York at a yearly rental of \$1,000,000.

When the measure went to the House Ways and Means Committee, Representative Garner attacked it as unbusinesslike, and estimated it would cost \$30,000,000.

A counter-proposal was suggested by the Treasury Department, under which \$10,500,000 would be paid to Louis Adler, who was to purchase the ground. Mr. Garner declared this was \$4,000,000 too much, and he suggested \$6,000,000. Representative Carew of New York, who sought to reach a compromise, said to-day that Mr. Garner finally consented to \$8,000,000, to which Chairman Green and others agreed. When the matter came before the Rules Committee it developed that an increase from \$8,000,000 might be unavoidable.

"Personally," said Mr. Carew, "I think \$8,000,000 is a very high price, but in order to get the building speedily I thought it worth \$1,000,000 more, perhaps."

### Senate Committee Upholds Right of Senator Gould to Seat in Senate—Recommends Dropping of Charges.

The sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, which was named on Dec. 8 to investigate charges against Senator Arthur R. Gould (Republican) of Maine has upheld the right of the Senator to a seat in the Senate and has recommended that no further action in the premises be taken. The conclusions of the sub-committee were presented to the Senate on Feb. 28. The investigation grew out of charges alleging the payment by the Senator of \$100,000 to Premier Flemming of the Province of New Brunswick (Canada). In reporting the conclusions of the sub-committee, Associated Press advices from Washington Feb. 28 stated:

It was pointed out that Senator Gould denied making the payment himself and that he testified he protested over his business associates paying anything.

The report was prepared by Senator George, Democrat of Georgia, a member of the sub-committee.

The investigation of Senator Gould's qualifications was made at the instance of Senator Walsh, Democrat of Montana, who based his demands on charges that Senator Gould had turned over \$100,000 to former Premier Flemming of New Brunswick in connection with a contract for a railroad. Mr. Gould on the witness stand denied that any fraud was involved.

The report to-day declared the sub-committee was "in entire agreement in the case in the following particulars:

"A.—The undertaking by the Hon. Arthur R. Gould and his associates to build the railroad was, in the beginning, free from suspicion of dishonesty or fraud.

"B.—The transactions here inquired into had, in fact, no relation to the selection of the Hon. Arthur R. Gould as a candidate of his party in the primary of 1926 or to his election to the Senate of the United States in the election held in the State of Maine in 1926.

"C.—The transaction occurred more than 14 years prior to said election.

"D.—It affirmatively appears that the Hon. Arthur R. Gould is a man of good character. Through a long life, in which he has actively engaged in important enterprises, he has borne the reputation of a man of character and integrity.

"The premises considered, your committee recommends that further action in the instant case be not taken and that the right of the Hon. Arthur R. Gould to a seat in the Senate be confirmed."

The sub-committee declined to rule on the claim of Mr. Gould's counsel that the Senate had no right to exclude a member for an act committed prior to election.

"If the fullest power exists the committee believes that every case involving the exclusion of a Senator-elect or the expulsion of a member of the Senate for an offense alleged to have been committed prior to his

election must depend upon the peculiar facts and the circumstances of the particular case," the report said.

"The general conclusion to which your committee has come makes it unnecessary to give an opinion upon the power of the Senate with respect to the question here raised."

The inquiry was called for under a resolution introduced in the Senate on Dec. 6 by Senator Walsh (Democrat) of Montana, and adopted by the Senate on Dec. 7 by a vote of 70 to 7. The sub-committee named to conduct the investigation consisted of Senators Goff (Republican) West Virginia; Shortridge (Republican), California; Deneen (Republican), Illinois; King (Democrat), Utah, and George (Democrat), Georgia.

### Col. T. W. Miller, Former Alien Property Custodian, Sentenced to Eighteen Months' Imprisonment and Fined \$5,000.

Col. Thomas W. Miller, formerly Alien Property Custodian, who was convicted on March 4 on charges of conspiracy to defraud the Government of his unbiased services was sentenced by Federal Judge Knox on March 8 to 18 months' imprisonment in the Atlanta Penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$5,000. As indicated in our issue of March 5, page 1298, the jury which convicted Col. Miller was unable to agree on a verdict in the case of former U.S. Attorney-General Harry M. Daugherty, who was tried at the same time on the same charges. According to the New York "Times," the jury failed by one vote to convict the former Attorney-General. With reference to the sentence imposed on Col. Miller, the "Times" said:

Standing in the position of a soldier at attention, Col. Miller, who was several times cited for bravery in action in the World War, accepted sentence with the same lack of emotion he had displayed throughout the long trial and when the verdict against him was announced. Motions to set aside the verdict, to arrest judgment, to grant a new trial and to suspend sentence after it had been pronounced, were denied by Judge Knox, who gave counsel 24 hours in which to file appeal papers, and continued Col. Miller's \$5,000 bail.

Judge Knox told Col. Miller he regretted that he had not taken the stand in his own defense and told his own story. He said also that, if the Appellate Court should find a basis in the record of the trial for concluding that the judgment of conviction had been an improper one, he would be "most happy."

Col. Miller and his attorneys, Aaron Sapiro and George Winship Taylor, admitted they had been considering a statement that would show how the Liberty bonds, referred to in the trial as a bribe, had found their way into their client's brokerage account. They did not make such a statement yesterday, however. Col. Miller, accompanied by his wife, left for his home in Wilmington, Del., and Mr. Sapiro went to Chicago. Mrs. Miller, who was in court throughout the trial, bore herself as calmly as did her husband.

Before sentence Mr. Taylor spoke briefly and presented affidavits in support of his plea for consideration for his client. Mr. Sapiro, in moving for arrest of judgment, said in effect that if Col. Miller was guilty Mr. Daugherty was guilty as well. He continued:

"It seems to me that in no possible situation brought to light by the evidence in this case could Col. Miller be guilty and Mr. Daugherty innocent. The evidence was not sufficient for finding Col. Miller guilty when the jury failed to agree on Mr. Daugherty. The indictment did not set forth sufficient facts upon which to predicate such a disposition of the case.

United States Attorney Buckner urged Judge Knox to impose a material sentence, saying that the Government's fight for conviction had not been against either defendant personally, but had been a battle of simple justice in behalf of thousands of Federal employees who had neither wealth nor educational advantages, yet who were expected to perform their duties honestly.

"These men," continued Mr. Buckner, "have children, too, and they often wear poor clothes because their fathers cannot provide any better. Yet your Honor has sent many of them to jail for the theft of a few dollars from the mails.

"The maximum fine which might be imposed (\$10,000) would be only one-fifth of the amount the evidence showed the greatest trustee in history to have taken as his part of what was paid by the claimants in connection with the act complained of by the Government."

*Judge Knox's Statement.*

"Colonel Miller, step forward," said Judge Knox. "I hated to believe that men in responsible positions might be guilty of such a crime as was charged in the indictment, but I must accept the verdict of the jury. I regret you did not take the stand and tell your story. While recognizing your services to your country in time of war, I may add that good citizenship is often strained in time of peace. It is the duty of those in public office to be steadfast.

"I do not believe a prison sentence will add anything to what you have suffered. But I have a duty toward officers of the Government whose positions are far more humble than was yours."

Sentence was then imposed, and Mr. Sapiro moved that the prison term be suspended, saying that Colonel Miller had wanted to take the stand, and that he, as his attorney, had kept him from doing so. Judge Knox denied the motion.

### United States Supreme Court Holds Invalid Louisiana Law Designed to Bar Negroes from Residing in Communities Occupied by White Persons.

The United States Supreme Court on March 14 held unconstitutional the Louisiana and New Orleans restrictions under which whites and negroes are barred from residing in the same communities without the written consent of a majority of persons of the opposite race. In its account of the Supreme Court's conclusions on March 14 the New York "World" stated:

In 1917, in the Buchanan-Warley case, the court killed the Louisville law. To-day it reversed the Supreme Court of Louisiana in the Ben Harmon vs. Joseph W. Tyler case, "on the authority" of the Louisville case.

The Buchanan-Warley opinion was handed down Nov. 5 1917. It related to a city ordinance which forbade colored persons the occupancy of houses in lots where the greater number of houses were occupied by white persons, and, in practical effect, prevented the sale of lots in such blocks to negroes. The Court held it unconstitutional.

The Acts of Louisiana and the ordinance of New Orleans in question, make it unlawful, on the sole ground of race or color, for a white man or a colored man to establish a home residence on any property in a negro community or white community, unless he obtains the written consent of a majority of the opposite race.

Tyler, the white man, and Harmon, the negro, owned homes on opposite sides of the street. Harmon planned to convert a single cottage into a double one and rent it to a negro family. Tyler brought suit to stop him, declaring he had not obtained the written consent of a majority of the white persons of that community. A lower court decided against Tyler, but on appeal, he won in the State Supreme Court, and the negro appealed to Washington.

Negro litigants won another advantage in the Supreme Court to-day when a petition for review filed by the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine was granted. White Shriners of Texas are trying to compel the negro Shriners to give up their order. Courts of Texas decided in favor of the white Shriners, and barred the negroes from wearing the emblems and insignia of the order. The negroes brought the case to the Supreme Court, declaring that the ruling of the court below discriminates against negroes on account of their color, in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment. The Supreme Court will consider the case.

### New Bill for Consolidation of Railroads Tentatively Agreed on by House Committee—Cummins Measure Sidetracked.

Just before the adjournment of Congress a bill embodying new plans for the consolidation of railroads was introduced (on March 3) by Representative James S. Parker, of New York, Chairman of the House Committee on Inter-State and Foreign Commerce. It was noted in the "Wall Street News" that the bill is a redraft of the original Fess-Parker bill and was drawn up by the committee with the assistance of Commissioner Hall of the Interstate Commerce Commission. It differs from the original Fess-Parker bill only in phraseology and is drawn along lines for which provision was made for railroad consolidation in the Transportation Act of 1920. The introduction of the bill in the closing hours of Congress it was indicated was with a view to getting the measure on the calendar for action at the next session. Mr. Parker was quoted as saying on March 2:

I have every expectation that, with a vast portion of the necessary work already accomplished, the committee will be in a position to complete its consideration at the next Congress within a reasonably short period of time, and that legislation embodying substantially the principal policies of the bill introduced to-day, authorizing voluntary consolidations subject to the approval of the Inter-State Commerce Commission, will be forthcoming during the first session of the next Congress.

From Washington, March 9, the "Wall Street News" reported the following:

Substitution of the new Parker railroad consolidation measure for all previous merger bills now pending before the House and Senate Inter-State Commerce committees were forecast by Senator Watson, Chairman of the Senate committee, to-day. He predicted the bill would be acceptable to the majority members of the Senate Inter-State Commerce Committee and indicated the Cummins measure has been definitely sidetracked because of its so-called compulsory features.

The Parker measure is generally understood to have been drawn by experts of the Association of Railway Executives.

On March 3 Representative Parker stated:

Under the bill adequate corporate power is granted the carriers to carry out consolidations, when approved by the Inter-State Commerce Commission and consented to by the carriers. A flexible procedure is prescribed and for each proposed unification there should be one or more methods found in the bill fitted to the practical conditions confronting the carriers. Dissenting stockholders are protected.

The "Times" announced Representative Parker as declaring that the public must have adequate and efficient transportation service at the lowest possible rates, and as adding:

The public has the right to demand of Congress that it establish a system of regulation which will give each community the transportation upon which its life, its growth and its development depend. We have a system of regulation. Unless that system is made more effective, however, we will be confronted with a demand for greater Governmental aid and ultimately Government ownership. It is my opinion, and I am confident that it is practically the unanimous opinion of the committee, that private operation of our transportation agencies under public regulation should be continued as the permanent policy of our Government.

*Seeks Better Service at Lower Rates.*

Consequently we must do all in our power to provide effective regulation so that private operation will produce the results properly demanded by the public. The impaired credit of carriers must be restored. Additions and betterments must replace abandonments. Rates must be soundly made and adjusted so that carriers as a whole may not only continue to live but may give better service at lower rates. The excessive costs of inefficient and inadequate service, reflected not alone in freight rates but in delays and hazards which shippers must take into consideration, must be eliminated.

I am convinced that the policy of voluntary consolidation is sound. The President of the United States in each of his last four annual messages to Congress has recommended the policy. The present law, which was a part of the Transportation Act of 1920, recognizes the policy. Transportation experts are in substantial unanimity upon the policy. The Inter-State Commerce Commission reports favorably upon it. I feel certain that the Committee on Inter-State and Foreign Commerce of the House of Representatives is in substantial accord upon the policy.

If the principles of this bill become law and unifications of railway properties are authorized the public interest will be adequately and properly protected, a long stride toward the solution of our weak-line problem will be made, a limited number of strong, efficient and well-balanced railroad systems will be ultimately established, economy promoted, better service afforded, a simplified and more effective regulation of carriers provided, unnecessary duplication and wasteful combinations eliminated, existing competition essential in the public interest will not be lessened and the advantages of competition between the systems established will be obtained.

It is not supposed that consolidation presents a panacea for all the ailments of our present system. I am confident, however, that voluntary consolidations will mark a decided step forward toward the ultimate satisfactory solution of our transportation problem.

Representative Homer Hoch of Kansas, a member of the Inter-State Commerce Committee, who has taken an active part in framing this legislation, explained on March 6 the principles which the Committee sought to embody in the measure, according to the New York "Times," which quoted Mr. Hoch as follows:

My chief interest in this matter has been to secure provisions in the bill which will insure protection of the public interest as the first requirement before any consolidations are authorized, which will prevent improper valuations from being brought about through consolidations, with their resulting burden on the public, which will in every way possible prevent overcapitalization and improper financing, and which will preserve the so-called weak lines that may be necessary to the sections which they serve.

If consolidations are to be brought about, there are two principal reasons why legislation is necessary. In the first place, the ban imposed by the anti-trust laws must be lifted; and, in the second, practical means must be provided for carrying these consolidations into effect after they are authorized.

The Committee has very greatly changed the provisions of the bill which set up the conditions under which the Inter-State Commerce Commission may authorize consolidations. A definite guide is provided to the Commission, and protection of the public interest is made the first and essential thing as a condition precedent.

#### *Seeks to Protect the Public.*

The Commission cannot permit any consolidation until it is clearly established that the public interest will be protected; that the necessary weak lines will be preserved; that unnecessary duplications will be removed; that the action taken will help to bring about the unification of the railroads into a number of well-balanced systems of fairly equal strength, and that the advantage of competition between such systems will be secured.

The effort is not to remove competition in any territory, but to secure competition between strong systems dealing as equals. One of the principal arguments for consolidation is that it will simplify rate regulation and give diversity of traffic that will make easier a readjustment of rates in the interest of commodities unfairly burdened.

The problem of the so-called weak lines is one of the most difficult in the whole railroad situation. Some of these lines should never have been built, and there are some which may have to be abandoned. But among these lines are many which serve a real need and which must be preserved.

The proposed bill does not provide compulsory consolidation, but it does have strong provisions for the preservation of these necessary weak lines. Strong lines are not to be permitted to consolidate unless they are willing to take into their system the weak lines in their territory on a fair valuation, to be determined by the Commission. On the other hand, the weak lines are not to be permitted to hold up the strong lines, but are to be given their choice of going in at a fair valuation or having the consolidation go through without them.

No consolidation orders of the Commission are to go into effect until the plan is ratified by a majority of all the outstanding stock and other securities. Bondholders as well as stockholders are given certain voting privileges, on the theory that all who have a direct substantial interest should have a voice in determining so important a question affecting their rights.

#### *To Guard Minorities.*

The right of minority stockholders are given full consideration. The committee has not yet passed upon these provisions definitely, but is firm in its position that minority holders shall be fully protected.

An amendment has been adopted providing that the capital stock and bonds at par of the consolidated company shall not exceed the actual value of the consolidated properties. The committee has not yet passed finally upon the exact wording of this provision, but has clearly indicated its determination to guard against overcapitalization.

There is a difference of opinion as to whether certain provisions of the bill would result virtually in Federal incorporation of railroads in some cases. The proponents generally claim it will not. That question must be cleared up by further amendment. If Federal incorporation in effect is to result, it would be far better, in my judgment, to go at it directly, so that all of the duties and responsibilities would plainly attach to the consolidated company as well as the rights and privileges. In any event, one purpose of the bill is to set aside the limitations of State law where that is necessary for carrying into effect a consolidation program.

If the railroads of the country can be welded into 20 or 30 strong systems, sharply competing within the territory served, it would, in my judgment, make very much easier the tremendously difficult and complex problem of rate regulation. It ought also to make it easier to reduce the rates on farm products and other bulky commodities now bearing such a heavy part of the freight burden.

But I will support consolidation legislation only after the most thorough consideration of every provision, and when I am convinced that every possible safeguard is included to protect the public interest and to prevent financial juggling. The railroad should not be permitted to capitalize the good-will which may come solely as the result of consolidation. The public interest must be the paramount consideration.

### **Redmond & Co.'s Financial and Industrial Survey of Thirty-eight Countries and the United States in Chart Form.**

Statistics just disclosed in annual "World Economic Chart for 1926" published by Redmond & Co. present information respecting the financial, commercial and general economic development of 38 foreign countries, besides the United States. The wealth per capita figures show that the United States citizen leads the world, with an average wealth of

\$2,910. Next comes Switzerland, with \$2,800, followed by Canada with \$2,675, United Kingdom with \$2,662, and Australia with \$2,585. A comparison of the wealth, debt, national receipts and expenditures, imports and exports, bank deposits, gold reserve and currency circulation are a few of the more important facts brought out in the study. These figures are taken from the latest statistics available and are for the most part official. Needless to say, they bring out in bold relief the enormous amount of money this country has loaned abroad in recent years. In discussing its presentation of the economic condition of the principal countries of the world, Redmond & Co. says:

The United States has become the world's largest exporter of capital, and as such, has contributed materially to the economic rehabilitation which has succeeded the chaos of the early post-war years. Export of additional capital as well as refunding of existing foreign debt will continue and become of increasing importance to us year by year.

The successful inception and operation of the Dawes plan, the return of many important countries to the gold standard and the stabilization of the currency of other nations, the general movement toward retrenchment and economy in the use of public funds; these and many other factors combine not only to justify the foreign financing of the past few years, but also, by strengthening international credit, to provide a sound basis for future foreign financing.

### **More Florida Banks Fail.**

On Monday of this week three more banks in Palm Beach County (Florida) failed to open for business, bringing the number closed in the county within a week to six and precipitating runs on the two largest banks still remaining open in West Palm Beach—namely the Citizens' Bank and the Central Farmers' Trust Co. The institutions which closed on Monday were the Farmers' Bank & Trust Co. of West Palm Beach; the First National Bank of Lake Worth and the Ocean City Bank of Delray. The first named bank had withstood "a run" since the previous Tuesday (March 8) when the First-American Bank & Trust Co. and the Northwood Bank & Trust Co., both West Palm Beach institutions, and the First Bank & Trust Co. of Palm Beach suspended operations. (Details of the closing of these latter banks were given in our last week's issue, page 1467.) Last night (March 18) the New York "Sun" announced the following Associated Press advices from Tallahassee:

Financial difficulties experienced by banking institutions of West Palm Beach resulted primarily in the closing to-day of the Seminole Bank at Stuart. State Banking Department officials announced to-day. The bank was capitalized at \$50,000.

According to special advices from Palm Beach appearing in the New York "Times," on Monday (March 14) an announcement, Sunday night, by T. T. Reese, President of the Farmers' Bank & Trust Co., that his bank would not attempt to open the next day, caused the officials of the First National Bank of Lake Worth and the Ocean City Bank of Delray to take similar action. The announcement of Mr. Reese was contained in a dispatch to the "Times" dated Sunday, which said in part:

Announcement to this effect was made to-night by T. T. Reese, President of the bank, following a meeting of winter residents, which was called at the last moment in the hope of raising sufficient funds to meet the crisis.

State bank examiners who had inspected the books of the Farmers' Bank & Trust Co. estimated that \$4,000,000 would be required to see the bank through the present emergency. When subscriptions were asked for only \$2,300,000 in pledges was obtained, and as this was deemed insufficient officials of the bank declared it was futile to keep open any longer.

In announcing his decision to close Mr. Reese said: "I regret very much that we are compelled to take such action, but we have no alternative. Our bank is perfectly solvent and we will pay every depositor one hundred cents on the dollar."

"If I had been advised beforehand of the condition of the three banks which closed last Tuesday and had known that they intended closing, we could have had sufficient funds on hand to meet this emergency. But I knew nothing of their decision to close until 2 o'clock Tuesday morning."

"Naturally, the run which resulted caught us unprepared. I sent to Miami for \$500,000 immediately, and I got an additional \$1,000,000 from Jacksonville. But the withdrawals used up our cash as fast as we were able to get it. At closing time Saturday we had only about \$43,000 in cash left."

"I have had numerous offers of assistance from Northern banks, but to get cash from them would take time. It would be necessary to send them the collateral before they could let us have the cash and that would take nearly a week before we could get the money back here."

The bank is the eighth largest in the State and has been regarded as one of the strongest.

Organized with a capital of \$100,000 and surplus of \$200,000, the company reported \$925,000 in undivided profits. During the last thirteen years it is said to have made profits of \$1,150,000.

During the heyday of real estate prosperity in Florida the Farmers' Bank & Trust Co. had deposits of \$19,000,000, but in the last year the total dwindled to \$8,500,000.

At to-day's meeting bank examiners declared that the bank had loans of \$7,240,000 outstanding in real estate, and only about \$1,000,000 in securities that were immediately negotiable.

Colonel Edward R. Bradley of Lexington, Ky., owner of Idle Hour stock farm, who put \$500,000 to the credit of the bank when the run was at its height last Tuesday, pledged an additional \$1,250,000 to-day toward the required \$4,000,000. John S. Phipps and H. C. Phipps of New York offered to put up \$300,000 more; Edward F. Hutton pledged \$100,000; Louis G. Kaufman, President of the Chatham & Phoenix National Bank, \$100,000; Jules Bache, \$100,000; J. Leonard Replogle, \$100,000; John S. Shepard, \$100,000; Earl P. Charlton, \$100,000; Cooper Lightboun, Mayor of Palm Beach, \$50,000, and A. J. Drexel Biddle Jr., \$50,000.

According to persons present at the meeting, these amounts were pledged on condition that Mr. Reese should withdraw from the bank.

On Tuesday March 15 the New York "Times" in another dispatch from Palm Beach dated Monday, March 14, stated that the Citizens' Bank of West Palm Beach, in view of the decision of Mr. Reese not to open his institution, had called a meeting on Sunday to determine whether or not it should open. After an all night conference, at which directors of the bank furnished collateral sufficient to raise \$1,500,000 (an amount, it was said, equal to the bank's deposits), B. A. Maxfield, its President, announced that his bank would open prepared to pay any and all depositors who wanted their money. Currency, it was stated, amounting to \$500,000, obtained from financial institutions in Miami, arrived at 9 o'clock in the morning (Monday), just as the doors were thrown open, and a "run" started at once. By noon, however, the "run" on the institution and on the Central Farmers' Trust Co. showed signs of abating, and the lines of persons waiting to withdraw their funds began to dwindle. A few depositors appeared and others followed their example. The bank remained open until 6 o'clock. At the close of the day President Maxfield was quoted as saying that withdrawals had amounted to little more than \$100,000 for the day, adding: "We have the 'run' licked and I don't think there is any likelihood that it will be resumed to-morrow."

In regard to the "run" at the Central Farmers' Trust Co., which is backed by the Farmers' Loan & Trust Co. and the Central Union Bank of New York, the dispatch stated that lines had formed, although they were only about half the length of those at the Citizens' Bank. In the evening Fred H. Farwell, Secretary of the institution, declared that he thought the crisis was over. "We have plenty of money on hand in case the 'run' is resumed to-morrow," he was quoted as saying, "but I am satisfied that we will have no difficulty. We paid out about \$200,000 to-day but our deposits, on the other hand, were exceptionally good, and we took in almost as much."

With reference to the banks in the vicinity of West Palm Beach, the dispatch said:

At Fort Pierce everything was said to be quiet. The Vero Bank and the Seminole Bank at Stuart reported business going on as usual. The Kelsey City State Bank reported conditions normal, and so did the Bank of Boynton.

The closing of the First National Bank at Lake Worth left that town with no other financial institution but a building and loan association, the other bank there having closed only a few weeks ago.

The Delray Bank & Trust Co., surviving institution there, reported business better than usual and said the day's deposits were the heaviest so far this year.

The dispatch, furthermore, stated, Ernest Amcs, State Comptroller for Florida, in a telegram on Monday night to the New York "Times" correspondent at Palm Beach, had declared that the recent bank failures had been confined wholly to West Palm Beach and the vicinity. He branded reports that the condition was general all over Florida as "utterly untrue."

It was pointed out in this dispatch that the closing of the three banks on Monday brings the total closed in Florida so far this year to twelve, and that sixty banks have closed in the State since the collapse of the real estate boom last spring. In conclusion the dispatch said:

James H. Perkins, President of the Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., denied last night that his company had any plans for reorganizing the Farmers' Bank & Trust Co. of West Palm Beach. He has just returned from Florida, where he went on the first intimation of banking trouble there. The Farmers' Loan & Trust Co. and the Central Union Trust Co. are joint sponsors of the Central Farmers' Trust Co., which was established in West Palm Beach in 1925 and which has no connection with the closed Farmers' Bank & Trust Co.

Mr. Perkins said that the crisis through which the West Palm Beach banks had passed seemed inevitable, but that he believed that the future of Florida, particularly in the Palm Beach section, was secure.

"The problem now in Florida is to keep banking institutions open," said Mr. Perkins. "What will be done in the way of permanent reorganization is still a matter of the future. It is possible that the situation eventually will be met by a realignment of financial interests in Florida, but our company has no plans in that direction."

"The Central Farmers Trust Co. is in fine financial condition. As a result of recent developments it is now probably the strongest institution in its section."

In additional advices from Palm Beach under date of March 16, regarding banking conditions in West Palm Beach, the "Times" on March 17 stated:

No new bank closings or runs were reported in Florida to-day and local bankers declared that conditions are normal again. At the Central Farmers Trust Co., the Citizens Bank and the National Bank of West Palm Beach, the three banks out of eleven which have survived the period of depression which followed the real estate boom, officials reported a marked increase in the number of deposits to-day.

Hundreds of small depositors are hard hit, however, as a result of the bank closings, and motorists driving north report the highways dotted with persons begging for lifts "back North."

The City of Palm Beach is said to have had \$1,500,000 in one of the closed banks. A proclamation signed by Cooper C. Lightboun, Mayor of Palm Beach, appeared in "The Palm Beach Daily News" this morning,

calling upon the taxpayers of the town to pay their taxes at once in order to provide the payroll for municipal employees who have families dependent upon them.

Real estate men whose notes are held by the six banks which closed are waiting to see what policy receivers for these banks will pursue with regard to foreclosure. It is estimated that the amount outstanding on real estate from the six banks will be more than \$15,000,000.

### Run on Postal Savings Department in Negro Section at West Palm Beach, Fla.

A run on the Postal Savings Department of the West Palm Beach (Fla.) Post Office by negro depositors was reported in the following dispatch to the "Times" from Palm Beach, March 16:

In the fear that the Government was "going broke" after the closing of six banks in Palm Beach County in the last ten days, several thousand negroes started a run on the Postal Savings Department of the West Palm Beach post office to-day. Word got abroad through the negro quarter that the Government was depositing postal receipts with banks in that city, causing the colored depositors to swoop down on the post office for their savings.

The run began when the post office opened at 9 o'clock this morning. Lines of excited negroes began forming in front of the postal savings windows two hours prior to that time.

Assurance that the United States Government was responsible for postal savings money failed to pacify the negroes.

The excitement was contagious and drew more and more negroes into line. A small crowd of whites collected to watch the proceedings. Finally the police were called.

They sought to quell the disturbance by assuring the negroes that their money was perfectly safe, and they pointed out that even if postal savings receipts were deposited in local banks and the banks failed, of which there was no longer any likelihood, the Government would still be responsible for the money and would make it good on demand.

By noon, however, the run had spent itself, although a thin line of negroes continued to withdraw their deposits during the remainder of the day. At closing time to-night more than \$25,000 had been paid out by the post office. The amount, however, was regarded by postal authorities as negligible, since deposits at the West Palm Beach office amount to upwards of \$960,000.

### ITEMS ABOUT BANKS, TRUST COMPANIES, & C.

The New York Stock Exchange membership of Louis Levy was reported posted for transfer this week to W. T. Coleman Carpenter, the consideration being stated as \$185,000. The last preceding sale was for \$182,000.

There was a seat sold for \$45,000 on the San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange on March 7. This is said to be the highest price ever paid and is a substantial increase over the last previous sale on Jan. 10, when a seat sold for \$42,500. The San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange ranks first among the exchanges of the nation, outside of the New York Stock Exchange, in the price of seats.

The American Exchange Irving Trust Co. of New York announced on March 17 the appointment of Joseph M. Levine to the Bronx Advisory Board, co-operating with its three banking offices in the Bronx. Mr. Levine is a lawyer and President of Hunt's Point Hospital.

George F. Campbell, of Halifax, President of the Bank of Nova Scotia, who is confined in the Polyclinic Hospital here, underwent an operation this week and is progressing satisfactorily. He is under the care of Dr. McKelvey Bell, formerly of Ottawa, and Dr. Daniel Sinclair.

James W. Gerard, former United States Ambassador to Germany, will address the British Empire Chamber of Commerce at a luncheon to be held at the Lawyers' Club next Tuesday, March 22. Mr. Gerard will speak on "Present Conditions in Germany." The President of the Chamber, Charles S. LePoer Trench, will preside. R. F. Munro, Secretary, is in charge of arrangements.

The Central National Bank of this city on March 10 received authority from the Comptroller of the Currency to open a branch on Burnside Avenue, corner of Jerome Avenue, in the Bronx. The new branch will be known as the Burnside Avenue office. It will open for business in the early part of May.

Announcement was made this week by the National City Bank of New York of the appointment of George Whitlock as Assistant Cashier. Mr. Whitlock has been assigned to the Montague Street Branch in Brooklyn.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Empire Trust Co. of this city on March 15, F. H. Wickett was elected a director. Mr. Wickett is Chairman of the board of the Pan-American Petroleum & Transport Co.

Augustus F. Kountze, a member of the New York banking firm of Kountze Brothers, 141 Broadway, died in Atlantic City on March 14. Mr. Kountze was 57 years of age and had been in the banking business since 1891; besides being a

member of Kountze Brothers he was a director of the J. G. White Engineering Corporation, and President and director of the Burnside Realty Corporation.

The Title Guarantee & Trust Co. of New York announces with regret the resignation, effective April 1 1927, of George L. Allin as solicitor of the company. Mr. Allin leaves the company after 26 years' service to become a member of the firm of Stoddard & Mark. The appointment is announced of Gabriel I. Behrlich to the newly created position of general counsel, with his office at 175 Remsen St., Brooklyn, N. Y. Sedgwick A. Clark succeeds Mr. Allin as solicitor, with his office at 176 Broadway, New York.

At the annual meeting of the United States Mortgage & Trust Co. of New York on March 17 the retiring directors were re-elected.

At a meeting on March 8 of the board of directors of the newly organized Prospect National Bank of Brooklyn, Maurice F. Hickey, President of M. F. Hickey Co., was elected President, and Dongald G. C. Sinclair was elected Chairman of the Board. Mr. Sinclair is associated with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.; he is also a trustee of the Commonwealth Savings bank and director of the Murray Hill Trust Co. The other officers of the bank are: Vice-Presidents, Philip L. Dickinson, Christian E. Herbst and Harry Michaels; Cashier, Philip L. Dickinson. The organization of the bank was noted in our issue of Oct. 16 1926, page 1962. The bank will open for business about April 1.

Authority was granted on March 10 to the Midwood Trust Co. of Brooklyn to open a branch office at 240 Flushing Avenue. The opening of the trust company's branch at Flatbush and Flatlands avenues, Brooklyn, was noted in our issue of Sept. 25 1926, page 1590.

The New York State National Bank of Albany, N. Y., has let the contract for the vault work for its new banking home to the York Safe & Lock Co. of York, Pa. The door will be of the rectangular type, approximately 45 inches thick over all. It will weigh approximately 34 tons. The construction of the door embodies all of the latest refinements known to the industry. York infusite is used in the door itself, insuring the New York State National Bank the highest degree of protection from burglarious attack.

President John A. Kloepfer of the Liberty Bank of Buffalo, following a meeting of the bank's board of directors on March 12, announced the appointment of George C. Lehmann, former General Manager of the Buffalo Chamber of Commerce, as the head of the bank's business extensions and publicity department. The appointment takes effect April 1. Mr. Lehmann, it is said, has an unusual record as a Chamber of Commerce executive in that of thousands of secretaries in the country, he is one of the sixteen who served continuously with the same organization fifteen years or more. On the invitation of E. M. Statler, he went with the local Chamber in May 1911 to install and operate the convention bureau. A year later he took charge of the industrial bureau. Then he became Assistant Secretary, and in January 1917 he was elected Secretary, which position he held until his retirement last month.

According to the Comptroller of the Currency the First National Bank of Middletown, N. Y., has become the "First National Bank & Trust Co. of Middletown."

Effective Monday, March 7, the Bridgeport Savings Bank, Bridgeport, Conn., and the People's Savings Bank of that city, were consolidated under the title of the Bridgeport-People's Savings Bank. The personnel of the new institution is as follows: Arthur W. Burritt, Chairman of the Board; George H. Woods, President; Lewis B. Curtis, Chairman of the executive committee and 1st Vice-President; Edgar W. Bassick, Waldo C. Bryant, Charles S. Canfield, Charles W. Hawley and John S. Pullman, Vice-Presidents; Earl R. Lewis, Assistant to President; Frank Hubbard, Secretary; Frank M. Fosdick, Treasurer, and Anna E. Partree, Assistant Treasurer.

An agreement to consolidate the West Jersey Trust Co. of Camden, N. J., and the Parkside Title & Trust Co. of that city has been approved by the directors of both the institutions, according to the Philadelphia "Ledger" of March 11. The resulting organization will be known as the West

Jersey Parkside Trust Co. and will have total deposits of \$10,500,000. Ratification of the proposed merger by the respective stockholders of the banks is expected. Congressman Frank F. Patterson is President of the West Jersey Trust Co., while Alfred L. Sayers heads the Parkside Title & Trust Co.

A. S. Banmiller, an Assistant Treasurer of the Commonwealth Trust Co. of Harrisburg, Pa., was arrested on the night of March 7 for the alleged misappropriation of approximately \$200,000 of the funds of the institution, according to advices from that city on March 7 to the Philadelphia "Ledger." It was stated that more than \$100,000 of the shortage had been restored. According to the police, Banmiller has confessed that speculation in stock was responsible for his use of the bank's money. He was held for Court under \$50,000 bail, which had not been obtained at the time.

The York National Bank, York, Pa., has changed its name to "The York National Bank & Trust Co."

Following a meeting of the directors of the Franklin Trust Co. of Philadelphia, on March 15, announcement was made by C. Addison Harris Jr., President of the company, that the semi-annual dividend rate of the institution had been increased from 7 to 8%, placing the stock on a 16% annual basis, according to the Philadelphia "Ledger" of March 16. Mr. Harris also announced that the board had authorized the transfer of \$250,000 from undivided profits to surplus account, effective April 1, which, together with the proceeds from the sale of the recent new stock issue, will show the institution to have a capital of \$2,000,000 and surplus of \$4,000,000. In making the announcements, Mr. Harris stated that the company's earnings for the past six months were the largest in the history of the company.

Charles W. Brown Jr., formerly Chief Bank Examiner for the State of Pennsylvania, has been elected President of the National Bank of Commerce of Philadelphia, according to the Philadelphia "Ledger" of March 12.

John W. Phillips has been elected President of the Ardmore National Bank, Ardmore, Pa., according to the Philadelphia "Ledger" of March 12. Mr. Phillips was formerly President of the Phoenix Trust Co. of Philadelphia, which recently was merged with the Northern Central Trust Co. of that city.

The Baltimore Commercial Bank, Baltimore, announced recently the organization of a subsidiary institution under the title of the Baltimore Commercial Co., with an authorized capital stock of \$250,000. The new company, it was stated, would place at the disposal of the depositors and customers of the bank a complete service by which they may seek counsel and advice in making safe and sound investments. The officers of the new concern are from the official staff of the Baltimore Commercial Bank, and in addition include a Vice-President, R. G. Lyne, formerly of the investment department of the Equitable Trust Co. of New York. The company's offices are located in the main building of the bank, 26 South Street.

That the Farmers' State Bank of Bunker Hill, Ind., was not opened following the discovery that A. M. Zehring, the Cashier of the institution, had committed suicide in a rear room of the bank building, was reported in the Brooklyn "Eagle" of March 11. The bank was said by the State Examiner to be in good financial condition a month previous, the dispatch stated.

The Midland National Bank of Chicago, which received a charter from the Comptroller of the Currency on Jan. 1, opened for business Feb. 3. The bank's 2,000 shares were sold at \$125 per share, yielding \$250,000; of this amount \$200,000 is capital, \$40,000 surplus and \$10,000 contingent fund. The bank is established on Archer Avenue at Sacramento. The officers are: David E. Shanahan, Chairman of the Board; H. F. Wuehrmann, President; Frank L. Webb, Vice-President; V. I. Vanicek, Cashier; C. G. Kilkis, Assistant Cashier; there is an advisory committee composed of J. W. Embree, Arthur Meeker and H. E. Poronto. The following are the directors: H. H. Baum, Robert D. Gordon, E. A. Leonard, J. T. Love, John R. O'Connor, David E. Shanahan, John Wajer, Frank L. Webb and H. F. Wuehrmann.

Effective March 1, the Merchants' National Bank of Dickinson, N. D., went into voluntary liquidation. The institution has been absorbed by the First National Bank of Dickinson.

The Farmers' & Miners' State Bank of Belt, Mont., has absorbed the First National Bank of that place, capitalized at \$30,000. The latter went into voluntary liquidation effective Jan. 11 1927.

The Durant National Bank, Durant, Okla., an institution capitalized at \$100,000, went into voluntary liquidation on Feb. 8, and has been succeeded by a new organization under the title of the Durant National Bank in Durant.

The First National Bank of Goodland, Kan., recently absorbed the Farmers' National Bank of that place, the latter going into voluntary liquidation, effective Feb. 12.

According to an Associated Press dispatch from St. Louis, Mo., on March 16, Philip R. Love, an air mail pilot, flying at the rate of 100 miles an hour, carried a shipment of \$200,000 in cash on that day from the First National Bank in St. Louis to Zeigler, Ill., to avert a threatened "run" on the First National Bank of that place, because of rumors circulated by irresponsible persons. Officials of both banks declared, it was stated, that the Zeigler institution was in sound condition with resources of more than \$1,000,000.

Effective March 5 the First National Bank of Waterboro, S. S. (capitalized at \$75,000), went into voluntary liquidation, the institution being taken over by the Colleton Banking Co. of that place.

A dispatch by the Associated Press from Fredericksburg, Va., on March 14, appearing in the Richmond "Dispatch" of the 15th, stated that the People's Bank of Stafford, Va., a small institution capitalized at \$15,000, had been closed on that day pending an examination of its affairs, following the arrest of John M. Ashby, its Cashier, for the alleged embezzlement of approximately \$8,000 of the institution's funds. Ashby, the dispatch said, had earlier in the day made a full confession of his defalcations while bank examiners were going over his books.

The Central National Bank in Dallas, Dallas, Tex., an institution capitalized at \$500,000, has been absorbed by the North Texas National Bank of that city. The institution went into voluntary liquidation as of Nov. 30 1926.

That the British American Bank of San Francisco, an institution controlled by the Bank of Montreal, had filed a petition on March 10 in the Superior Court in San Francisco for permission to change its name to Bank of Montreal (S. F.) was reported in the San Francisco "Chronicle" of March 11. The petition recites that the reason for the change is that the present name is a misnomer and a hindrance, inasmuch as it signifies that the bank specializes in business originating in Great Britain or at least internationally, whereas the contrary is the fact, and the bank is a California corporation organized to do business in San Francisco and is doing business originating between Canada and California.

Purchase of the Seaboard Commercial & Savings Bank of Wilmington (Los Angeles County), Cal., by the California Bank of Los Angeles was announced on March 10 by Andrew M. Chaffey, President of the latter, according to the Los Angeles "Times" of March 11. The acquired bank will be known as the Seaboard branch of the California Bank, with Paul Eubank, its former President (who has been elected a Junior Vice-President of the California Bank) in direct charge of its operations as Manager. Earl S. Wiatt and H. N. Yerkes, formerly Vice-President and Cashier, respectively, will also continue with the institution as Assistant Managers. Continuing, the paper mentioned said:

The Seaboard Commercial & Savings Bank was incorporated by Paul Eubank Sr., recently deceased. He and his associates sold the First National of Wilmington to the Pacific-Southwest banking interests some months ago, retaining at that time the savings end of their operations, called the Seaboard Savings Bank. Shortly thereafter this bank became the Seaboard Commercial & Savings Bank, and under the management of the elder Eubank and his son it has attained the position of one of the strongest of the harbor banks. As of Dec. 31 last resources of the bank were \$714,237.82.

This is the second bank in a few weeks that the California interests have acquired in the bay and harbor district. Last week the First National Bank of Ocean Park became the Ocean Park branch of the Chaffey institution. The latest purchase swells the number of its branches in the bay and harbor district to five.

Formation of the Montreal Company of New York, Inc., organized for the purpose of underwriting and distributing investment securities, is announced by the Bank of Montreal, one of the largest banking organizations in Canada, with branches in the principal cities of the United States. The new company, which will maintain officers at the New York headquarters of the Bank of Montreal, at 64 Wall Street, will be controlled through stock ownership by the banking institution. The new securities corporation has been organized under the laws of the State of New York with a nominal capital. While the formation of the company is a new departure, the Bank of Montreal for some time past has been actively associated in New York in the public offering of high-grade Canadian securities. In organizing the Montreal Company of New York, the bank is following somewhat the policy of certain large American and English banks which have already formed subsidiary companies for a similar purpose.

The Bank of Montreal has over 600 branches in Canada and in the United States it maintains agencies or subsidiaries in New York, Chicago and San Francisco. Directors and officers of the Montreal Company of New York, Inc., are:

President and Chairman of the Board, Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., President Bank of Montreal.

Directors.—Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, General Manager, Bank of Montreal; E. W. Beatty, K.C., President Canadian Pacific Railway Co.; John A. Garver, Shearman & Sterling, New York; Sir Charles Gordon, G.B.E., President Dominion Textile Co., Ltd., Vice-President Bank of Montreal; F. E. Meredith, K.C., Meredith, Holden, Heward & Holden, Montreal; J. W. McConnell, President St. Lawrence Sugar Refineries, Ltd.; W. T. Oliver, Agent Bank of Montreal, New York; E. P. Hungerford, Vice-President and Manager; G. W. Spinney, Vice-President; R. A. Clark, Secretary-Treasurer. The officers are also officers of the Bank of Montreal.

THE CURB MARKET.

Prices in the Curb Market this week moved without definite trend, trading being irregular, with the volume of business at times heavy and again falling off to small proportions. A feature in the oil group was the drop in Tidewater Associated Oil common, which fell from 20½ to 17½, the close to-day being at 18½. National Fuel Gas on a good demand sold up from 236 to 250, reacted to 232 and recovered finally to 239. Lone Star Gas weakened from 44½ to 41¾, but sold back to 43. Cumberland Pipe Line sold down from 128 to 90, ex the special dividend of 33%, and regular of 2%. Illinois Pipe Line gained five points to 141 and closed to-day at 140¾. Prairie Pipe Line rose from 147½ to 151, fell back to 147 and ends the week at 148. Solar Refining lost three points to 188. Vacuum Oil was off from 108¾ to 103, recovering finally to 105¼. Industrials were irregular, though there were a number of strong spots. Auburn Automobile advanced from 96½ to 103½ and sold finally at 103⅞. Estey-Welte class A weakened from 14⅞ to 11⅞ and sold finally at 11¾. Johns-Manville common, after early improvement from 69 to 73⅝, dropped back to 65½, the close to-day being at 67. General Baking class A sold down from 61⅞ to 55⅞ and at 56½ finally. General Fireproofing was conspicuous for an advance from 62 to 84⅞, with a break to-day to 72, the close being at 72½. Good-year Tire & Rubber sold up from 36 to 41¾ and at 40¾ finally. Rand-Kardex Bureau declined from 73⅞ to 70½, with the final transaction to-day at 72.

A complete record of Curb Market transactions for the week will be found on page 1653.

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE NEW YORK CURB MARKET.

Week Ended March 18.	STOCKS (No. Shares).			BONDS (Par Value).	
	Ind.& Misc.	Oil.	Mining.	Domestic.	For'n Govt.
Saturday.....	66,761	51,830	19,815	\$1,770,000	\$616,000
Monday.....	155,940	98,120	44,975	2,168,000	175,000
Tuesday.....	187,245	98,465	51,425	2,281,000	209,000
Wednesday.....	144,491	89,560	54,005	2,396,000	238,000
Thursday.....	128,764	121,205	50,625	2,648,000	204,000
Friday.....	127,216	100,680	62,105	3,204,000	289,000
Total.....	810,417	559,860	282,950	13,874,000	\$1,231,000

THE WEEK ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

The stock market has shown considerable improvement the present week and except for a moderate reactionary period on Monday and again on Friday, has moved forward to higher levels and hosts of new high records for the year, and in some instances in all time, have been established in all departments. Speculative activity has centred largely around the steel stocks, motor issues and railroad shares, both United States Steel common and General Motors reaching the highest level in their history. Oil shares have been heavy during most of the week and except for an occasional

flurry in Houston Oil and one or two others, have made little progress. Many specialties and railroad equipment stocks have been in strong demand at improving prices, and several of the more important issues in the rubber group have advanced to new peaks.

The general trend of prices was toward lower levels in the short session on Saturday though some of the recent speculative stocks made a brave show of strength during the later trading. Delaware & Hudson moved to the front as the leader of the railroad group and registered a gain of 2 points. The advance in Union Pacific was nearly 3 points and Norfolk & Southern moved into new territory at 54. Atchison opened at 179½ but gradually receded and closed at 176¾, a loss of 3¼ points. Atlantic Coast Line also slipped back nearly 3 points to 187. Westinghouse Air Brake was the feature of the railroad equipment stocks and established a new top at 157. The tone of the market improved on Monday though in the early trading considerable hesitation and uncertainty were apparent. Toward the end of the day General Motors assumed the leadership and bounded forward 4½ points to a new high for the year (above 175) followed by Hudson Motors, Pierce Arrow, Chrysler, Packard, Mack Truck and Nash Motor. In the final hour a number of industrial specialties moved into prominence, and in several instances new high prices for the year were established. This was particularly true of Texas Gulf Sulphur which had a run up of 2 points to 59¼ and National Lead, which advanced to 184 as compared with its previous close of 179½. Air Reduction advanced 2¼ points and Coca Cola moved up 3%. Baldwin Locomotive had another of its spectacular advances and shot upward 4¾ points to 192 at its high for the day as compared with Saturday's close at 186¾. Other outstanding strong stocks included du Pont up 5½ points, United States Cast Iron Pipe and Foundry, which crossed 222. United States Rubber reached a new high for the year on an advance of one point and Houston moved briskly forward 4 points to 120¾, though it slipped back to 119 at the close.

Irregular price movements again marked the trading on Tuesday and while a number of prominent stocks moved forward to new high records for the year, the main trend of prices was toward lower levels. General Motors moved briskly forward to a new high for the year at 175¾, though it receded later in the session and closed 1¼ points off. United States Steel common sold as high as 162 and came within a small fraction of its record made in February. The outstanding movements of the market on Wednesday were the brisk upswing of United States Steel common which reached its highest level at 163¾ and the spectacular rise of American Tel. & Tel. to 163, the highest peak since 1903. Another notable feature was the sharp advance of General Motors to a new top at 178½, followed by du Pont, which made a net gain of 8 points to a new high for the year. Wabash "A" shot upward nearly five points to 93, followed by Wabash common with a four point advance to 72½. Other strong stocks included Del. Lack. & West. up five points; Atchison, which gained two points, Reading up two points and Gulf Mobile & Northern which bounded forward more than seven points to 63½.

Stocks continued to move upward on Thursday and numerous new peaks were recorded before the closing hour. American Telegraph & Telephone was particularly prominent, due in a measure to rumors of impending recapitalization and stock split-up. The stock opened at 168, registering a gain of more than 3 points and touching its highest level in nearly 20 years though its net gain dropped to 1½ points in the closing hour. General Motors continued in the foreground and advanced to its best price under the present form of capitalization though it failed to hold all the improvement and closed with a net loss of ¾ of a point. Low priced motors were also in demand, notably Jordan and Gardiner and new levels were reached by Mack Truck and Paige-Detroit. Steel industrial stocks were in strong demand at advancing prices, United States Steel common crossing 164 to the highest price in history followed by Republic Iron and Steel up 2 points, Crucible Steel up 2¼ points and Ludlum Steel which sold up to 32½. In the railroad list Del. Lack. & West. moved into new high ground on an advance of nearly 5 points to 159½, Southern Pacific registered a net gain of 4 points, and Norfolk & Western rose nearly 3 points. Other notably strong issues included National Lead which advanced 10 points to 197½. Case Threshing Machine up 5½ points and Foundation Co. which sold above 86 at its high for the day.

The market reacted downward on Friday, realizing sales through the greater part of the day carrying many of the strong stocks to lower levels. At one time General Motors was up to 180. As the day advanced selling increased and the market moved rapidly downward. The final tone was weak.

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

Week Ended March 18.	Stocks, Number of Shares.	Railroad, &c., Bonds.	State, Municipal and Foreign Bonds.	United States Bonds.
Saturday	919,410	\$3,948,000	\$2,351,000	\$1,255,450
Monday	1,831,470	7,380,500	3,417,500	1,409,850
Tuesday	1,992,665	8,191,000	4,727,000	2,167,500
Wednesday	2,072,812	8,913,000	4,529,000	1,551,150
Thursday	1,964,970	8,911,000	3,200,000	1,936,550
Friday	2,225,600	7,965,000	2,490,000	2,923,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,006,927</b>	<b>\$45,308,500</b>	<b>\$20,714,500</b>	<b>\$11,243,500</b>

Sales at New York Stock Exchange.	Week Ended March 18.		Jan. 1 to March 18.	
	1927.	1926.	1927.	1926.
Stocks—No. of shares.	11,006,927	9,707,106	107,929,076	107,686,952
Bonds.				
Government bonds	\$11,243,500	\$5,327,050	\$73,757,000	\$66,105,300
State and foreign bonds	20,714,500	10,961,500	228,162,700	134,827,850
Railroad & misc. bonds	45,308,500	35,919,500	532,410,200	510,569,550
<b>Total bonds</b>	<b>\$77,266,500</b>	<b>\$52,208,050</b>	<b>\$834,329,900</b>	<b>\$711,502,700</b>

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE BOTSON, PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE EXCHANGES.

Week Ended March 18 1927.	Boston.		Philadelphia.		Baltimore.	
	Shares.	Bond Sales.	Shares.	Bond Sales.	Shares.	Bond Sales.
Saturday	14,371	\$7,650	17,039	\$16,100	1,876	\$28,700
Monday	27,748	9,000	25,132	36,700	2,182	88,700
Tuesday	23,982	32,600	24,679	37,200	2,311	19,000
Wednesday	23,982	32,600	30,912	12,700	1,439	14,100
Thursday	33,973	14,500	21,363	55,300	4,137	59,900
Friday	20,527	9,000	6,874	34,000	1,259	28,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>144,583</b>	<b>\$105,350</b>	<b>125,999</b>	<b>\$192,000</b>	<b>13,204</b>	<b>\$239,100</b>
Prev. week revised	158,029	\$68,000	172,364	\$138,300	30,273	\$211,300

\* In addition, sales of rights were: Tuesday, 500 Wednesday, 500.

COURSE OF BANK CLEARINGS.

Bank clearings the present week will again show a satisfactory increase compared with a year ago. Preliminary figures compiled by us, based upon telegraphic advices from the chief cities of the country, indicate that for the week ending to-day (Saturday, March 19) bank exchanges for all the cities of the United States from which it is possible to obtain weekly returns will be 11.4% above those for the corresponding week last year. The total stands at \$12,044,774,335, against \$10,807,803,353 for the same week in 1926. At this centre there is a gain for the five days of 22.3%. Our comparative summary for the week is as follows:

Clearings—Returns by Telegraph. Week Ended March 19.	1927.	1926.	Per Cent.
New York	\$6,382,000,000	\$5,216,000,000	+22.3
Chicago	622,881,798	556,964,843	+11.8
Philadelphia	521,000,000	554,000,000	-6.0
Boston	483,000,000	439,000,000	+10.0
Kansas City	132,837,074	121,144,175	+9.6
St. Louis	142,900,000	141,100,000	+1.3
San Francisco	183,077,000	172,960,000	+5.8
Los Angeles	178,386,000	161,441,000	+10.5
Pittsburgh	168,884,630	153,811,980	+9.8
Detroit	160,160,476	157,256,742	+1.8
Cleveland	113,134,781	102,841,226	+10.4
Baltimore	93,719,154	102,798,834	-8.8
New Orleans	60,864,197	50,649,241	+20.4
Thirteen cities, 5 days	\$9,242,845,108	\$7,929,866,041	+16.5
Other cities, 5 days	1,211,133,505	1,160,138,184	+4.4
<b>Total all cities, 5 days</b>	<b>\$10,453,978,613</b>	<b>\$9,190,004,525</b>	<b>+13.7</b>
All cities, 1 day	1,590,795,722	1,617,798,828	-1.7
<b>Total all cities for week</b>	<b>\$12,044,774,335</b>	<b>\$10,807,803,353</b>	<b>+11.4</b>

Complete and exact details for the week covered by the foregoing will appear in our issue of next week. We cannot furnish them to-day, inasmuch as the week ends to-day (Saturday), and the Saturday figures will not be available until noon to-day. Accordingly, in the above the last day of the week has in all cases had to be estimated.

In the elaborate detailed statement, however, which we present further below, we are able to give final and complete results for the week previous—the week ended March 12. For that week there is a decrease of 1.3%, the 1927 aggregate of clearings being \$9,824,300,419, and the 1926 aggregate \$9,949,227,609. Outside of New York City the decrease is 1.1%, the bank exchanges at this centre having declined 1.4%. We group the cities now according to the Federal Reserve districts in which they are located, and from this it appears that in the New York Reserve District (including this city) there is a loss of 1.3%, in the Philadelphia Reserve District of 7.2%, and in the Richmond Reserve District of 4.4%. The Boston Reserve District has a gain of 9.9%, but the Cleveland Reserve District of only 0.6%, while the Atlanta Reserve District shows a decrease of 21.8%, the latter



due mainly to the falling off at the Florida points, Miami reporting a decrease of 55.8% and Jacksonville of 43.1%. In the Chicago Reserve District the totals are 0.5% smaller, in the St. Louis Reserve District 1.1%, and in the Minneapolis Reserve District 7.8%. The Kansas City Reserve District shows an increase of 3.9%, but the Dallas Reserve District registers a decrease of 0.4% and the San Francisco Reserve District of 3.2%.

In the following we furnish a summary by Federal Reserve districts:

SUMMARY OF BANK CLEARINGS.

Table with columns: Week End. Mar. 12 1927., 1927., 1926., Inc. or Dec., 1925., 1924. Rows include Federal Reserve Districts (1st Boston to 12th San Fran.), Total 129 cities, and Canada.

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 12., 1927., 1926., Inc. or Dec., 1925., 1924. Rows are organized by Federal Reserve District (1st to 13th) and include city names like Boston, New York, Philadelphia, etc.

Table with columns: Clearings at—, Week Ending March 12., 1927., 1926., Inc. or Dec., 1925., 1924. Rows include various Reserve Districts (Seventh to Twelfth) and cities like Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, etc.

Table with columns: Clearings at—, Week Ended March 10., 1927., 1926., Inc. or Dec., 1925., 1924. Rows include Canada and various cities like Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, etc.

a No longer report clearings. b Do not respond to requests for figures. c Week ended March 9. d Week ended March 10. e Week ended March 11. \* Estimated.

ENGLISH FINANCIAL MARKETS—PER CABLE.

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

Table with columns: London, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Week Ending Mar. 18. Rows include Silver, Gold, Consols, British 5 per cents, French Rentes, French War Loan.

The price of silver in New York on the same days has been:

Table with columns: Foreign, and rows for Silver in New York.

Commercial and Miscellaneous News

Breadstuffs figures brought from page 1711.—All the statements below regarding the movement of grain—receipts, exports, visible supply, &c., are prepared by us from figures collected by the New York Produce Exchange.

Table showing Receipts at various ports for Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, and Rye. Includes rows for Chicago, Minneapolis, Duluth, Milwaukee, Toledo, Detroit, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Peoria, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Joseph, Wichita, Slou City.

Table showing Receipts at various ports for Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, and Rye. Includes rows for Total wk., Same wk., and Since Aug. 1.

Total receipts of flour and grain at the seaboard ports for the week ended Saturday, March 12, follow:

Table showing Receipts at various ports for Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, and Rye. Includes rows for New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, N'port News, Norfolk, New Orleans\*, Galveston, Montreal, St. John, N.B., Boston, Total wk., Since Jan. 1, Week 1926, and Since Jan. 1 '26.

The exports from the several seaboard ports for the week ending Saturday, March 12 1926, are shown in the annexed statement:

Table showing Exports from various ports for Wheat, Corn, Flour, Oats, Rye, and Barley. Includes rows for New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Norfolk, Newport News, New Orleans, Galveston, St. John, N. B., Halifax, Total week 1927, and Same week 1926.

The destination of these exports for the week and since July 1 1926 is as below:

Table showing Exports for Week and Since July 1 to various destinations for Flour, Wheat, and Corn. Includes rows for United Kingdom, Continent, So. & Cent. Amer., West Indies, and Other countries.

The visible supply of grain, comprising the stocks in granary at principal points of accumulation at lake and seaboard ports Saturday, March 12, were as follows:

GRAIN STOCKS.

Table showing Grain Stocks for United States—Wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, Barley. Includes rows for New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, Galveston, Fort Worth, Buffalo, Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Duluth, Minneapolis, Sioux City, St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Joseph, Mo, Peoria, Indianapolis, Omaha, On Canal and River.

Total Mar. 12 1927... 52,478,000 48,822,000 41,215,000 14,470,000 3,529,000
Total Mar. 5 1927... 53,306,000 47,337,000 42,586,000 14,208,000 3,867,000
Total Mar. 13 1926... 37,045,000 35,880,000 56,845,000 13,869,000 5,610,000

Note.—Bonded grain not included above: Oats, New York, 11,800 bushels; Buffalo, 109,000; Duluth, 29,000; total, 149,000 bushels, against 871,000 bushels in 1926. Barley, New York, 785,000 bushels; Baltimore, 155,000; Buffalo, 133,000; Duluth, 58,000; Canal, 67,000; total, 1,198,000 bushels against 1,471,000 bushels in 1926.

Canadian—Montreal 1,730,000; Ft. William & Pt. Arthur 39,427,000; Other Canadian 6,448,000.

Total Mar. 12 1927... 107,896,000 48,822,000 48,684,000 17,337,000 9,986,000
Total Mar. 5 1927... 109,220,000 47,332,000 50,281,000 17,012,000 10,044,000
Total Mar. 13 1926... 93,170,000 36,025,000 67,196,000 15,845,000 13,863,000

The world's shipments of wheat and corn, as furnished by Broomhall to the New York Produce Exchange, for the week ending Friday, March 11, and since July 1 1926 and 1925, are shown in the following:

Table showing World's shipments of Wheat and Corn for 1926-27 and 1925-26. Includes rows for North Amer., Black Sea, Argentina, Australia, India, and Total.

National Banks.—The following information regarding national banks is from the office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Treasury Department:

- APPLICATIONS TO ORGANIZE RECEIVED. Mar. 9—The Citizens National Bank of Ontario, Calif. Capital, \$100,000. Mar. 9—The American National Bank of Aberdeen, Wash. Capital, 500,000. APPLICATIONS TO ORGANIZE APPROVED. Mar. 8—The First National Bank of Smithville, Tenn. Capital, 30,000. APPLICATIONS TO CONVERT RECEIVED. Mar. 11—Pam-a National Bank, Pampa, Texas. Conversion of the Gray County State Bank, Pampa, Tex. Mar. 11—The Teague National Bank, Teague, Tex. Conversion of the Teague State Bank, Teague, Tex. CHARTERS ISSUED. Mar. 8—The First National Bank in Cooper, Tex. President, W. A. Tynes; Cashier, W. J. Bartley. Mar. 8—The First National Bank of Wharton, N. J. President, Henry W. Kice; Cashier, Wilbur L. Cregar. Mar. 8—The Farmersville National Bank of Farmersville, Tex. President, W. R. Carver; Cashier, Levi Wilson. Mar. 10—The First National Bank of Carlsbad, Calif. President, L. C. Alles; Cashier, W. R. Cregar. APPLICATION TO CONVERT APPROVED. Mar. 8—The Greenwich National Bank of the City of New York, N. Y. Conversion of the Greenwich Bank of the City of New York, N. Y. VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATIONS. Mar. 8—12650—The Central National Bank in Dallas, Tex. Effective Nov. 30 1926. Liquidating Committee: T. M. Cullum, Geo. L. Trumbull, A. T. Powell, M. C. Cameron and C. H. Verscheyle, Dallas, Tex. Absorbed by North Texas National Bank in Dallas, Tex., No. 12736. Mar. 9—8605—The Inter-State National Bank of Hegewisch, Ill. (P. O. Chicago). Effective Feb. 11 1927. Liquidating Agent, Thomas J. Peden, Hegewisch, Ill. Absorbed by Hegewisch State Bank, Hegewisch, Ill. Mar. 9—9849—The First National Bank of Walterboro, S. C. Effective March 5 1927. Liquidating Agent, Jas. E. Peurifoy, Walterboro, S. C. Absorbed by Colleton Banking Co., Walterboro, S. C. Mar. 9—12937—The East Bay National Bank of Oakland, Calif. Effective Feb. 21 1927. Liquidating Agent, Edw. C. Aldwell, San Francisco, Calif. Absorbed by Liberty Bank of America, San Francisco, Calif.

Mar. 12—11673—The First National Bank of Belt, Mont. 30,000 Effective Jan. 11 1927. Liquidating Agent, W. C. Bloomquist, Belt, Mont. Absorbed by Farmers & Miners State Bank of Belt, Mont.

Pittsburgh Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Pittsburgh Stock Exchange Meh. 12 to Meh. 18, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. Lists various commodities like Amer Vitriol Prod., Am Wind Gl Mach, etc.

\* No par value.

St. Louis Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at St. Louis Stock Exchange Meh. 12 to Meh. 18, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. Lists various stocks and bonds like First National Bank, Nat'l Bank of Commerce, etc.

\* No par value.

FOREIGN TRADE OF NEW YORK—MONTHLY STATEMENT.

Table with columns: Month, Merchandise Movement at New York (Imports, Exports), Customs Receipts at New York. Shows monthly data from July to January.

Movement of gold and silver for the seven months:

Table with columns: Month, Gold Movement at New York (Imports, Exports), Silver—New York (Imports, Exports). Shows monthly data from July to January.

BANK NOTES—CHANGES IN TOTALS OF, AND IN DEPOSITED BONDS, &c.—We give below tables which show all the monthly changes in national bank notes and in bonds and legal tenders on deposit therefor:

Table with columns: Amount Bonds on Deposit to Secure Circulation for National Bank Notes, National Bank Circulation Afloat on (Bonds, Legal Tenders, Total). Shows monthly data from Feb. 28 1927 to Mar. 31 1927.

\$4,950,648 Federal Reserve bank notes outstanding March 1 1927, secured by lawful money, against \$6,095,248 March 1 1926.

The following shows the amount of each class of United States bonds and certificates on deposit to secure Federal Reserve bank notes and national bank notes on Feb. 28.

Table with columns: U. S. Bonds Held Feb. 28 1927 to Secure (Bonds on Deposit Feb. 28 1927, On Deposit to Secure Federal Reserve Bank Notes, On Deposit to Secure National Bank Notes, Total Held). Lists various bond series.

The following shows the amount of national bank notes afloat and the amount of legal tender deposits Feb. 1 1927 and March 1 1927, and their increase or decrease during the month of February:

Table with columns: National Bank Notes—Total Afloat, Legal Tender Notes. Shows amounts for Feb. 1 1927, Mar. 1 1927, and Net increase during February.

Auction Sales.—Among other securities, the following, not actually dealt in at the Stock Exchange, were sold at auction in New York, Boston and Philadelphia on Wednesday of this week:

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh. Lists various auction sales including 1410 Wm. F. McLaughlin & Co., 900 Rochester Natatorium, Inc., etc.

Table with columns: Shares, Stocks, \$ per share. Lists various auction sales including 5 Atlantic National Bank, 2 National Shawmut Bank, etc.



Table with 4 columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed. Days Inclusive. Section: Miscellaneous (Continued).

Table with 4 columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed. Days Inclusive. Section: Miscellaneous (Concluded).

Below we give the dividends announced in previous weeks and not yet paid. This list does not include dividends announced this week, these being given in the preceding table.

Table with 4 columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed. Days Inclusive. Section: Railroads (Steam).



Table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive. The table is split into two main sections: 'Miscellaneous (Continued)' on the left and 'Miscellaneous (Continued)' on the right. It lists numerous companies and their financial details, including preferred shares and common stock, with dates for when they were paid and when their books were closed.

Table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive, Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive. The table is split into two columns, each containing a list of companies and their financial details.



Table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent, When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive. Lists various companies and their financial details.

Weekly Returns of New York City Clearing House Banks and Trust Companies.

The following shows the condition of the New York City Clearing House members for the week ending Mar. 12. The figures for the separate banks are the averages of the daily results.

NEW YORK WEEKLY CLEARING HOUSE RETURNS. (Stated in thousands of dollars—that is, three ciphers (000) omitted.)

Table with columns: Week Ending, New Capital, Profits, Loans, Cash in Vault, Reserve with Legal Depositories, Net Demand Deposits, Time Deposits, Bank Circulation. Includes sub-tables for Members of Fed. Res. Bank, State Banks, and Trust Companies.

Note.—U. S. deposits deducted from net demand deposits in the general totals above were as follows: Average total Mar. 12, \$22,726,000. Actual totals Mar. 12, \$22,163,000; Mar. 5, \$23,562,000; Feb. 26, \$24,964,000; Feb. 19, \$24,963,000;

\* Includes deposits in foreign branches not included in total footings as follows: National City Bank, \$231,900,000; Chase National Bank, \$12,937,000; Bankers Trust Co., \$32,978,000; Guaranty Trust Co., \$86,869,000; Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., \$4,466,000; Equitable Trust Co., \$93,196,000.

The reserve position of the different groups of institutions on the basis of both the averages for the week and the actual condition at the end of the week is shown in the following two tables:

STATEMENT OF RESERVE POSITION OF CLEARING HOUSE BANKS AND TRUST COMPANIES.

Table with columns: Members Federal Reserve Bank, State banks, Trust companies, Total Mar. 12, Total Mar. 5, Total Feb. 26, Total Feb. 19. Sub-headers: Cash Reserve in Vault, Reserve in Depositories, Total Reserve, Reserve Required, Surplus Reserve.

\* This is the reserve required on net demand deposits in the case of State banks and trust companies, but in the case of members of the Federal Reserve Bank, includes also amount of reserve required on net time deposits, which was as follows: Mar. 12, \$17,751,540; Mar. 5, \$18,118,380; Feb. 26, \$18,203,160; Feb. 19, \$18,428,130; Feb. 11, \$18,313,110; Feb. 5, \$18,202,260.



Weekly Return of the Federal Reserve Board.

The following is the return issued by the Federal Reserve Board Thursday afternoon, Mar. 16, and showing the condition of the twelve Reserve banks at the close of business on Wednesday. In the first table we present the results for the system as a whole in comparison with the figures for the seven preceding weeks and with those of the corresponding week last year. The second table shows the resources and liabilities separately for each of the twelve banks. The Federal Reserve Agents' Accounts (third table following) gives details regarding transactions in Federal Reserve notes between the Comptroller and Reserve Agents and between the latter and Federal Reserve banks. The Reserve Board's comment upon the returns for the latest week appears on page 16(3 being the first item in our department of "Current Events and Discussions."

COMBINED RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS MARCH 16 1927.

Main table showing combined resources and liabilities of the Federal Reserve Banks at the close of business March 16 1927. Columns include dates from Mar. 16 1927 to Mar. 17 1926. Rows include Resources (Gold, Total gold reserves, Total resources) and Liabilities (F. R. notes in actual circulation, Deposits, Total liabilities). Includes percentage ratios for gold reserves to deposits and foreign correspondents.

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," previously made up of Foreign Intermediate Credit Bank debentures, was changed to "Other securities," and the caption, "Total earning assets" to "Total bills and securities." The latter item was adopted as a more accurate description of the total of the discounts, acceptances and securities acquired under the provisions of Sections 13 and 14 of the Federal Reserve Act, which, it was stated, are the only items included therein.

WEEKLY STATEMENT OF RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF EACH OF THE 12 FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS MAR. 16 1927.

Table showing the weekly statement of resources and liabilities for each of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks at the close of business March 16 1927. Columns list banks: Boston, New York, Phila., Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Kan. City, Dallas, San Fran., Total. Rows list Resources (Gold, Total gold reserves, Total resources) and Liabilities (F. R. notes, Deposits, Total liabilities).



Bankers' Gazette.

Wall Street, Friday Night, March 18 1927.

Railroad and Miscellaneous Stocks.—The review of the Stock Market is given this week on page 1623.

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, Sales for Week, Range for Week (Lowest, Highest), Range Since Jan. 1. (Lowest, Highest). Includes sections for Railroads, Industrial & Misc., and various stock listings.

Continuation of the Stock Market table from the previous block, listing various stocks and their prices.

\* 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 price. Includes entries like American, Amer Union, Bowery East R, etc.

\* Banks marked (\*) are State banks. † New stock. ‡ Ex-div. § Ex-stock div. ¶ Ex-rights.

Quotations for U. S. Treas. Cfts. of Indebtedness, &c.

Table showing interest rates and maturities for U.S. Treasury certificates of indebtedness, with columns for Maturity, Rate, Bid, Asked, and various price points.

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 transactions for various bond issues like First Liberty Loan, Second Liberty Loan, and Treasury bonds, with columns for date and price.

Note.—The above table includes only sales of coupon bonds. Transactions in registered bonds were: 12 1st 4 1/2s, 147 2d 4 1/2s, 30 3d 4 1/2s, etc.

Foreign Exchange.—Sterling exchange displayed marked firmness and activity, as a result of which quotations were advanced more than 1/2 of 1 cent to the highest point in quite some time.

The range for foreign exchange for the week follows: Sterling Actual—Sixty Days. Cheques. Cables. High for the week, Low for the week, etc.

New York City Realty and Surety Companies.

All prices dollars per share.

Table listing various realty and surety companies with columns for Bid, Ask, and price. Includes entries like Alliance R'ty, Amer Surety, Bond & M G, etc.

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

Main 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 (Railroads, etc.); PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1 1927; PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1926.

\* Bid and asked prices. s Ex-dividend. a Ex-rights.

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

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns: Saturday, Mar. 12., Monday, Mar. 14., Tuesday, Mar. 15., Wednesday, Mar. 16., Thursday, Mar. 17., Friday, Mar. 18., Sales for the Week, STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1 1927, and PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1926.

Table with columns: Saturday, Mar. 12., Monday, Mar. 14., Tuesday, Mar. 15., Wednesday, Mar. 16., Thursday, Mar. 17., Friday, Mar. 18., listing stock prices and sales data.

\*BID and asked prices; no sales on this day. \*Ex-Dividend.

For sales during the week of stocks usually inactive, see third page preceding

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday, Mar. 12 to Friday, Mar. 18); Sales for the Week; STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE; PER SHARE (Range Since Jan. 1 1927, Lowest, Highest); PER SHARE (Range for Previous Year 1926, Lowest, Highest). Rows list various stocks like California Packing, Callahan Petroleum, Calumet & Hecla, etc.

\* Bid and asked prices. no sales on this day. s Ex-dividend. o Ex-rights.



For sales during the week of stocks usually inactive, see fourth page preceding

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday to Friday) and price ranges for various stocks. Includes sub-headers like 'per share' and 'range since Jan. 1, 1927'.

Sales for the Week.

Table listing various stocks under 'NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE' with columns for stock names and sales volume.

PER SHARE

Table showing price ranges for various stocks, categorized by 'Lowest' and 'Highest' prices, with sub-headers for 'Range Since Jan. 1, 1927' and 'Range for Previous Year 1926'.

\* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. \* Ex-Dividend. \* Ex-Rights.

For sales during the week of stocks usually inactive, see fifth page preceding

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday, Mar. 12, Monday, Mar. 14, Tuesday, Mar. 15, Wednesday, Mar. 16, Thursday, Mar. 17, Friday, Mar. 18). Includes sub-sections for STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE and PER SHARE (Lowest, Highest) for various companies like Nat Department Stores, Nat Distill Prod, etc.

\* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Ex-dividend. ‡ Ex-rights. § Ex-dividend one share of Standard Oil of California new

For sales during the week of stocks usually inactive, see sixth 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 'Sales for the Week'. Rows list various stock symbols and their corresponding prices.

STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing various stock categories such as 'Indus. & Miscell. (Con.)', 'Sears, Roebuck & Co new', 'Shell Transport & Trading', etc., with their respective share counts and prices.

PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1 1927 On basis of 100-share lots

Table with columns for 'Lowest' and 'Highest' prices, and 'PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1926'. Rows list various stock symbols and their price ranges.

\* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. b Ex-dividend and ex-rights. z Ex-dividend.

Jan. 1 1909 the Exchange method of quoting bonds was changed and prices are now "and interest"—except for income and defaulted bonds

Main table with columns: BONDS, N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE, Week Ended March 18, Interest Period, Price Friday, Mar. 18., Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1., and various bond descriptions like U.S. Government, Japanese Gov't, etc.

Main table containing bond listings with columns for Bond Description, Price, Week's Range, Range Since, and various other details. Includes sub-sections for 'BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE' and 'BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ended March 18.'.

Due Feb Due May Due Dec



Main table listing bonds with columns for Bond Name, Date, Price, and Range. Includes sub-sections for 'BONDS' and 'INDUSTRIALS'.

4 Due May. 5 Due June. 6 Due Aug

Table with columns for Bonds, Price, Week's Range or Last Sale, Range Since Jan. 1, and various bond descriptions including Kings County Elev, Stamped gas, Kings County Lighting, etc.



New York Bond Record—Concluded—Page 6

Quotations of Sundry Securities

All bond prices are "and Interest" except where marked

Table of New York Stock Exchange bonds, including columns for Bond Name, Price, Week's Range, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Table of Sundry Securities, including Standard Oil Stocks, Public Utilities, Railroad Equipments, and Water Bonds.

\*Per share. †No par value. ‡Basis of Purchaser also pays accrued dividend. \*New stock. †Last price. ‡Last sale. †Nominal. ‡Ex-dividend. †Ex-rights. †Canadian quotation. ‡Sale price.

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for dates from Saturday, Mar. 12 to Friday, Mar. 18, and various stock symbols and prices.

Table with columns for Sales for the Week, Stocks Boston Stock Exchange, Range Since Jan. 1 (Lowest and Highest), and Per Share Range for Previous Year 1926 (Lowest and Highest). Includes sections for Railroads, Miscellaneous, and Mining.

\* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Assessment paid. ‡ Ex-stock dividend. § Ex-dividend. ¶ Ex-rights. ■ Ex-dividend and rights.

Outside Stock Exchanges

Boston Bond Record.—Transactions in bonds at Boston Stock Exchange Meh. 12 to Meh. 18, both inclusive:

Table with columns: Bonds, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Philadelphia Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Meh. 12 to Meh. 18, both inclusive, compiled from official sale lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Table with columns: Bonds, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Baltimore Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Baltimore Stock Exchange Meh. 12 to Meh. 18, both inclusive, compiled from official lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Table with columns: Stocks (Continued), Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Table with columns: Bonds, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Chicago Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Chicago Stock Exchange Meh. 12 to Meh. 18, both inclusive, compiled from official sale lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Table of stock transactions for Cincinnati Stock Exchange, listing various stocks with columns for Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Table of stock transactions for Cincinnati Stock Exchange, listing various stocks with columns for Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Cincinnati Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Cincinnati Stock Exchange Meh. 12 to Meh. 18, both inclusive, compiled from official lists:

Table of stock transactions for Cincinnati Stock Exchange, listing various stocks with columns for Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange.—Record of transactions at San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange Meh. 12 to Meh. 18, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock transactions for San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange, listing various stocks with columns for Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Table of stock transactions for San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange, listing various stocks with columns for Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.

Pittsburgh Stock Exchange.—For this week's record of transactions on the Pittsburgh Stock Exchange see page 1627.

St. Louis Stock Exchange.—For this week's record of transactions on the St. Louis Stock Exchange see page 1627.

New York Curb Market.—Below is a record of the transactions in the New York Curb Market from Mch. 12 to Mch. 18, both inclusive, as compiled from the official lists. As noted in our issue of July 2 1921, the New York Curb Market Association on June 27 1921 transferred its activities from the Broad Street curb to its new building on Trinity Place, and the Association is now issuing an official sheet which forms the basis of the compilations below.

Table with columns: Week Ended Feb. 18, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1., Stocks (Concluded) Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1. The table lists various stocks and their performance metrics.



Main table containing financial data for Mining Stocks, Bonds, and Foreign Government and Municipalities. Columns include stock names, prices, ranges, and sales data.

\* No par value. † Correction. ‡ Listed on the Stock Exchange this week, where additional transactions will be found. m Sold under the rule. n Sold for cash. o Dew stock. r Ex 33 1-3 stock dividend. s sold at 148 1/4 on Jan. 3 1927 with stock dividends on. s Option sale. t Ex rights and bonus. u Ex special dividend of 33 1/2 and regular dividend of 2%. v Ex cash and stock dividends. w When issued. z Ex dividend. y Ex rights. z Ex stock dividend.













At Huntington Beach a town lot area was opened up and developed during the year, and at Seal Beach a new field was discovered where the company had approximately 260 acres of land under lease.

Company's Holdings as of Dec. 31.

Table with columns: Domestic Acreage, Lease, Fee, Total. Rows include California, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Wyoming.

a Oil and gas rights in fee. b Government permit. Foreign acreage totaled 1,275,215 under contract and 3,780 in fee as follows: Colombia, 381,283 and 3,780 (fee); Ecuador, 12,335; Mexico, 199,372; Panama, 49,420; Venezuela, 632,805.

Pipe Line.—Company's pipe lines had total crude oil runs from wells during 1926 of 78,032,335 barrels, an average of 213,787 bbls. per day. Crude oil was received from 278 producers and from 117 properties of the Standard Oil Co., all in California.

Refineries.—The refineries ran an average of 163,506 bbls. of crude oil daily. During the year the company commenced construction on 8 pressure units at its Richmond refinery and a like number of its El Segundo refinery, for the manufacture of cracked gasoline.

Stockholders.—Stockholders of record Dec. 31 1926 numbered 55,735. Of this total, 35.75% were women. Of the stockholders, 95.42% held 500 shares or less; 84.17% held 100 shares or less; and 50.12% held 25 shares or less.

EARNINGS AND SURPLUS YEAR ENVD DECEMBER 31 1926.

Table showing Operating income, Non-operating income, Total net income, Depreciation and depletion, Income tax (estimated).

Table showing Net profit to surplus, Surplus beginning of year, Adjustments, Total surplus, Dividends.

Table showing Surplus end of year, Earnings per share on 12,594,098 shares capital stock (no par).

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1926. Assets—Cash, Accounts receivable, Inventories—Oils, do Material & supp., Other current assets, Inv. in non-affil'd cos., do affiliated cos., Special trust funds, Fixed assets, Prepaid & deferred chgs.

Table showing Liabilities—Accounts payable, Accr. Liab. (Fed'l tax), Other current liabilities, Deferred credits, General insurance res'vs, Reserve for employees benefits, Reserve for contingencies, Capital stock, Capital surplus, Earned surplus.

Total—\$573,803,345. a Less reserve for depreciation and depletion of \$145,841,450. b 12,594,098 shares, no par value—stated value.—V. 123, p. 2403; V. 124, p. 805.

Marland Oil Co. and Subsidiary Companies.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1926.)

Pres. E. W. Marland, March 1, wrote in substance:

During 1926 company increased and expanded its volume of business in every branch in which it was engaged, as shown by the accompanying table:

Table showing production and sales data for 1926 and 1925. Rows include Net production of crude oil, Pipe line runs of crude oil, Crude oil run to refinery, Inventory of crude oil at Dec. 31, Inventory of refined products Dec. 31, Sales of crude oil & refined products, Crude oil sales by Reagan County Purchasing Co. (51% owned), Casingshead gasoline production (gals.), Natural gas sales (1,000 cu. ft.), Oil leases owned (acres), Average daily crude oil production, month of December (barrels).

It should be noted that while the average daily net production of crude oil for the year was 35,980 barrels, the average daily net production for the last month of the year was 45,898 barrels and that the company is beginning the year 1927 with a 40% increase of production over the amount with which it began the year 1926.

Pipe line facilities were materially added to during the year 1926 to accommodate the business anticipated for the future years.

Crude oil run through the company's own refinery during 1926 amounted to 7,528,196 barrels, or a daily average of 20,625 barrels.

The refinery extensions made during the year resulted in a throughput for the month of December of 715,181 barrels, or a daily average of 23,070 barrels. Company is starting the year 1927 with 30% increase in refining capacity as the result of its extensions during 1926.

Company closed the year with an inventory of 5,603,317 barrels of crude oil against 2,672,696 barrels at the end of last year. There also was a moderate increase in inventory of refined products.

Sales of crude oil and refined products showed a healthy increase over 1925, and contracts made during the year 1926 for delivery in 1927 will exceed the figures of 1926.

The growth of the company's casinghead gasoline business, as shown by the increased gallonage in 1926 over 1925, does not reflect the full growth of this branch of the company's business as some of our plants built during the year did not come into operation until near the close of the year.

Natural Gas sales showed a slight falling off in 1926 due to the better use to which gas production was put in the fields.

Oil leases owned showed an increase of 60% over the year 1925 and as the production of oil is the most important branch of the industry engaged in by the company, it is probably the best index of the rate of growth and expansion of the company.

The capital investment of the company for additions to property in the above mentioned branches during the year 1926 amounted to \$33,425,565. Of this amount stockholders furnished \$20,234,786 and \$13,190,779 was supplied out of earnings and reserves.

The capital expenditures made by the company during the year in every branch of its business were reflected in an increased volume of business in its various branches and improved efficiency during the last two months of the year and the first two months of 1927.

This increased volume should be noted in refinery output as well as in crude oil production. The amount of gasoline made by the refinery in the first two months of 1926 was 25,000,000 gallons. For the first two months of 1927 it was 35,000,000 gallons.

Company at the end of the year, under the Federal Revenue Act of 1926, had the opportunity to charge to operations the entire labor expenses and all other intangible costs incidental to the drilling of wells. This opportunity of increasing the reserve charges, being of material benefit to

the shareholders, was taken advantage of and the income account, as presented, is in accordance with this new accounting method. Surplus account has been charged with \$3,871,566 representing the undetected drilling costs of prior years, as well as \$16,709,175 being the balance of appraisal of leaseholds. This latter item represents an appreciation above cost of property values determined by an appraisal made as of July 1 1920, and does not reflect in any way the present enhanced value of the properties so it was deemed advisable to write it off.

RESULTS FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table showing financial results for 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Gross earnings, Oper. & adm. exps., Net earnings, Dividends Comar Oil Co., Reagan County Purchasing Co., Dividends Romarti Gasoline Co., Miscellaneous income, Gross income, Res. for amort. of bd. disc., Res. for depreciation, Res. for depletion on cost, Leased charged off, Net operating income, Red. of crude oil inventory to market, Disc. & premium on bds. retired, Investment charged off, Prov. for Fed. taxes, Dividend paid, Surplus.

Surplus account for year 1926, \$4,039,744; surplus balance Dec. 31 1925, \$23,978,679; 51% Reagan County Purchasing Co. earnings to Dec. 31 1925; \$436,385; adjustment of Federal taxes for 1925, \$677,000; total, \$29,131,809; Deduct: Remainder of appraisal as of July 1 1920 charged off, \$16,709,176; undepleted drilling costs of prior years charged off, \$3,871,566; sundry adjustments, \$152,199; total, \$20,732,941; surplus balance Dec. 1926, \$8,398,868.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31 (INCL. SUB. COS.)

Table showing Assets and Liabilities for 1926 and 1925. Assets include Net property account, Appraisal, Marland Oil of Mexico Stock, Consol. Oil of Mex., Comar Oil—Stock, Reagan Co. Purch., Stock, Misc. inv. & adv., Unadj. deb. & sund, Cash, U. S. Treas. cfts., Bills receivable, Accts. rec., less res, Crude oil, Refined products, Mat'ls & supplies, Int. rec. accrued, Misc. demand items. Liabilities include Capital & surplus equity, Prepaid stk. subsc., Stk. of subs. at par (minority int.), Bills payable, Res. for Fed. taxes, Accounts payable, Accrued int., taxes & insurance.

a As follows: (1) Real estate and buildings, \$3,186,074, less depreciation, \$338,216; (2) refineries, gasoline plants, pipe line, storage, tank cars, distributing stations, etc., \$40,841,672, less depreciation, \$10,542,870; (3) Leases, wells and equipment: (a) Producing leases: (1) bonus cost, \$5,262,632, less depletion, \$3,841,888; (2) wells and equipment, \$12,670,635; intangible drilling costs, \$15,363,708; total, \$28,034,342; less depreciation, \$3,245,927, less reserve for intangible drilling cost, \$12,363,708; (b) Non-producing leases: (1) bonus cost, \$10,406,163; (2) wells and equipment, \$1,566,639; (3) intangible drilling costs, \$1,360,251; total, \$13,333,054, less reserve for intangible drilling costs, \$1,360,251.

b Appraisal as of July 1 1920, \$27,609,650, incl. discovery values (\$16,747,701), less depletion sustained (\$10,900,474) to Dec. 31 1925.

c Net equity, represented by 1,930,614 shares of no par value stock of Marland Oil Co. issued and outstanding Dec. 31 1926 (1,895,614 shares, Dec. 31 1925).—V. 124, p. 244.

Philadelphia Rapid Transit Co.

(Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1926.)

Pres. W. K. Myers, Feb. 28, says in substance:

Operations, &c.—P. R. T. co-ordinates every phase of Philadelphia's public passenger transportation and now operates about 660 miles of surface track, 39 miles of elevated and subway track, and 362 motorbuses over a system of routes in Philadelphia which totals 244 miles and also connects Philadelphia by interurban routes with New York, Atlantic City, Baltimore, Washington and intermediate points. P. R. T. also owns and operates Yellow Cab Co., the largest cab company in Philadelphia, operating over 1,100 taxicabs. This co-ordination tends to protect the joint city-company system against the inroads of competitive operation and consequent diversion of earnings to which street railways elsewhere are now being increasingly subjected.

Results for 1926.—Passenger revenue for 1926, including subway-elevated, street cars and motorbuses, with 8 months of taxicabs, was \$57,196,610. Operating expenses and taxes were \$44,915,255. Motorbus operation resulted in a deficit of \$274,247 for the year. Taxicab net income for the 8 months ended Dec. 31 amounted to \$198,339, being at the rate of approximately \$300,000 per annum, thus offsetting the deficit from motorbus operation. After providing for payments to city sinking fund, rental for Frankford elevated, fixed charges, 7% dividend on preferred stock and 8% dividend on common stock, there remained \$20,285 to be transferred to surplus.

Outlook.—P. R. T. system earnings should reach \$70,000,000 by 1930, of which 25% may be earned by taxicabs and buses. If bus and cab service had not been developed by P. R. T., 1930 would find P. R. T. earnings entirely insufficient to enable it to supply adequate city-wide transit without endangering its own present financial position.

With P. R. T. system developed as now planned, its entire earnings are pooled and afford a protection against wasteful competition. It remains to be determined how much of these conserved earnings will in future be applied to reduce city transit cost in aid of the taxpayer and how much to reduce fare or increase service in aid of the car-rider.

Motorbus Operation.—P. R. T. motorbus system during 1925 added 9 new routes operating 127 miles. This system has been further added to in 1926 by the installation of 9 more new routes, operating 101 miles over city streets—a net addition of 32% to P. R. T.'s route mileage accomplished within two years. A deficit of \$274,247 resulted from 1926 bus operation through giving service in districts where it is needed but which will be unprofitable for years to come. Track construction to supply this unprofitable service by street cars would have resulted in a much greater loss—would in fact have been impossible.

Company, in assuming this added burden, has had in view the necessity of establishing a more complete transportation service to newly developed outlying districts, where population is not sufficient to warrant the expense of car tracks and where rubber-tired vehicles—with a seat for a fare—are necessary to supply a type of transportation more nearly comparable to the private automobile. In this suburban motorbus service, P. R. T. has given to Philadelphia a wide-flung system of outlying routes, making possible the building up of a larger suburban territory than is now being so served in any other American city.





Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with 4 columns: Assets, Liabilities, 1926, 1925. Rows include Investments, Cash, Loans and accts., etc.

American Telephone & Telegraph Co.—Denies Split-up. Following a sensational market in Company's stock March 16 and 17, President Walter S. Gifford emphatically denied that any plan of recapitalization is being considered.

American Utilities Co.—Bonds Offered.—J. G. White & Co., Inc., Parsley Bros. & Co. and Paul & Co. are offering at 100 and int. \$1,225,500 additional 1st lien & ref. gold bonds series "A" 6% Dated Dec. 1 1925; due Dec. 1 1945

Chicago North Shore & Milwaukee RR.—Report (Incl. Chicago & Milwaukee Electric Ry.). Calendar Years— 1926. 1925. 1924. 1923. Operating revenues \$7,568,362 \$6,850,165 \$6,198,987 \$5,945,272

Debtentures Offered.—Parsley Bros. & Co. and Paul & Co., Philadelphia, are offering at 96 1/2 and int., yielding about 6.88%, \$350,000 additional 15-year 6 1/2% gold debentures.

Data from Letter of S. W. Fleming Jr., President of the Company. Capitalization— Common stock (voting trust certificates) 150,000 shs 50,535 shs.

Earnings.—Consolidated earnings of the company and its subsidiaries for the 12 months ended Dec. 31 1926, including earnings from properties being acquired, are reported as follows:

Table with 4 columns: Balance, Interest, Gross earnings, Oper. exp., Annual interest. Rows include 15-year 6 1/2% gold debentures, gross earnings, operating expenses, etc.

American Water Works & Electric Co., Inc.—Acquisition.— The company on March 15 announced the purchase of the Ashtabula Water Supply Co. of Ashtabula, Ohio.

Ashtabula (O.) Water Supply Co.—Control.— See American Water Works & Electric Co., Inc., above.—V. 105, p. 391.

Associated Gas & Electric Co.—Dividend on Class A Stock, &c.— The directors have declared the regular quarterly dividend payable May 2 1927 on the class A stock to holders of record March 31, at the rate of 2 1/2% of one share of class A stock for each share held.

Athens (Ga.) Electric Ry.—Bonds Called.— All of the outstanding first mtge. 6% gold bonds, due 1931, have been called for payment April 1 at 106 and interest at the Title Guarantee & Trust Co., Atlanta, Ga.—V. 90, p. 1101.

Brooklyn Borough Gas Co.—To Retire Pref. Stock.— The directors have called for redemption as of April 1 all of the outstanding 6 1/2% preferred stock at \$53.75 per share.

Buffalo Niagara & Eastern Power Corp.—Acquisition of Western New York Utilities, Inc., Approved.— The New York Public Service Commission has authorized the corporation to acquire and hold all or more than 10% of the outstanding common stock of Western New York Utilities, Inc., upon the express condition that in granting the order the Commission does not pass upon the value of the property of the latter corporation, nor upon the reasonableness of the consideration proposed to be paid for the stock; nor shall such consideration constitute any evidence in any proceeding, suit or of matter hereafter involving the value of the assets of the Western New York Utilities, Inc. or rates, charges or service of the company or its successors.

Chicago North Shore & Milwaukee RR.—Report (Incl. Chicago & Milwaukee Electric Ry.). Calendar Years— 1926. 1925. 1924. 1923. Operating revenues \$7,568,362 \$6,850,165 \$6,198,987 \$5,945,272

Chicago Surface Lines.—Review.— Chicago Railways, Chicago City Railway, Calumet & South Chicago and Southern Street records as to property assets, franchises, cash reserves, control, traffic, operations and earnings, and concerning the defaults on seven issues of mortgage bond liabilities, and regarding the future and prospects, are reviewed by Wm. Hughes Clarke of South La Salle St., Chicago in the "Financial World" of Feb. 26 and March 5.

Cincinnati & Suburban Bell Telephone Co.—Larger Dividend.— The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of \$1.13 per share on the outstanding capital stock, payable April 1 to holders of record March 19.

Cities Service Co.—Dividends—Debentures Called.— Regular dividends of 1/2 of 1% in cash on the preferred and preference stocks, 1/2 of 1% in cash on the common stock and 1/2 of 1% in stock on the common stock have been declared, all payable May 2 to holders of record April 15.

Henry L. Doherty Disavows "One-Man Control".— Pres. Henry L. Doherty, whose serious illness on March 3 was used as a pretext by professional traders to bring about a sensational break in the common stock of the company, has addressed a letter to stockholders of his companies describing the condition of his health and announcing that he never expects again "to take an active part in the routine work" of the business.

Consolidated Statement of Earnings of Properties Since Dates of Acquisition. 12 Months Ended Jan. 31— 1927. 1926. Amount. %. Gross earnings & other income \$29,705,641 \$21,051,093 \$8,654,548 41

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men having been associated with our concern since they left universities. We have done at least more than our share of training the men who make up the great army who carry on the public utility business of the country, and if there is any one concern that could carry on under any or all circumstances regardless of what happened to me, or what happens to other prominent men in the company, it is the company, and you will do me a great favor by asking these questions of the men who are in the public utility business and who know what they are talking about, and you will do me a very great favor if you can find a single man who does not admit that this is of concern that does not depend on the life or health of any single individual to continue to carry on its operations.—V. 124, p. 1357.

Columbia Gas & Electric Corp. (& Subs.).—Earnings. Period Ended Jan. 31 1927— Month. 12 Mos. Gross earnings \$10,387,172 \$92,619,660 Operating expenses (exclusive of taxes) 4,586,901 44,885,647 Reserved for renewals and replacements & depletion 924,449 8,099,770 Taxes 923,491 7,708,015

Net operating earnings \$3,952,330 \$31,926,228 Other income 641,241 3,524,256 Total income \$4,593,572 \$35,450,484 Lease Rentals 365,559 4,604,685 Int. charges and pref. dividends of subsidiaries 406,809 4,509,515

Consolidated Gas Co. of New York.—Stock Changes.— This company and the following subsidiaries have filed certificates at Albany, N. Y., increasing its authorized capital stock, viz.: Consolidated Gas Co. of N. Y., from 3,900,000 shs. to 7,620,000 shs. Astoria Light, Heat & Power Co., 480,000 to 520,000 shs. common, no par value.

New York Edison Co., 2,508,080 to 4,308,080 shs., no par value. United Electric Light & Power Co., 593,942 to 873,942 shs., no par value.

Dakota Central Telephone Co.—Annual Report.— Calendar Years— 1926. 1925. 1924. 1923. Total telephone revenue \$1,328,474 \$1,249,822 \$1,143,167 \$1,163,939 Operating expense 399,056 379,755 370,585 438,247 Current maintenance 229,960 201,673 165,659 163,785 Depreciation 240,440 221,737 207,153 196,145 Taxes 124,303 111,249 104,512 101,274

Denver Tramway Corp.—Notes Sold.— Boettcher & Co. and the International Trust Co. as underwriters announce that subscription books have been closed for \$1,750,000 6% 1st (underlying) mtge. collateral trust sinking fund gold notes dated April 1 1927 maturing Oct. 1 1933 which the corporation is issuing in connection with its April 1 maturities of \$2,598,000 of underlying bonds. All the notes were taken under a preferential opportunity given the holder of the maturing bonds to subscribe for the new notes. See V. 124, p. 1509.

East Bay Water Co.—Dividend.— The company has increased the dividend rate on the "B" preferred stock to \$6 annually from \$5, with the declaration of a quarterly dividend of \$1.50 per share, payable April 15 to holders of record March 31.—V. 123, p. 454.

Electric Bond Share Co.—New Vice-Presidents.— C. E. Groesbeck, for several years a Vice-President, has been elected the Executive Vice-President of this company and of the Electric Bond & Share Securities Corp. A. S. Grenier and P. B. Sawyer have been elected additional Vice-Presidents of both companies.—V. 124, p. 1066.

Electric Power & Light Corp. (& Subs.).—Earnings.— Calendar Years— 1926. 1925. 1924. 1923. Gross earnings \$7,510,530 \$4,360,543 Expenses of Electric Power & Light Corp. 779,993 421,559 Interest deductions of Elec. Pow. & Lt. Corp. 454,857 17,964 Preferred dividends of Elec. Pow. & Lt. Corp. 2,923,025 1,676,881 Second pref. divs. of Elec. Pow. & Lt. Corp. 776,986 608,226

Assets— 1926. 1925. Investments \$98,380,951 \$88,034,036 Cash 1,378,375 1,402,045 Notes & loans rec.: Subsidiaries 2,782,228 5,095,345 Others 270,000 982,347 Acc'ts rec., subsd. 700,538 842,050 Acc'ts rec., others 398,782 96,264 Reaq'd cap. stock 97,556 68,527 Prepaid taxes 9,998

Holders of option warrants outstanding are entitled to purchase one share of common stock, without limitation as to time, at \$25 per share for each option warrant held, and each share of the company's 2nd pref. stock, Series A, when accompanied by four option warrants, will be accepted at \$100 in payment for such common stock in lieu of cash.—V. 124, p. 110.

Essex & Hudson Gas Co.—Merger Operative.— See Public Service Electric & Gas Co. below.—V. 124, p. 234.

Frankford Tacony & Holmesburg Street Ry.—Final Payment.—

Non-assenting bondholders are notified that the final account of the receivers has been approved by the Court and that distribution will be made by the Tacony Trust Co. upon presentation of such bonds with all coupons attached.—V. 121, p. 2037.

Gary Railways Co.—Income Account.— Calendar Years— 1926. 1925. 1924. Operating revenue \$1,349,331 \$1,204,729 \$998,418 Operating expenses 1,074,120 927,693 773,290 Other charges, including taxes 66,139 88,177 73,813 Interest on funded debt 72,183 73,796 69,523 Dividends declared 116,799 92,632

Georgia Power Co.—Underlying Bonds.— A list of the underlying bonds, to be outstanding upon completion of the present financing, follows: Atlanta Water & Elec. Power Co. 1st 5s, 1943 \$1,177,000 Georgia Ry. & Elec. Co.—1st cons. mtg. 5s, 1932 5,275,000 Ref. & imp. 5s, 1949 7,780,000 Georgia Electric Light Co. 1st 5s, 1930 1,350,000 Atlanta Street Ry. 1st 6s, 1930 225,000 Atlanta Consolidated St. Ry. 1st cons. 5s, 1939 1,674,000 Athens Ry. & Elec. Co. 1st & ref. 5s, 1950 313,000 Rome Ry. & Light Co. 1st mtg. 5s, 1946 716,000

Bonds to be Called as at Dec. 31 1926. (a) Bonds Being Called— Amount to be Called. Call Price. Date of Call. Date of Notice of Call. Georgia Ry. & Power Co.— 1st ref. Mt. 40-yr. 5s, 1954 \$10,770,000 105 & int. Apr. 1 1927 Feb. 2 1927 Gen. Mt. 20-yr. 7s, 1941 4,000,000 105 & int. Apr. 1 1927 Mar. 2 1927 Gen. Mt. 25-yr. 6s, 1947 3,436,500 107 1/2 & int. Apr. 1 1927 Mar. 2 1927 Gen. Mt. 25-yr. 6s, 1948 2,964,500 107 1/2 & int. Mar. 1 1927 Called. Gen. Mt. 20-yr. 6s, 1954 2,915,000 107 1/2 & int. Apr. 1 1927 Mar. 2 1927 Athens Electric Ry.— 1st mtg. 30-year 6s, 1931 387,000 106 & int. Apr. 1 1927 Gen. mtg. 8s, 1936 131,400 Equiv. to 6% of unex. term Dec. 1 1926 Called. Milledgeville Ltg. Co.— 1st mtg. 25-yr. 6s, 1949 147,100 102 1/2 & int. Jan. 1 1927 Called. Athens Gas Lt. & Fuel Co.— 1st mtg. 30-yr. 5s, 1942 7,000 102 1/2 & int. Dec. 1 1926 Called. (b) Bonds Being Surrendered— Georgia Ry. & Elec. Co.— 1st cons. Mt. 30-yr. 5s, '32 35,000 110 & int. Ref. & imp. 40-yr. 5s, '49 179,000 105 & int. Rome Ry. & Light Co.— 1st mtg. 30-yr. 5s, 1946 115,000 105 & int. Compare also V. 124, p. 1509.

Hanover & McSherrytown Water Co.—Notes Offered.— Vought & Co., Inc., New York, are offering at 99 and int., to yield 6.13%, \$350,000 10-year 6% gold notes, series A.

Dated March 1 1927; due March 1 1937. Principal and int. (M. & S.) payable at Seaboard National Bank, New York, trustee, without deduction for the normal Federal income tax not exceeding 2%. Penna. 4-mill tax and Mass. income tax not exceeding 6% refunded. Denom. \$1,000 and \$5000\*. Red. at any time upon 30 days' notice, as a whole or in part, through drawing by lot, at 103 during first three years from date, at 102 during succeeding three years, and at 100 1/2 during remaining four years to maturity, plus int. in each case.

Capitalization— Authorized. Outstanding. 6% 1st ref. mtg. gold bonds, due 1941 \$550,000 \$550,000 6% 10-year gold notes, series A (this issue) x 350,000 Capital stock (par \$50) 250,000 250,000 x Issuance of additional notes restricted by terms of the trust indenture.

Earnings—Year Ended Dec. 31 1926. Gross income \$108,352 Operating expenses, maintenance & taxes (excl. Federal taxes) 31,901 Net earnings \$76,451 Annual interest on 1st ref. mtg. 6% gold bonds 33,000 Annual interest on 10-year 6% gold notes, series A (this issue) 21,000

Balance— \$22,451 Purpose.—Proceeds will be used to retire certain existing indebtedness of the company, to reimburse it for expenditures made for property additions and betterments and for other corporate purposes.

Hudson County Gas Co.—Merger Operative.— See Public Service Electric & Gas Co. below.—V. 124, p. 235.

Indianapolis Power & Light Co.—Initial Pref. Div.— The directors have declared a quarterly dividend for the period ending March 31 1927, of 1 1/4% on the outstanding preferred stock, payable April 1 to holders of record March 10. See also V. 124, p. 506.

International Tel. & Tel. Corp.—Bal. Sheet Dec. 31.— Assets— 1926. 1925. Plant, property & concessions \$53,520,852 \$45,346,047 Pats., licenses, &c. 5,253,030 2,388,139 Adv. to & invest. 22,544,437 10,076,965 Special deposits 479,833 336,222 Deferred charges 2,911,215 2,597,468 Cash 12,342,190 10,070,908 Marketable securities 496,700 3,213,510 Accts. & notes rec. 12,947,580 9,569,030 Due on subsc. to capital stock 647,929 500,568 Materials & suppl. 17,687,831 13,034,946 Deposits to meet maturing int. & divs. payable 441,641 404,305 Misc. accts. & inv. 1,574,334 1,401,445 Sundry curr. assets 134,672 244,044



connection with the acquisition of these properties, the construction of the transmission lines, and other corporate purposes.—V. 123, p. 982.

Montana Power Co.—Annual Report.—Calendar Years—1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Gross earnings, Oper. expenses and taxes, Net earnings, Income from invest., Interest received, Net income, Interest charges, Federal income taxes, Depreciation, Preferred divs. (7%), Common divs., Balance, surplus, Shares of common outstanding (par \$100), Earn. per sh. on com., x Except Federal taxes.—V. 124, p. 1220.

Mountain States Teleg. & Teleg. Co.—Annual Report.—Calendar Years—1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Telephone oper. revs., Telephone oper. exps., Total net oper. rev., Uncollectible oper. revs., Taxes, Operating income, Net non-oper. revenues, Total gross income, Rent & misc. deductions, Interest deductions, Dividends (7%), Approp. for employees' benefit reserve, Balance, surplus, Shares of capital stock outstanding (par \$100), Earn. per sh. on cap. stk.—V. 124, p. 1220.

Mutual Telephone Co., Erie, Pa.—Permanent Bonds. R. F. DeVoe & Co., announce that permanent Mutual Telephone Co., series "B" 5% bonds, due 1945, are now ready for delivery at the Erie Trust Co., in exchange for and upon surrender of temporary certificates now outstanding. For offering, see V. 123, p. 1504.

Nassau & Suffolk Lighting Co.—Control Sought.—See Long Island Lighting Co. above. The Nassau & Suffolk Lighting Co. announced on March 9 last that on March 20 it would reduce its rates from \$2.05 per 1,000 cu. ft. of gas to \$1.75. The rate is still 60 cents per 1,000 cu. ft. higher than that in New York City.—V. 117, p. 2797.

National Electric Power Co.—Subs. Acquire Utilities.—Acquisitions by two subsidiaries of the above company were announced last week. The Kansas Electric Power Co. is acquiring the properties of the Emporia (Kan.) Gas Co. and the Southwest Power Co. is taking over the properties of the McAlester (Okla.) Gas & Fuel Co. Both the Kansas Electric Power Co. and the Southwest Power Co. operate the electric power properties in their respective territories.—V. 124, p. 373.

National Fuel Gas Co.—To Split Up Shares.—The stockholders will vote April 28 on changing the authorized capital stock from 370,000 shares of \$100 par value (all outstanding) into 3,700,000 shares of no par value, 10 new shares to be issued in exchange for each share of present stock. President W. J. Judge, says in substance: "The proposed exchange adds nothing to the value of the stock and is not, in any sense, a stock dividend. It should not be assumed that there will be any increase in the amount of dividends to be paid, as such change is not contemplated."—V. 123, p. 3183.

National Public Service Corp.—Change in Control.—Day & Zimmermann of Philadelphia announce that they and their associates have acquired from A. E. Fitkin the controlling interest in the above corporation. Mr. Zimmermann will be President of the latter company. No change in the operating personnel is contemplated but the company will have the benefit of the long experience of Mr. Zimmermann and his organization in the public utility field. The corporation, with gross receipts of over \$27,000,000, has been built up by Mr. Fitkin, who remains on the board. The most important properties controlled by the company are situated in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia and Florida, and serve an aggregate population of over 2,000,000. The principal companies controlled by the corporation include Jersey Central Power & Light Co., Virginia Public Service Co., Tidewater Power Co., Florida Power Corp., Eastern Shore Gas & Electric Co. and Municipal Service Co. Mr. Fitkin, in confirming the above, states that he is surrendering the control and supervision of the affairs of the company because of his desire to devote all of his time and attention to his Western properties known as the Inland Power & Light Corp. system.—V. 124, p. 1360.

New York Telephone Co.—New Director.—Tage P. Sylvan, Vice-President, has been elected a director, succeeding H. F. Thurber.—V. 124, p. 1503.

Pacific Gas & Electric Co.—Dividend.—The directors have declared an initial quarterly dividend of 50 cents on the new \$25 par common, payable April 15 to holders of record March 31. This is equivalent to the regular quarterly dividend of \$2 paid on the old \$100 par common which was split 4 for 1.—V. 124, p. 1067.

Paterson & Passaic Gas & Electric Co.—Merger.—See Public Service Electric & Gas Co. below.—V. 124, p. 236.

Philadelphia Co.—Tenders.—The Provident Trust Co., trustee, 1508 Chestnut St., Phila., Pa., will until April 4 receive bids for the sale to it of 1st mtge. & coll. tr. 5% gold bonds, dated March 1 1899, to an amount sufficient to exhaust \$115,464, at a price not exceeding 107 1/2 and interest.—V. 124, p. 1220.

Public Service Co. of Oklahoma.—2% Common Div.—The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of 2% on the common stock, payable April 1 to holders of record March 24. On Jan. 1 last the company paid a dividend of 1% on the common stock, compared with 2% in the previous quarterly and 3% on June 30 1926.—V. 124, p. 922.

Public Service Corp. of Long Island.—Control Sought.—See Long Island Lighting Co. above.—V. 122, p. 1457.

Public Service Corp. of New Jersey.—Subsidiary Acquires Control of Five of Its Lessor Companies.—See Public Service Electric & Gas Co. below.—V. 124, p. 1511, 1505.

Public Service Electric & Gas Co.—Acquires Control of Five Lessor Companies—New Station.—A notice to the holders of certificates of deposit for stocks of companies now held under lease says in substance:

Under the terms of the deposit agreement dated Dec. 28 1926 for the exchange of the capital stocks of certain companies leased to the above company, it was provided that upon the date therein named, but since

extended until and including March 12 1927, the agreements of purchase or exchange should forthwith become operative in respect of the stock of each lessor of which a majority of the stock shall then have been deposited. A majority of the stock having been deposited of Essex & Hudson Gas Co., Hudson County Gas Co., New Brunswick Light, Heat & Power Co. and the Paterson & Passaic Gas & Electric Co., the agreement has become operative as to the stocks of said companies under all of the options. [Percy S. Young, Vice-President of the Public Service Corp. of N. J., announced that there have been deposited enough shares of stock of the Somerset Union & Middlesex Lighting Co., together with the shares already held, to give the corporation a majority of the outstanding stock.]

It was further provided in the deposit agreement that in respect of the stock of any one or more of the lessors deposited under option B and/or option C, the Public Service Co. might by written notice given to the depositaries, declare the agreement of purchase or exchange to be operative irrespective of whether or not a majority of the stock of such lessor shall then have been deposited, but that as to any stock of such companies deposited under option A, such agreement should in such case only be declared operative with the consent of the holder of the certificate of deposit representing the same. Substantial percentages, but not a majority, of the stocks of the remaining companies have been deposited. [The four companies the stock of which is not under control, due to failure of a majority of stockholders to accept the offers, are the South Jersey Gas, Electric & Traction Co., with a capitalization of \$6,000,000; the Newark Consolidated Gas Co., \$6,000,000; the Gas & Electric Co. of Bergen County, \$2,000,000, and the Ridgewood Gas Co., \$1,000,000.]

Accordingly the Public Service Corp. and Public Service Electric Co. have by written notice to the depositaries declared the agreement operative as to all stock of such remaining companies deposited under option B or option C and as to the stock of such companies deposited under option A with the consent of the holder of the certificate of deposit representing the same, such consent to be communicated in writing to the depositaries not later than March 21 1927.

The depositaries were prepared on March 14 to make settlement under option B (cash plus accrued dividend to March 14), and on March 16 to deliver new stock certificates under option A or option C (with adjustment of dividends as of March 12), except as to stock deposited under option A in cases requiring the consent of holders of certificates of deposit.

[For details of offer to above mentioned companies see V. 124, p. 374.] This company plans to start work soon on the new electric switching station for the Marion generation station, Jersey City, N. J. It will cost approximately \$3,000,000 and will be called the Hudson switching station. It will be the third of this new type of station to be built by the company. The others are at Trenton and Athenia, near Passaic, N. J.

The Hudson station will distribute electric power generated at Essex, Kearny and Marion generation stations so as to take care of the growing demands of Jersey City, Union City, Hoboken, Hackensack, Bayonne, Rutherford, Englewood, Edgewater, Leonia and other municipalities in Hudson and Bergen counties. The site comprises about 7 acres in the immediate vicinity of the Marion power station.

The portion of the station to be completed this year will represent a capacity of 168,000 h.p. or sufficient to distribute the present total output of the Muscle Shoals power plant. The ultimate capacity is designed to be 288,000 h.p. or 40% of the total capacity of the electric development of Niagara Falls on both sides of the river.—V. 124, p. 1511.

Puget Sound Power & Light Co.—Pref. Stock Increased.—The stockholders have voted to increase the authorized no par value preferred stock from 200,000 shares to 300,000 shares. See V. 124, p. 792.

Quebec Ry., Light, Heat & Power Co., Ltd.—Report.—Calendar Years—1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Gross income, Operating expenses, Per cent of city earns., payable to Quebec, Interest on bonds, General interest, Depreciation reserve, Discount on bonds, Extraord. repairs, &c., Common dividends, Balance, surplus, x Subject to deduction for income tax.

Note.—An item of \$83,001 for extraordinary repairs and expense prior to Jan. 1 1924 was deducted from profit and loss account while balance of latter account at Dec. 31 1924 of \$423,860 was transferred to depreciation reserve.—V. 124, p. 237.

Queens Borough (N. Y.) Gas & Elec. Co.—Acquisitions.—See Long Island Lighting Co. above.—V. 124, p. 923, 649.

Rochester Gas & Electric Corp.—Report.—Calendar Years—1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Kilowatt hours sold, Gas sold (M. cubic feet), Gross earnings, Operating expenses, Interest charges, Taxes, Balance, Previous surplus, Total, Dividends paid, Other deductions from surplus (net), Surplus Dec. 31.—V. 124, p. 793.

Rio Grande Valley Gas Co.—Bonds Offered.—G. E. Barret & Co., Inc.; Estabrook & Co., and Frederick Peirce & Co. are offering at 100 and int. \$3,500,000 1st mtge. 7% gold bonds, series A.

Dated April 1 1927; due April 1 1937. Denom. \$1,000 and \$500 c\*. Int. payable A. & O. without deduction for normal Federal income tax not exceeding 2%. Principal and int. payable at principal office of trustee in New York. Callable, all or part, on any int. date on 30 days' notice at 105 and int. on or before April 1 1932 and at 102 1/2 and int.; thereafter until maturity. Calif., Conn., Maryland, Mass., Oregon, Penn., Wash., Mich., Kentucky and Dist. of Col. taxes refunded. Chatham Phenix National Bank & Trust Co., New York, and James F. McNamara, trustees.

Stock Purchase Privilege.—Each \$1,000 bond (other denominations in proportion) will entitle the holder thereof to purchase 20 shares of no par value common stock, represented by voting trust certificates up to and incl. April 1 1937, irrespective of previous redemption of the bonds, and at the following prices per share:

To April 1 1928, \$5; 1929, \$7.50; 1930, \$10; 1931, \$11; 1932, \$12; 1933, \$13; 1934, \$14; 1935, \$15; 1936, \$16; 1937, \$17.

Sinking fund sufficient to retire this entire issue by maturity.

Data from Letter of John W. Gaines, President of the Company.

Capitalization Upon Completion of the Present Financing. Authorized, Outstanding. 1st mtge. 7% gold bonds, series "A" (this issue), 7% cum. pref. stock (par \$100), Common stock (without par value), x Additional issuance of bonds limited under restrictive provisions of trust indenture, y 70,000 shares reserved for stock purchase privilege.

All outstanding common stock will be held in a voting trust. Company.—Has been organized in Delaware to supply natural gas to the cities and towns and larger industrial consumers in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. This rapidly growing territory with a population of approximately 75,000 and an area of 1,500 square miles is said to produce agricultural tonnage in excess of any equal area in the United States, and has also substantial industrial activities. Construction of distribution systems and 17 1/2 miles of high pressure pipe line to the gas fields of Zapata, Jim Hogg and Webb Counties will be by Hope Engineering & Supply Co., which organization has also been retained to manage the co.'s operations.

Business.—Uniform franchises without burdensome restrictions, have been granted for 20 to 30 years in Brownsville, San Benito and 10 other communities in southern Texas. Company has an exclusive contract for





Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1926 and 1925, split into Assets and Liabilities sections. Assets include Real estate, plant, equip., & leasehold improv'ts., Cash, Notes receivable, etc. Liabilities include Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.

American Locomotive Co. (& Subs.)—Annual Report.—

Including American Locomotive Co., Montreal Locomotive Works, Ltd., and American Locomotive Sales Corporation—Combined.]

Table showing financial data for American Locomotive Co. with columns for 1926, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Includes Gross earnings, Balance, and Res. for add'ns & betterments.

American Pneumatic Service Co.—2d Preferred Stock

Put on a \$2 Annual Dividend Basis.— The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of 50c. a share on the 6% non-cumul. 2d pref. stock, payable March 22 to holders of record March 21.

Combined Income Account Years Ended Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1926, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Includes Income from Sales & Installations on Rental, and Income from Am. Pneum. Serv. Co. bonds.

Income Account of Lamson Co. for Years Ended Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1926, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Includes Income from sales and installations on rental, Operating income, and Dividends.

American Surety Co.—Dividend Rate Increased.—

The directors have declared a regular quarterly dividend of 5% (\$2.50 per share) payable March 31 to holders of record March 19. The last quarterly dividend was \$2 and \$1 extra.—V. 124, p. 1363.

American Tobacco Co.—Earnings.—

Table with columns for 1926, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Includes Net income, Earned per sh. com. stks., and Surplus for year.

American Window Glass Co.—Omits Common Div.—

The directors have decided to omit the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/4% usually declared at this time on the common stock. The last distribution at this rate was made in January last.

American Surety Co.—Dividend Rate Increased.—

The directors have declared a regular quarterly dividend of 5% (\$2.50 per share) payable March 31 to holders of record March 19. The last quarterly dividend was \$2 and \$1 extra.—V. 124, p. 1363.

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the very large increase in the importations of window glass from Europe during the calendar year ending Dec. 31 1926. Government reports for that year show total imports of window glass from Europe aggregating \$1,633,934 pounds, equal to 1,400,000 boxes of window glass, or about one-seventh of the total annual consumption of this country.

American Rolling Mill Co.—Acquisition.—

The company has acquired 90% of the stock of the Norton Iron Works and a one-third interest in the Ashland Steel Co., both of Ashland Ky. The Norton Iron Works has a blast furnace, wire mill, mill wire cloth mill and a foundry. The Ashland plant consists of 2 Bessemer converters, a blooming mill and a rod mill

Calendar Years—

Table showing financial data for American Rolling Mill Co. with columns for 1926, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Includes Net sales, Cost of sales, Gross profit, and Balance, surplus.

Consolidated Comparative Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1926 and 1925, split into Assets and Liabilities sections. Assets include Real estate, bldgs., machinery, &c. Liabilities include 6% cum. pref. stk., 7% cum. pref. stk., etc.

American Steel Foundries.—Annual Report.—

Calendar Years—

Table showing financial data for American Steel Foundries with columns for 1926, 1925, 1924, and 1923. Includes Earnings, Deduct—Depreciation, Net profit, and Balance, surplus.

Balance Sheet (Including Subsidiary Cos.), Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1926 and 1925, split into Assets and Liabilities sections. Assets include Real estate, plant, equipment, good will, &c. Liabilities include Common stock, Preferred stock, etc.

Architects Building (Wright-Aiken, Inc.), Los Angeles.—

Bonds Offered.—The California Co., Los Angeles, recently offered at 100 and int. \$390,000 1st mtge. leasehold 6 1/2% serial gold bonds.

Dated Dec. 1 1926; due serially Dec. 1 1930-1943. Denom. \$1,000 and \$500 c\*. Principal and int. (J. & D.) payable at the Security Trust & Savings Bank, Los Angeles, trustee, without deduction for the normal Federal income tax up to 2%.

Callible, all or part, on any int. date on 30 days' notice at par and int., plus a premium of 1/4 of 1% for each year of life, or portion thereof, to maturity, said premium, however, not to exceed 3 1/4% of principal of bonds so called.

Company owns a valuable leasehold under a 99-year lease commencing Feb. 1 1924 on property located at the southeast corner of 5th St. and Figueroa St., Los Angeles, fronting 60 ft. on Figueroa St. by 167 ft. on 5th St.

**Arnold-Constable Corp. (& Subs.)—Earnings.—**

Table with columns for 12 Mos. End., 7 Mos. End., and 1926, 1925. Rows include Net sales, Expenses, Depreciation, Profit, Other income, Federal taxes, and Net profit.

**Art Metal Construction Co.—To Change Dividend Dates**—Distribution of 25c. a Share, Payable March 31.—

The company is changing the date for payment of quarterly dividends from the end of January, April, July and October to the end of March, June, September and December.

**Associated Dry Goods Corp.—Annual Report.** Calendar Years— 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Profit, Other inc. of parent, Total, Deduct exp., and Net current profit.

**Associated Laundries of America, Inc.—Trustee.** The Seaboard National Bank of the City of New York has been appointed trustee of an issue three year 6 1/2% convertible gold notes, due March 1 1930.—V. 123, p. 3041.

**Associated Oil Co.—Subsidiary Company Dividend.** The West Coast Oil Co. has declared an extra dividend of \$3 a share and the regular quarterly dividend of \$1.50 a share, both payable April 5 to holders of record March 21.

**Atlas Tack Corporation.—Annual Report.** Calendar Years— 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Net sales, Operating costs, Net profit after chgs., and Earnings.

**Autosales Corp., New York City.—Annual Report.** Calendar Years— 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Earnings, Net earnings, Other income, Total income, and Balance, surplus.

**Baltimore Brick Co.—Reduces Dividend Arrears.** The directors have declared a dividend of 3% on account of accumulation on the 1st pref. stock, payable March 26 to holders of record March 18.

**Barker Bros., Inc., Los Angeles.—Annual Report.** Calendar Years— 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Sales, Net profit, Dividends paid, and Total income.

**Barnet Leather Co., Inc.—Annual Report.** Calendar Years— 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Sales, Net income, Total income, and Balance, surplus.

**Bathcock & Wilcox Co.—Annual Report.** Calendar Years— 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Gross profits, Other income, Total income, and Dividends paid.

**Back Bay Post Office, Boston.—Bonds Called.** All of the outstanding first mtge. 5 1/2% sinking fund gold bonds, dated April 15 1926, of the Back Bay Post Office Building, Inc., have been called for payment April 15 next at 102 and interest at the New York Trust Co., corporate trustee, 100 Broadway, N. Y. City.—See also V. 122, p. 2656.

**Balance Sheet December 31.**

Table with columns for 1926, 1925, 1926, and 1925. Rows include Assets (Real estate, equipment, etc.) and Liabilities (Capital stock, Accounts payable, etc.).

**Barnet Leather Co., Inc.—Annual Report.** Calendar Years— 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Sales, Net income, Total income, and Balance, surplus.

**Baxter Launderers & Cleaners, Inc.—Large Consolidation of Laundries and Dry Cleaning Establishments in Middle West.** The above company was incorp. in Delaware, March 15, a re-incorporation of the Baxter Launderers & Cleaners Co. of Grand Rapids, Mich.

**Beaumont Medical Building Co., St. Louis.—Bonds Offered.** Taussig, Day, Fairbanks & Co., Inc., Real Estate Mortgage Trust Co. and L. E. Anderson & Co., St. Louis, are offering at 101 and int. for 1928-1942 maturities and at 100 and int. for 1943 maturity \$550,000 1st mtge. serial 6% real estate gold bonds.

**Black & Decker Manufacturing Co.—Listed.** The Boston Stock Exchange on March 9 listed 100,000 shares of common stock (without par value)—V. 124, p. 1364.

**(The) Bergonian Hotel, Seattle.—Bonds Offered.** Seattle Title Trust Co. is offering at 100 and int. \$350,000 1st mtge. leasehold 6 1/2% gold bonds.

**Bertha-Consumers Co.—Sale of Mine.** See Cosgrove-Meehan Coal Corp. below.—V. 122, p. 2656.

**Bethlehem Steel Corp.—Stock to Employees.** Announcement was made March 15 by the corporation that under this year's savings and stock ownership plan 37,302 employees have applied for a total of 72,034 shares of 7% preferred stock at \$107 per share. The









Analysis of Surplus Year Ended Dec. 31 1926.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Surplus at Jan. 1 1926, Net profit for 1926, Prior period items, Amount of surplus applied...

Surplus, Dec. 31 1926. The report is the first since "Gotham" purchased the assets of the Onyx Hosiery, Inc., and subsidiary companies...

After deduction of preferred stock dividends, the 1926 earnings were equivalent to \$7.42 per share on the company's outstanding classes of common stock...

Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with 4 columns: Assets, 1926, 1925, Liabilities, 1926, 1925. Rows include Cash, Accounts receivable, Inventories, Other assets, Land, bldgs., mach., Cash for purch of mill, Advance on note, Deposit on real est., purch., Tr.-mks., pats. & good-will, Def. & prep. items.

Total. Represented by 50,000 shares (par \$100) 7% cumulative preferred stock, 320,000 common shares (voting) no par value; 94,632 shares common stock (non-voting) no par value. \*After giving effect to new financings.—V. 124, p. 1367.

Grand River-Fenkel Land Co., Detroit.—Bonds Offered.—Fenton, Davis & Boyle, Detroit, are offering at 100 and int. \$285,000 1st mtge. 6 1/2% sinking fund gold bonds.

Dated Feb. 1 1927, due Feb. 1 1932. Principal and int. (F. & A.) payable at American Trust Co., Detroit, trustee. Denom. \$1,000, \$500 and \$100 c\*.

These bonds will be a direct obligation of the company, a Michigan corporation, and will be specifically secured by a closed first mortgage on 428 lots located in the Grand River Avenue district, near the Five Mile Road, in the city of Detroit.

Greif Bros. Cooperaage Corp.—Earnings.—

Results for the Three Months' Ended Jan. 31 1927.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Manufacturing profit after deducting materials used, labor, manufacturing expense and depletion, Depreciation, Selling, general and administrative expenses, Operating profit, Int. on gold notes, Dividends received and other income, Net profit before provision for Federal taxes, Balance Oct. 31 1926, Total, Dividend paid on Class A common stock.

Balance Jan. 31 1927. —V. 123, p. 3191.

Gulf Oil Corp. (& Subs.).—Annual Report.—

Table with 4 columns: Calendar Years—1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Operating revenue, Operating expenses, Operating profits, Other income, Total, Depletion & deprec'n, Shrinkage in val. of inv., Taxes, Interest, &c., Net profits, Dividends (6% p. a.), Deductions from surplus, Balance, surplus, Shares of capital stock outstanding, Earn. per sh. on cap. stk.

Greater Newark Baseball Club, Inc.—Bonds Offered.—Hancock-Nourse & Co., Inc., Newark, are offering at 100 and int. \$575,000 1st (closed) mtge. 6 1/2% gold bonds.

Dated Feb. 1 1927, due Feb. 1 1942. Int. payable F. & A. Denom. \$1,000, \$500 and \$100 c\*.

Convertible.—These bonds are convertible at the option of the holder into 10 shares class A participating stock of the company for each \$1,000 bond.

Data from Letter of Charles A. Davids, President of the Company.

Business.—The Greater Newark Baseball Club, Inc., owns the Newark franchise in the International League and under that franchise successfully and profitably conduct the only professional baseball games, in organized baseball in Newark, N. J.

Security.—Bonds will be secured by a direct closed first mortgage on all the fixed property of the company now or hereafter owned. As appraised by the Standard Appraisal Co., the value of the completed stadium and land owned by the company is \$955,000.

Earnings.—For the year ending Dec. 31 1926 the net earnings of the club after all interest charges and adjusted to eliminate certain extraordinary and non-recurring expenses available for interest, were \$112,373, or practically 3 times the maximum annual interest requirements on these bonds.

Sinking Fund.—Company will covenant to pay to the trustee on Feb. 1 1928, \$15,000; on Feb. 1 1929, \$20,000; on Feb. 1 1930 and each Feb. 1 thereafter as long as these bonds shall be outstanding, the sum of \$25,000, which sums are to be used for the purchase of bonds at or below their redemption price or for their call by lot at such price.

The mortgage further provides that the land now owned by the club and not actually used for stadium and baseball purposes, which has an area of about 8.58 acres, shall be sold on or before Jan. 1 1931 and that all the proceeds of such sale shall be used for the redemption of bonds in the manner provided by the sinking fund.

Capitalization to be Outstanding Upon Completion of This Financing.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include First mortgage 6 1/2% gold bonds, 7% cumulative preferred stock, Class A common stock, Class B common stock.

Hamilton Mfg. Co.—Petition of Minority Stockholders Dismissed.—

Judge Bishop in the equity motion session of the Superior Court at Boston, Mass., dismissed the petition of the minority stockholders of the company asking court to void the receivership and to discharge the receivers of the company.—V. 124, p. 1368, 1076.

Harbauer Co., Toledo, Ohio.—Dividends.—

The directors have declared a dividend of 25c. a share on the common stock and the regular quarterly dividend of \$1.75 a share on the 7% preferred stock, both payable April 1 to holders of record March 21.—V. 120, p. 590.

Harris-Seybold-Potter Co.—Initial Common Dividend.—

The directors have declared an initial quarterly dividend of 75 cents per share on the common stock, no par value, payable April 1 to holders of record March 21.—V. 124, p. 655.

Hearst Magazines, Inc.—Listing.—

There are placed on the Boston Stock Exchange list \$10,000,000 6% serial gold debentures of 1927, dated March 1 1927, and due \$1,000,000 annually each March 1 from 1929 to 1938, inclusive. See offering in V. 124, p. 1518.

Hibernia Mortgage Co., Inc.—Notes Offered.—

Hibernia Securities Co., New Orleans, is offering \$100,000 1st mtge. collateral trust 6% gold notes, series C, 1927, at prices to yield 5 3/4% for all maturities.

Dated March 1 1927, due March 1 1930-1933. Denom. \$1,000, \$500 and \$100. Interest payable M. & S. at Hibernia Bank & Trust Co., New Orleans, trustee. Callable on any int. date upon 30 days notice at 10% and interest.

These notes are the direct and unconditional obligations of the company and in addition are secured ratably and without preference by the assignment to the trustee, of first mortgages on improved city real estate.—V. 123, p. 2146.

Hunts, Ltd., Toronto, Ont.—Pref. Stock Offered.—

McLeod, Young, Weir & Co., and Murray & Co., Toronto, Ont., are offering \$300,000 7% cum. sinking fund 1st pref. (a & d) stock at par and div. (with a bonus of 1/2 share of no par common stock).

Transfer agent, Canada Permanent Trust Co., Registrar, Trusts & Guarantee Co., Ltd. Dividends payable Q-J, by cheque negotiable at par at any branch in Canada of the Royal Bank of Canada. An annual sinking fund is provided for the retirement of this issue of 10% of net earnings after providing for depreciation, income taxes and dividends on the preferred stocks.

Capitalization—

Table with 3 columns: Description, Authorized, Issued. Rows include 7% cumulative 1st pref. stock, 7% cumulative 2d pref. stock, Common stock.

Data From Letter of H. W. Hunt, President & Gen. Mgr.

Business & Property.—Company operates a chain of 18 candy and ice cream stores and tea rooms located in the cities of Toronto and Hamilton. Business was founded in 1905 with one store in Toronto on a capital of \$1,706. With the exception of \$35,000 added in 1919, no further capital has been utilized except that supplied from earnings.

Assets.—Based on the attached balance sheet as of Dec. 31 1926, as certified by Messrs. Thorne, Mulholland, Howson & McPherson, current assets totalled \$171,294.75 against current liabilities of only \$36,736.75, giving a working capital ratio of over 4 1/2 to 1, and net tangible assets were equivalent to more than \$175 per share of the first preferred stock outstanding.

Sales.—Sales for each of the six calendar years 1921 to 1926 were as follows: 1921—\$314,378 | 1922—\$404,176 | 1923—\$497,362 | 1924—\$501,122 | 1925—\$407,785 | 1926—\$685,302

In the five years ending in 1926, sales increased over 117%, and each year's sales showed an increase over those of the previous year.

Calendar Years—

Table with 3 columns: Description, 1924, 1925, 1926. Rows include Net earnings, after depreciation, Income tax.

Balance after all charges \$25,984 | \$40,405 | \$50,460

Dividend requirements on first pref stock (this issue) 21,000

Purpose.—Proceeds of this issue will be used for the opening of new stores, the enlargement of the factory, the purchase of properties, the augmentation of working capital, and for other corporate purposes; and also, to a minor extent, in the acquisition of the shares of former holders of preference shares.

Huyler's of Delaware, Inc.—Registrar.—

The Central Union Trust Co. of New York has been appointed registrar for 200,000 shares of common and 45,000 shares of preferred stock.—V. 124, p. 1368, 1519.

Indiana Ice & Fuel Co., Indianapolis, Ind.—Bonds Offered.—

John Nickerson & Co. and C. D. Parker & Co., Inc., are offering at 100 and int. \$1,000,000 1st mtge. gold bonds, 6 1/2%, series A.

Dated March 1 1927, due March 1 1947. Int. payable M. & S. at New York Trust Co., New York, trustee, without deduction for normal Federal income tax not in excess of 2%.

Company.—Has been organized in Indiana to acquire the properties and business of Polar Ice & Fuel Co. of Indianapolis, Consumers Ice Co. of





Corporation.—Was organized in 1920 in Wisconsin. Business consists mainly of (1) the rental of part of its property; (2) the manufacture and sale of food and beverage products marketed under the nationally known trade names of Pabst Wonder Process Cheese, Pabst-ett, Pabst Malt Syrup, Pabst Grap-de-vine, Pabst Che-rene, and Pabst Ginger Ale and Root Beer. Corporation owns in fee simple a substantial amount of real estate located in Milwaukee. The buildings contain approximately 1,350,000 sq. ft. of floor space, about 44% of which is under lease to reliable tenants.

Valuations.—The market value of the land and buildings covered by this mortgage has been recently appraised by the Milwaukee Real Estate Board at over \$3,525,000, or about \$2,350 per \$1,000 bond.

Capitalization.— Authorized. Outstanding. Common stock \$5,000,000 \$2,875,700 1st mtge. bonds (this issue) 1,500,000 1,500,000

Earnings.— summarized statement of earnings of the Pabst Corp. and subsidiaries years ending Dec. 31 follows:

Table with columns for 1926 and 1925. Rows include Profit from operations, Income of non-recurring nature, Net income available for interest charges and income taxes, Interest charges, Non-recurring expenses, Federal & State income taxes.

Surplus net profits \$207,327 \$227,849 Maximum annual interest charges on this issue of bonds amount to only \$78,750 per annum.

Purpose.—To fund current indebtedness and further increase working capital.

Pacific Coast Co. (& Subs.).—Annual Report.—

Table with columns for 1926, 1925, 1924, and 6 Mos. End. Dec. 31 '23. Rows include Gross earnings, Operating expenses, Taxes, Net earnings, Other income, Total net income, Deduct interest on bonds, Interest on notes, Accrued discount, General interest (net), Div. on first preferred, Div. on second pref., Balance, surplus, Shares of common outstanding, Earned per share on com.

Pantepec Oil Co. of Venezuela.—Contract With California Petroleum Corp. to Develop Properties.— See that company above.—V. 123, p. 1886, 2665.

Paramount Famous Lasky Corp.—New Name.— See Famous Players-Lasky Corp. above.

Parke, Austen & Lipscomb, Inc.—Stock Offered.—

An offering is made of 2,777 shares of 7% cumulative preferred stock and 833 shares of common stock in units of 10 shares of pref. and 3 shares of common at \$1,000 per unit by A. D. Phelps & Co., New York. A circular shows:

Dividends exempt from present normal income tax. Transfer agent, Lawyers Trust Co., New York. Registrar, Interstate Trust Co., New York.

Capitalization.— Authorized. Outstanding. 7% cum. pref. stock (no par, no voting power, callable at \$110) 13,000 shs. 10,223 shs. Common stock (no par) 15,000 shs. 14,167 shs.

History.—Company has large and distinguished clientele of regular customers. Business consists of making and distributing essential source books for public and private libraries, colleges, schools and convents.

Earnings.—Net cash profits for the past five years have been as follows: 1922, \$113,796; 1923, \$208,044; 1924, \$247,903; 1925, \$254,377; 1926, \$204,346.

The average is equal to 3 times dividend requirements on present preferred stock, leaving more than \$9 per share on the common. Cash dividends paid in same period were \$799,500, and \$228,967 was passed to surplus.

Penn Seaboard Steel Corp.—To Reduce Capital Stock.— The stockholders will vote March 23 on a proposal to reduce the authorized capital stock from 3,500,000 shares of no par value to 710,000 shares and to exchange the present 3,100,000 outstanding shares into 310,000 shares, stockholders to receive one share of new stock for each 10 shares held.

Pittsburgh Coal Co.—Annual Report.— Calendar Years— 1926. 1925. 1924. 1923. Gross receipts \$37,258,548 \$33,832,177 \$44,025,345 \$63,069,472 Profits, after all expenses 767,147 1,564,604 3,885,401 11,358,556

Undivided profits.—def\$2,175,948 def\$3,386,591 def\$3,519,159 a\$3,527,786 Earned surplus.—\$12,663,575 \$14,918,573 \$19,701,975 \$23,281,492

Postum Cereal Co., Inc.—Capital Stock Increased and Name of Company Changed.—

The stockholders on March 9 (a) increased the authorized common stock of no par value from 1,475,000 shares (all outstanding) to 2,000,000 shares, and (b) changed the name of the company to Postum Co., Inc. It is not contemplated to issue any of the additional stock at this time.—V. 124, p. 1232, 1209.

Postum Co., Inc.—New Name, &c.— See Postum Cereal Co., Inc. above.

Prairie Pipe Line Co.—Dividend Increased.— The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of \$2.50 a share payable April 30 to holders of record March 31. Previously quarterly dividends of \$2 a share had been paid.—V. 124, p. 1524.

Pro-phy-lac-tic Brush Co.—Annual Report.—

Table with columns for 1926, 1925, and 1924. Rows include Operating profit, Other income, Total income, Tax, insurance, depreciation, &c., Preferred dividends, Common dividends, Balance, Shares com. stk. outstanding (no par), Earned per share, 6 2-3 cents (\$66,667) on Pro-phy-lac-tic stock and \$15.50 (\$310,000) on 20,000 no par Florence Mfg. Co. stock.—V. 124, p. 935.

Reid Ice Cream Corp.—Earnings.—

Table with columns for 1926, 1925, and 1924. Rows include Sales, Expenses and depreciation, Operating income, Other income, Total income, Interest and expenses, Taxes, Preferred dividends, Common dividends, Surplus, Shares of com. outstanding (no par), Earned per share on common.—V. 123, p. 1643.

Remington Rand, Inc.—Initial Quarterly Cash Dividends —Also Declares a 1% Stock Dividend on the Common Stock.—

The directors have declared an initial dividend of 40 cents a share and 1% in stock on the common stock and also initial quarterly dividends of 1 1/4% on the 1st pref. stock and of 2% on the 2d pref. stock.

The cash dividend on the common stock is payable April 4 to holders of record March 24 and the stock dividend is payable April 30 to holders of record April 11. Both preferred dividends are payable April 1 to holders of record March 24.

Remington Typewriter Co.—Exchange Lifts Ruling.— With the stringency in the market position of the stock relieved, the New York Stock Exchange advised its members March 14 that it will not be necessary for them to submit further reports as to their interest in Remington shares.

Rickenbacker Motor Co., Detroit.—Sale.— All the assets of the company and of the receivers, with the exception of cash, will be offered for sale as an entirety and in several large, suitable parcels on April 14 by William S. Sayres Jr., Special Master.

Replogle Steel Co.—Plans Reorganization.—The stockholders will vote March 29 on approving a plan of reorganization outlined as follows: 1. The formation of a new corporation in Delaware, to be known as Warren Foundry & Pipe Corp.

President Leonard Peckitt in connection with the plan says in substance: The new shares of stock will represent exactly the same interest in exactly the same assets that the present outstanding shares of stock now represent.

In the annual report for the year 1926 President Leonard Peckitt further says in substance: The year's operation has shown very little change from the previous year. The pipe plant has been as productive as was expected.

The company prior to its acquisition of the stock of Warren Foundry & Pipe Co., had as its chief assets the blast furnaces and mines in Morris County, N. J. Due to conditions in the merchant iron industry during the past 5 years, the directors have since 1924 deemed it inadvisable to operate the blast furnaces and certain of these mines, and is now of the opinion that, until there is a marked difference in this industry, it is to the best interests of the company to continue this policy.

Further, counsel advise us that, while these assets are continued on the books at the present high values, it is and will continue to be impossible for the company, even with the substantial earnings of the past year, to pay dividends until large depreciation items, accrued and to accrue, are met. It is also the belief of the directors that the company should do business under a name more appropriate to the nature of the business in

which it is now engaged, and that there should be outstanding in your hands a lesser number of shares than are at present issued.

Consolidated Income Account for Calendar Years.

Table with 3 columns: 1926, 1925, 1924. Rows include Sales and railway operating revenue, General expenses, Net operating income, Total income, Net profit, Shares outstanding, Earnings per share, etc.

Root Glass Co., Terre Haute, Ind.—Bonds Offered.—Ames, Emerich & Co., Inc., New York, are offering \$1,000,000 first (closed) mortgage 6% serial gold bonds at prices, ranging from 100 and interest to 101 and interest, to yield from 5.10% to 6%, according to maturity.

Dated Feb. 1 1927; due serially from Feb. 1 1928 to Feb. 1 1937, inclusive. Redeemable, all or part, on 30 days' notice on any interest date at 100 and interest to date of redemption, plus a premium of 1% for each full year and each fractional part of a year to elapse between date of redemption and date of maturity. Principal and interest (F. & A.) payable at offices of Ames, Emerich & Co., New York and Chicago. Denom. \$1,000 and \$500 c\*, interchangeable and registerable as to principal. The National Bank of the Republic of Chicago, trustee. Interest payable without deduction for normal Federal income tax not in excess of 2%. Company will also agree to refund to holders of the bonds, resident in such States, respectively, upon application, as provided in the mortgage, the Penn. 4 mill tax, and the Calif. personal property tax not in excess of 4 mills per annum.

Data from Letter of C. J. Root, President of the Company. Company.—Incorporated in Indiana. Company is the outgrowth of a business founded over 25 years ago and is now one of the leading concerns engaged in the manufacture and sale of bottles for the beverage trade. It owns and operates a complete manufacturing plant at Terre Haute, Ind., and builds all of its own bottle blowing machines. Its bottles are manufactured for Coca-Cola, soda water and ginger ale bottlers, and for Pluto and other well-known brands.

Sales and Earnings.—The business has earned a net profit in every one of the 25 years it has been in existence. Net income after all charges, including depreciation, available for interest on these bonds and Federal taxes, for the years ended July 31, have been as follows:

Table with 3 columns: 1924, 1925, 1927. Rows include Sales, Six months ended Jan. 31, Average annual net earnings, etc.

Purpose.—Proceeds of the present financing will be used to organize the business and acquire certain outstanding interests, but the present management and officers who have been in charge since the founding of the business will retain the majority control and remain in active direction of operations.

Balance Sheet of Jan. 31 1927 (Adjusted to Present Financing). Assets: Cash, Receivables, Inventories, Prepaid expenses, Land, silica deposits, buildings, &c. Liabilities: Accounts payable, Deposits on orders, Reserve for Federal taxes, First mtge. 6% ser. bonds, Unsec. 5% notes due 1932, 7% cumulative pref. stock, Com. stock (100,000 shs., no par).

Ross Island Sand & Gravel Co.—Bonds Offered.—Murphey, Favre & Co. and Ralph Schneelock Co., Portland, Ore., are offering at 100 and int. \$550,000 7% 1st (closed) mtge. & collaterally secured gold bonds.

Dated Jan. 1 1927; due Jan. 1 1937. Principal and int. (J. & J.) payable in gold coin at Title & Trust Co., Portland, Ore., trustee. Company agrees to pay int. without deduction for normal Federal income tax not in excess of 2%. Red., all or part, on any int. date upon 30 days' notice at 103 and int. Sinking fund of minimum of 5c. per cu. yd. of sand and gravel recovered from company's deposit to purchase bonds in market up to, or call by lot, at 103.

Company.—An Oregon corporation. Is engaged in the production, manufacture, distribution and sale of commercial sand and gravel in Portland and Salem, Ore. It owns immense deposits in the Willamette River, within the corporate limits of Portland, located just above the new Ross Island Bridge. It also owns the Oregon Gravel Co. of Salem, and through it controls other large sand and gravel deposits in the Willamette River at Salem. Company in addition owns the majority of the stock of its subsidiary, the Beaver Portland Cement Co., one of the largest manufacturers of Portland cement in the Northwest, and owner of a valuable plant and huge lime rock and shale deposits in southern Oregon.

Earnings.—Based upon past four years' earning records of the Beaver Portland Cement Co. and Oregon Gravel Co., the amount of net income of these two companies applicable to the Ross Island Sand & Gravel Co. in each amounts to \$67,000 per year. Income from booming rights along company's river properties will amount to approximately \$12,000 per year. Estimated minimum production of sand and gravel by company during 1927 is 500,000 cu. yds. Based upon sales already made and upon quantities used in 1926 by contractors and distributors who have signed contracts with this company for their entire requirements for 1927, more than half of the estimated 500,000 yards has been sold. Upon this basis it is estimated that net earnings of Ross Island plant for 1927 will exceed \$129,000, giving total net earnings of \$208,000, or more than five times maximum interest requirements on this issue and more than three times interest and sinking fund requirements.

Roxy Theatre Corp.—Earnings at a High Rate.—Box office receipts of the Roxy Theatre for the first 4 days—March 12 to March 15, inclusive,—are reported at approximately \$77,000. This figure does not include earnings from the opening performance March 11 at special prices, when the receipts were in excess of \$30,000. According to the bankers, Bennett, Bolster & Coghill, Inc., indicated earnings for the first week are about \$130,000, exceeding by some 50% the best weekly returns of any other motion picture house, among which the Capitol and Paramount have hitherto been reported as the leading earners. About \$80,000 average weekly gross earnings were anticipated at the time 15 months ago—when construction of the theatre was begun and the stock was originally offered.—V. 124, p. 1373.

St. Albans Apartments (Carco Realty Co., Inc.) N. Y. City.—Bonds Offered.—Empire Bond & Mortgage Corp., New York, recently offered at 100 and int. \$340,000 guaranteed 6% 1st mtge. serial loan.

Dated March 1 1927; due March 1 1929-1939. American Trust Co., New York, trustee. Principal and int. (M. & S.) payable at office of trustee or at office of the Empire Bond & Mortgage Corp. Denom. \$1,000, \$500 and \$100 c\*. Callable at 104 after March 1 1932, and at 103 after March 1 1935. Normal Federal income tax up to 2% will be paid at the source. The income tax of any State up to 6% and the personal property tax of any State up to 5 mills will be refunded, if requested, within 60 days after payment.

Security.—A closed first mortgage on the land fronting 169.8 ft. on Heath Ave. and 141 ft. on Albany Crescent with a depth ranging from 125 ft. to 190 ft.; also a 6 story apartment building recently completed thereon. The plot contains 21,000 sq. ft. The building contains 291 rooms divided into 87 apartments of 3, 4 and 5 rooms. The building is designed to meet

the increasing demand for apartments renting at not more than \$20 per month per room. This location is in the Kingsbridge section, three blocks west of Jerome Park Reservoir and within easy walking distance of Van Cortlandt Park. Transportation facilities include the Interborough subway and the Putnam division of the New York Central, stations of both of which are nearby.

Ste. Catherine Improvement Co., Montreal.—Bonds Offered.—Johnston & Ward, Toronto, are offering at par and int (with bonds of 4 shares of common stock with each \$1,000 bond) \$300,000 6½% 1st (closed) mtge. leasehold, 20-years, sinking fund gold bonds.

Dated Jan. 1 1927; due Jan. 1 1947. Principal and int. (J. & J.) payable at Bank of Montreal, in Montreal, Toronto, Quebec, St. John, N. B., or Halifax, N. S., or at the holder's option at the Agency of the Bank of Montreal in N. Y. City. Denom. \$1,000, \$500 and \$100 c\*. Callable in part or in whole, at company's option on any int. date, upon 60 days' notice, at 103 and int. up to Jan. 1 1932, incl.; at 102 and int. thereafter up to Jan. 1 1937, incl.; at 101 and int. thereafter and prior to maturity. Trustee, Royal Trust Co., Montreal.

Table with 3 columns: Authorized, Issued. Rows include 6½% (closed) mtge. leasehold 20-years, sinking fund bonds, Common stock (no par value).

Data From Letter of George A. Ross, President of the Company. Company.—Incorp. in Province of Quebec. Owns the leasehold of the Grey Nuns' property situated corner of St. Catherine St. West and St. Mathieu St., Montreal and measuring 45,320 sq. ft.

On these premises a modern 2-story, reinforced concrete, fireproof building, known as the Automobile Sales Building, has been constructed by Church Ross Co., Ltd. This building provides an approximate rentable floor area of 87,640 sq. ft. in the most suitable section of Montreal.

Purpose.—Proceeds of the bond issue will be used to liquidate a bank loan of \$200,000 and to pay for the balance of cost of construction. After completion of the present financing the only indebtedness of the company will be its outstanding bond issue.

Earnings.—The average annual net earnings during the life of the bond issue, based on present rentals, after deducting operating expenses, taxes, sinking fund, &c., available for bond interest is established at \$31,900 of more than 3 times the average annual bond interest requirements. After deducting average annual bond interest of \$10,237, the average annual earnings available for common stock would be equal to more than \$2 per share.

Safety Cable Co.—Annual Report.—

Table with 3 columns: Year Ended Dec. 31 '26, 6 Mos. End. Dec. 31 '25. Rows include Gross profits, Selling and general expense, Depreciation, Balance, Other income, Total income, Bond interest, &c., Federal taxes, Divs. applicable to minority holders, Dividends paid, Balance, surplus, Shares of capital stock outstanding (no par), Earnings per share on capital stock.

Safety Car Heating & Lighting Co.—Acquires Generator Business of Electric Storage Battery Co.—See Electric Storage Battery Co. above.—V. 123, p. 3048.

Table with 4 columns: 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Total earnings, Reserve for Fed. & state taxes, Surplus, Pref. dividends, Common dividends, Balance, After deducting all expenses incident to operations, including those for ordinary repairs and maintenance of plants, ordinary taxes, and depreciation charges.

Comparative Balance Sheet Dec. 31. Assets: Fixed assets, Invest J. S. Arms Co., Patents, goodwill, &c., Cash, Accts. & notes, rec., Inventories, Misc. assets, Deferred assets. Liabilities: First pref. stock, Second pref. stock, Common stock, Accts. & notes pay., Def. pur. notes, Def. liabill., Reserves, Surplus.

Sayers & Scovill Co.—Extra Dividend of \$1.—The directors have declared an extra dividend of \$1 a share on the common stock and the regular quarterly dividends of \$1.50 a share on the common and preferred stocks, all payable April 1 to holders of record March 19.—V. 122, p. 1623.

Schulte Retail Stores Corp.—Sales.—January and February sales, it is announced, increased 11% over the same months a year ago.—V. 124, p. 517.

Security Bond & Mortgage Co. (Fla.)—Bonds Offered.—J. A. W. Iglehart & Co.; Bodell & Co.; Harrison, Smith & Co.; Reinholdt & Co. and James C. Willson & Co. are offering at 100 and int. \$500,000 series G 1st mtge. 6% coll. trust gold bonds. Secured by guaranteed first mortgages on completed fee simple properties.

Dated April 1 1927; due serially, April 1 1928-32. Denom. \$1,000, \$500 and \$100c\*. Principal and int. payable at Maryland Trust Co., trustee, without deduction for the amount of the normal Federal income tax up to 2%. Red. at any time upon 30 days' notice at par and int. plus ½ of 1% for each year or fraction thereof to maturity. Legal investments for national banks.

Company is engaged in making first mortgage loans on completed, fee simple properties in Southern States. Company has affiliated with it several local mortgage companies, operating in the cities in which most of its loans are made. The security for the bonds of this issue is threefold: (1) The bonds are the direct obligation of the company; (2) they are further secured dollar for dollar by first mortgages on completed fee simple real estate owned by responsible borrowers; (3) they are still further secured by the Maryland Casualty Co.'s guarantee of principal and interest on each mortgage.—V. 123, p. 3049.

Shanklin Mfg. Co.—Initial Class A Dividend.—The directors have declared an initial dividend of 50 cents per share on the class "A" stock, payable April 1 to holders of record March 22. This is in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of \$1.75 per share on the cumulative convertible preferred stock.—V. 121, p. 3017.





Southside Warehouse & Bakery Building (Chicago Warehouse & Bakery Building Corp.)—Bonds Offered.— E. H. Ottman & Co., Chicago, recently offered at 100 and int. \$160,000 1st (closed) mtge. building and fee 6% sinking fund gold bonds.

Dated Feb. 1 1927; due Feb. 1 1939. Denom. \$1,000 and \$500 c\*. Callable on any int. date upon 30 days' notice at 103 and int. Interest payable F & A, without deduction for normal Federal income tax not in excess of 2%. State taxes not in excess of 5 mills refunded. Chicago Trust Co., trustee. Cumulative sinking fund calculated to retire approximately 65% of this issue by maturity.

Security.—The bonds of this issue are the direct obligation of Chicago Warehouse & Bakery Building Corp., and will be secured by a (closed) first mortgage on: (1) The warehouse and bakery building, loading sheds, &c.; (2) the land owned in fee thereunder, consisting of approximately 28,000 sq. ft., being the entire block in Chicago bounded by 57th St., Federal St. and 57th Place. Bonds are additionally secured by an assignment under the mortgage of all the right, title and interest of the borrower in and to the long-term lease to the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. and of all rentals accruing therefrom. As still further security, the bonds are guaranteed principal and interest by James G. Hodgkinson, who has made a sworn statement showing a substantial net worth.

Lease.—The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. has leased the entire building for a period of 10 years from and after completion of the building (the lease containing two additional 5-year renewal options) at an annual rental of \$22,500.

Spear & Co. (& Sub. Co.)—Annual Report.—

Table with columns for 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Sales to customers, Gross profit on sales, Miscellaneous income, Total income, Selling, genl. &c., exp., Deprec., amortization of leasehold, Interest, Federal taxes, Net profit, Previous balance, Total, Disc. on pref. stk. purch., Expenses of recapital. charged off, Transfer to reserve for doubtful accounts, &c., Adjust. of horse & wagon account, Divs. on 7% pref. stk., Common dividends, Reserve for conting., Balance, surplus.

Consolidated Balance Sheet December 31.

Table with columns for 1926, 1925. Rows include Assets (Land, bldgs., &c., Inventories, Accts. receivable, Surrender value insurance policies, Cash, Deferred charges) and Liabilities (7% cum. pref. stk., 7% cum. 2d pt. stk., Common stock, Mortgage payable, Notes payable, Accounts payable, Federal tax & contingent reserve, Surplus).

Standard Oil Co. of Indiana.—Earnings.—

Table with columns for 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Net earnings, Reserve for Fed. taxes, Dividends, Surplus, Shares of capital stock outstanding, Earn. per sh. on cap. stk.

Chairman Robert W. Stewart states: "It will be noted that company is carrying the largest inventory in its history, the value of the crude oil and manufactured petroleum products on hand being estimated at \$71,302,199, as compared with \$66,089,705 in 1925, the company's largest previous inventory. This may be accepted as an indication that the board considers the outlook for business during 1927 to be favorable. Our inventory, however, is adequately balanced by cash reserve, so that while carrying the largest inventory in its history in anticipation of thriving business in 1927, the company at the same time is fully protected against any possible unforeseen condition which might disturb the petroleum industry or the economic structure of the nation, by the fact that it is carrying in cash, Government securities and investments a total of \$66,229,552, representing the largest protective financial reserve in its history. This is an increase of \$19,099,238 over 1925, when the same items totaled \$47,200,254."

"All other companies affiliated with this, either as subsidiaries or as associates, experienced unusually profitable years."

"Midwest Refining Co., of whose stock company owns 99.88%, made its best showing in four years with earnings, after taxes, of \$9,310,948, from which company received in dividends \$2,496,324, which sum is included in the net profit shown by the balance sheet, leaving an equity of 99.88% in the Midwest's undivided earnings for 1926 of \$6,814,624 which, of course, does not appear upon the balance sheet."

"Dixie Oil Co., a subsidiary producing company, owned 100% by the Standard Oil Co. (Ind.) justified our faith in its future with earnings after taxes, of \$1,562,812 and while it paid no dividends, it has begun, paying back money loaned it by this company for the purpose of development."

"Sinclair Pipe Line Co., in which the Standard Oil Co. (Ind.) has a 50% interest, had earnings, after taxes, for the year 1926 of \$3,998,222. Our company's share of this amounted to \$1,949,110, only a substantial part of which is included in our balance sheet through dividends received."

"Sinclair Crude Oil Purchasing Co., in which we have a 50% interest, has a large investment in the storage of crude oil in the Mid-Continent and Wyoming fields, the profit and loss on which will not be determined until the oil has been disposed of."

"Our associate, the Pan American Petroleum & Transport Co., reports the best year in its history under a management which we assisted in nominating, and from its 1926 earnings this company received dividends and possesses an equity in those still undivided."

Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1926, 1925. Rows include Assets (Real estate, Plant, Personal prop'y, Accts. receivable, Secur. & Invest., Merchandise, Cash, sec. &c.) and Liabilities (Capital stock, Acct. s payable, Reserves, Capital surplus, Earned surplus).

Total... 446,496,863 406,059,896. Dr. William M. Burton has been elected as President but remains a director of the company. He is succeeded by E. G. Seubert, formerly Vice-President. R. H. McElroy, traffic manager, and E. J. Bulcock, director of purchases, who are already directors, have been elected Vice-Presidents.—V. 124, p. 805.

Standard Oil Co. (Kansas)—Annual Report.—

Table with columns for 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Net earnings, Dividends paid, Bal., sur. or def., Previous surplus, Profit & loss, surplus, Shares of capital stock outstanding, Earns. per sh. on cap. stk.

Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1926, 1925. Rows include Assets (Real est. & plant, Cash, Securities, Accts. receivable, Inventory) and Liabilities (Capital stock, Accounts payable, Depreciation res., Surplus).

Total... 11,540,263 11,456,386. E. A. Metcalf has been elected a director, succeeding J. C. McDonald; A. S. Hopkins has been elected President, succeeding J. C. McDonald; E. A. Warren, V.-Pres., succeeding Thomas Black.—V. 122, p. 1624.

Stanley Co. of America.—Buys New Jersey Chain.—

This company has purchased the Bradder-Pollock chain of theatres in New Jersey, through the Stanley-Fabian Corp., its New Jersey subsidiary. The Bradder-Pollock chain numbers 7 theatres in Newark, the Oranges and Hackensack, and according to announcement by Jacob Fabian, President of the Stanley-Fabian Corp., will increase holdings of the Stanley-Fabian Corp. to 57 theatres, and of the Stanley Co. to 217.

No Steps Taken Toward Reported Combine with Keith and Orpheum Circuits.—

The directors of the Stanley Co. of America, when questioned regarding reports of a huge combination with the Keith-Albee, Orpheum and other vaudeville and motion picture circuits, said that while consideration was being given to further expansion plans no actual steps had been taken toward such a consolidation. See also V. 124, p. 1525.

Station "A" Post Office, St. Petersburg, Fla., (Florida Post Office Co.)—Bonds Offered.—Love, Van Riper & Bryan, St. Louis, recently offered at 100 and int. \$225,000 1st mtge. 6% sinking fund gold bonds.

Dated Jan. 15 1927; due Jan. 15 1947. Principal and int. (J. & J. 15) payable at Mississippi Valley Trust Co., St. Louis, trustee. Denom. \$1,000, \$500 and \$100 c\*. Red. all or part upon 30 days' notice to and incl. Jan. 15 1937 at 102 and int.; thereafter to and incl. July 15 1946, at 101 and int. Interest payable without deduction of normal Federal income tax not in excess of 2%. A. H. Roubush, co-trustee.

The property under which these bonds are a first mortgage is under contract for lease to the United States Government for a period extending beyond the maturity of this issue at an annual rental of \$22,300. This lease is to be in the form designated as non-cancellable by the Post Office Department. The maximum annual interest charge on these bonds is \$13,500.

Station "A" Post Office will be located on Third Avenue North between Eighth and Ninth Streets. Ninth Street is one of the principal thoroughfares of the city. Values are not only stable along this thoroughfare but are steadily increasing. The building will be of two stories, fireproof reinforced concrete construction throughout. It will be erected in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the Post Office Department and will contain approximately 25,000 square feet of space.

The trust indenture will provide for a semi-annual sinking fund, commencing July 15 1927. From the rentals of \$22,300 the trustee shall receive \$18,500 each year payable semi-annually during the life of this loan for the payment of interest and retirement of bonds of this issue. The operation of this sinking fund through purchase in the open market or by redemption as provided for should reduce this loan at maturity to about \$44,000, an amount less than the present value of the ground alone.

(Hugo) Stinnes Industries, Inc.—Permanent Bonds.—

Halsey, Stuart & Co., Inc., and A. G. Becker & Co., as joint fiscal agents, announce that the permanent Hugo Stinnes Industries, Inc., 20-year 7% s. f. gold debentures are now ready at the Central Union Trust Co., N. Y. City. (See offering in V. 123, p. 2404.)—V. 123, p. 3196

Sundstrand Corp.—Transfer Agent.—

The Chase National Bank has been appointed transfer agent for 17,000 shares of \$7 preferred stock of \$100 par value.

Superior Steel Corp.—Report.—

Table with columns for 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Sales, Less discount, Cost of sales, Admin., sell & gen. exp., Depreciation, Other charges, Balance, Other income, Total income, Interest charges, Amor. of debt disc. & exp, Reserve for Federal taxes, Int. on Fed tax prior yrs.

Balance, surplus... \$271,818 \$122,011 def \$4,234 \$734,878. Previous surplus... 637,608 531,967 90,807 361,853. Profit and loss credits... 637,608 90,807 67,683

Total... \$909,426 \$653,978 \$889,584 \$1,164,415. Other charges... 57,615 165,000. Sinking fund pref. stock adjustments (net)... Dr. 16,370. Common dividends... (\$1.50) 150,000 (\$3) 300,000 z 196,404

Profit and loss surplus \$759,426 \$637,608 \$531,967 \$803,011. Shs. cap. stk. outst'd'g 100,000 100,000 100,000 y 60,000. Earned per share... \$2.71 \$1.22 nil \$8.97. x Includes taxes, provision for uncollectible accounts, inventory adjustment, &c. y 60,000 shares common stock (par \$100). z Dividends on 1st and 2d pref. stocks, since retired.

Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1926, 1925. Rows include Assets (Property (net), Cash, Notes & ac ts. rec., Inventories, U. S. Govt. oblig'n, 4 1/2% Fed. Land Bk, Treasury stock, Miscel. assets) and Liabilities (Capital stock, 1st mtge. 6s, Accounts payable, Other current liab., Reserve for taxes, Surplus).

Total (each side) \$7,413,224 \$7,568,898. x Capital stock, par value \$100 each; issued under laws of Virginia which permit the issuance of common capital stock, at less than par value. Outstanding 100,000 shares.—V. 124, p. 805.

Swiss Oil Corp.—Suit by Shareholder.—

A dispatch from Lexington, Ky., Feb. 23 states that the company has been made defendant in a suit filed in the United States District Court at Lexington by William H. Lamprecht of Cleveland, a stockholder. Pynchon & Co., of New York, and approximately 100 stockholders are named co-defendants in the petition, which asks cancellation of \$2,194,000 of stock originally issued by the corporation to Pynchon & Co. and now held by it and the other stockholders made defendants, and also for the appointment of receiver to bring legal action for money judgment against Pynchon & Co.



Moore. Interest payable without deduction for normal Federal income tax not in excess of 2%.

Guaranty.—Payment of principal and interest guaranteed by 234 West 27th Street Corp. by endorsement on each bond.

United States Distributing Corp.—Plan for Readjustment of Capital Stock Approved.—The stockholders on Mar. 16 approved a plan providing (a) for the readjustment of the capital stock and (b) for the acquisition by the corporation through the medium of a new subsidiary company to be entirely owned by it of the assets, business and good-will of the United States Trucking Corp., a New York Corporation, including the right to use its corporate name.—V. 124, p. 1525, 1376.

United States Trucking Corp.—\$9 Dividends—Offer Made to Stockholders.—The directors have declared a dividend of \$9 per share on the preferred stock, payable March 30 to holders of record March 17. This eliminates accumulated dividends on the preferred stock to Dec. 31 1926.

United Steamship Co., Ltd. of Copenhagen.—Earnings.—Improved conditions in the Danish shipping industry are evidenced by recent cables from Copenhagen to Brown Brothers & Co., indicating that in 1926 the interest on the 6% sinking fund bonds, due 1937 was earned 6.39 times before depreciation, as compared with 3.30 times in 1925.

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1926, 1925. Rows include Net profit for year, Interest on 6% sinking fund bonds, Interest on reserve fund certificates, Balance, Ordinary depreciation.

Victor Talking Machine Co.—Sales.—Sales for the 2 months Jan. and Feb. 1927 amounted to \$6,861,650, compared with \$5,070,114 for the same period of 1926.

Virginia Bond & Mortgage Corp., Richmond, Va.—Bonds Offered.—Wheat, Galleher & Co., Inc., Richmond, Va., are offering at prices to yield from 5 1/2% to 7%, according to maturity, \$100,000 7% serial collateral trust gold bonds, Series Q.

Warren Brothers Co.—Notes Sold.—Paine, Webber & Co. and the First National Corp. of Boston, have sold at 100 and int. \$2,500,000 10-year 5 1/2% sinking fund gold notes.

Data From Letter of John Dearborn, President of the Company.—Is the largest road-building organization in the world. Was incorp. in 1900 to carry on a paving business in which the organizers had been engaged for periods dating back to 1882.

Wellman-Seaver-Morgan Co.—Resumes Dividends.—The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of 1 1/4% on the 7% cum. pref. stock, payable April 1 to holders of record March 21. The last quarterly distribution on this issue was made in April 1921.

White Eagle Oil & Refining Co.—Debentures Sold.—Dillon, Read & Co. have sold at 100 and int. \$5,000,000 10-year 5 1/2% sinking fund debentures (with stock subscription warrants).

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31 1926 (After this Financing). (Company and entirely owned subsidiaries).

Earnings.—The average net profits of the company and its entirely owned subsidiaries, Warren Brothers Co. of Mass., Warren Brothers Co. of Argentina and Warren Construction Co., for the 5 years ending Dec. 31 1926, before deducting interest, Federal taxes and sinking fund provisions, were in excess of 5 1/2 times the annual interest on this issue of notes.

Results for Calendar Years. Table with 4 columns: Year (1926, 1925, 1924, 1923). Rows include Gross income, Cost, Net income, Interest charges, Net profit before Fed. tax, etc.

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31 1926 (After this Financing). (Company and entirely owned subsidiaries). Table with 2 columns: Assets and Liabilities. Rows include Cash in banks, Accounts payable, Cash deposited with contr. bids, etc.

Usual Dividends, &c.—The directors have declared the regular quarterly dividends of \$1 per share on the common, 75c. per share on the 1st pref. and 87 1/2c. per shares on the 2d pref. stock, all payable April 1 to holders of record March 21.

Washington Oil Co.—Annual Report.—Calendar Years—Table with 4 columns: Year (1926, 1925, 1924, 1923). Rows include Gross income for year, Oper. exp., taxes, depr., Dividends paid, etc.

Condensed Balance Sheet Dec. 31. Table with 4 columns: Year (1926, 1925, 1926, 1925). Rows include Prod. & non-pro. properties, Compressor stations, etc.

Balance Sheet December 31. Table with 4 columns: Year (1926, 1925, 1926, 1925). Rows include Plant, mach., &c., Cash, Notes & accts. rec., etc.

(The) Westover (253-263 West 72d St.), New York.—It is announced that definitive certificates issued against a 1st mtge. on the above premises are now ready for delivery.

Dated March 15 1927; due March 15 1937. Int. payable (M. & S.) without deduction for normal Federal income tax not exceeding 2% per annum. Penna. 4-mills tax refundable. Principal and int. payable at principal office of Dillon, Read & Co., New York, in United States gold coin.

after 101 to and incl. March 15 1936; and 100 1/2 on Sept. 15 1936. Seaboard National Bank of the City of New York, trustee.

Sinking Fund.—Indenture will provide for a sinking fund, payable either in cash or in debentures theretofore purchased by the company as follows On Aug. 1 1927 an installment of \$125,000; in each calendar year thereafter two equal semi-annual installments aggregating \$250,000, or 20% of net earnings (as defined, but before Federal taxes) for the preceding calendar year, whichever is greater, but in no case more than \$400,000 per annum. Sinking fund cash is to be used in the redemption of debentures by lot.

Stock Purchase Warrants.—Each debenture will have attached thereto upon original issue a warrant, non-detachable prior to March 15 1929 except in case such debenture is redeemed, entitling the holder to subscribe, on or before March 15 1932, for 10 shares of capital stock of the company at the following prices: \$32 a share to and incl. March 15 1928 thereafter \$34 a share to and incl. March 15 1929; thereafter \$36 a share to and incl. March 15 1930; thereafter \$38 a share to and incl. March 15 1931; thereafter \$40 a share to and incl. March 15 1932.

Listing.—Company agrees to make application in due course to list the debentures on the New York Stock Exchange.

Data from Letter of Pres. L. L. Marcell March 15.

Company.—Organized in 1919 in Delaware as a consolidation of six companies operating in the mid-continent field. Is one of the leading companies in that field in the refining and marketing of petroleum and its products. Company operates and controls 861 distributing and service stations (of which 516 are owned by the company) in Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, the Dakotas, Colorado and other mid-Western States. Its refineries, located at Augusta, Kan., at Ft. Worth, Texas, and at Casper, Wyo., have a combined capacity of 13,500 barrels of crude oil a day. Each of these refineries is situated near large and settled oil-producing districts.

In addition to its refineries and marketing properties, the company's holdings include leases covering approximately 3,700 acres of developed and more than 103,000 acres of undeveloped oil and gas lands. Activities in the production department during 1926 resulted in a net addition of 44 producing oil wells; net production for the year amounted to 919,439 barrels of oil. Facilities at refineries and distributing stations provide storage for more than 2,100,000 barrels of crude oil and refined products. Company also owns approximately 300 miles of pipe line, and operates a fleet of 635 tank cars. From time to time the company finds it advantageous to sell crude oil to other refiners and to purchase refined products for re-sale.

Results of Operations—Years Ended Dec. 31.

Table with 5 columns: Year (1923, 1924, 1925, 1926) and rows for Net sales, Net before deprec., int. & Fed. taxes, Deprec. & depl. based on cost.

Net before int. and Federal taxes... \$1,516,458 \$1,340,110 \$1,697,124 \$2,181,865
Net earnings before interest and Federal taxes, as shown above, averaged \$1,683,889 per annum, or more than six times the maximum annual interest charge on the debentures. Such net earnings for the year 1926 were nearly eight times such interest charge. After deducting from net earnings before interest and Federal taxes, for the year 1926, the maximum annual interest charge on the debentures and Federal income tax at 13 1/2% there remains \$1,649,438, or \$3.36 a share of capital stock now outstanding.

Purpose.—The proceeds of the debentures will be used for the redemption on July 1 1927 of the \$2,000,000 of 5-year 5 1/2% sinking fund gold notes due July 1 1929, now outstanding, for payment of other indebtedness, for development of additional production and for other corporate purposes.

A report showing the capital, earnings (years 1919-26), scope of activities, producing properties, refining, marketing, &c., was published in our issue of Feb. 19 last.—V. 124, p. 1235.

White Rock Mineral Springs Co.—Divs. Increased.—

The company has declared a dividend of 50c. on the common, \$2.50 a share on the 2d pref. and the regular quarterly dividend of \$1.75 on the 1st pref. stock, payable April 1 to holders of record Mar. 26. Previous quarterly dividends were 30c. on the common and \$1.25 on the 2d pref., with extras (see V. 123, p. 3196).—V. 124, p. 807.

Wolverine Petroleum Corp.—Dividend No. 2.—

The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of 50c. per share on the common stock, payable March 30 to holders of record March 21. An initial dividend of \$2 per share was paid Dec. 31 1926. The Shell Union Oil Corp. owns 66 2-3% of the \$899,585 outstanding common stock. V. 123 p. 3056.

Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. (& Subs.).—Ann. Rept.

Large table with 5 columns (1926, 1925, 1924, 1923) and rows for Gross Sales, Gross receipts of misc. companies, Net profits, Other miscell. income, Net earnings, etc.

Wheeling Steel Corp.—Annual Report.—

Table with 5 columns (1926, 1925, 1924, 1923) and rows for Value of sales, Net earnings, Other income, Total income, Deduct—Prov. for depr. exhaust., etc.

Consolidated Balance Sheet.

Table with 4 columns (1926, 1925) and rows for Assets (Land, equip., Inv. in & adv. to assoc., etc.) and Liabilities (Pref. A stock, Pref. B stock, Common stock, etc.).

Total—113,856,773 113,335,214 Total—113,856,773 113,335,214
a After deducting reserve for depreciation and exhaustion of minerals amounting to \$21,746,331.
Note.—The corporation was contingently liable, at Dec. 31 1926 as endorser on notes of an associated company in the amount of \$75,000.—V. 23, p. 2915.

CURRENT NOTICES.

—In an attempt to conserve the nine million dollars of insurance money, which is the estimated loss in Cleveland, the Chamber of Commerce of that city is distributing 50,000 copies of a book called 'Your Money and Your Life.' The mailing of these booklets is one step in a civic campaign to interest Cleveland people in the life insurance trust plan offered by banks, trust companies and insurance companies. Cleveland has been called 'the experimental station of the nation,' and its Community Fund, its Group Plan, its Public Library system, its Auditorium, and other public spirited enterprises are often used as standards for other cities. The Cleveland Chamber of Commerce is now taking the lead in a campaign to safeguard Cleveland dollars against fake investment schemes and to point out methods of developing greater prosperity for the people of the municipality. The book is the work of William Ganson Rose, President of William Ganson Rose, Inc., and is published under the auspices of the life insurance trust committee of the Chamber of Commerce, headed by Harris Creech, President of the Cleveland Trust Company. It has been estimated that the proceeds of 90% of life insurance policies paid in lump sums direct to beneficiaries is either used up or lost within seven years, and the purpose of the Cleveland program is to lower the percentage of loss by safeguarding the proceeds of insurance policies through trust agreements.

—Donald J. McDonald, who has been connected with the New York office of Hornblower & Weeks since 1906, has been appointed manager of the Detroit office, the opening of which he directed in 1908. Mr. McDonald has in the past been actively engaged in the management of properties in which Hornblower & Weeks have banking interests.

—Robert S. Fowler, formerly efficiency engineer for the Board of Estimate and Commissioner of Accounts in the Mitchel administration, has become associated with Harris, Irby & Vose, members New York Stock and Cotton exchanges, 60 Beaver St., New York, as head of the statistical and new business department.

—Metropolitan Security Company, Incorporated, 120 Broadway, New York, announce that J. Stuart Evans Jr. has been elected a Vice-President and L. Stowell Clark has been elected Treasurer. Justin Henderson, formerly with the National City Company, is now associated with them as sales manager.

—Harry D. Cleveland who, during the war, was Vice-President of John S. Emery & Co., and later Vice-President of the Union Insulating Co. of Chicago, has become associated with the firm of Haines, Spencer & Chancellor of New York.

—Stein Bros. & Boyce, Baltimore, Washington and Richmond, announce that they have become members of the New York Stock Exchange and have established a department, under the management of Phillip L. Poe, to render service in securities listed on the Exchange.

—C. B. Foster and E. D. Massena, formerly of the dissolved firm of Foster, Jewkes & Co., and Robert Housley have formed the firm of Foster, Housley & Co., for the transaction of a general investment business with offices in the Union Bank Building, Pittsburgh.

—Warren A. Tyson & Co., dealers in investment securities, have moved their offices to the new Mutual Trust Building, 1518 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

—Dudley C. Graves and H. Stanley Gilson, formerly with Millett, Roe & Co., have formed a co-partnership under the name of Graves & Gilson, to deal in investment securities, with offices at 50 Broad St., New York.

—Louis J. Groch, formerly in charge of the Philadelphia office of Taylor, Ewart & Co., Inc., is now in charge of the syndicate department of that firm in New York.

—Redmond & Co., announce that Richard J. Hennessey has become associated with them in their trading department, specializing in public utility bonds.

—Donald V. Brayshaw, formerly with the public utility department of Theodore Prince & Co., has become associated with Robjont, Maynard & Co., 111 Broadway, New York.

—H. P. Lillenthal and H. R. Kneezel, formerly with McCown & Co., and Clinton Gilbert, have formed the firm of H. P. Lillenthal & Co., Inc., 74 Trinity Place, New York, to deal in bank and insurance company stocks.

—H. E. Phillips, formerly of Conover & Phillips, has established his office at 66 Broadway, New York, to transact a general brokerage business in listed and unlisted securities.

—Lackner, Butz & Co., Chicago, announce that Everett L. Harris, formerly of Lee, Higginson & Co., is now associated with them as Vice-President and Director of Sales.

—A. V. O'Brien & Co., municipal bond dealers, 115 Broadway, New York, announce that James V. Lang, who was formerly with Brown Brothers & Co., has become associated with them.

—E. Everett Van Tuyl, formerly with H. L. Doherty & Co. and Robjont, Maynard & Co., is now associated with Stranahan, Harris & Oatis, Inc., in New York, in charge of their corporate bond trading department.

—J. Robert Thomas has become associated with the sales department of Zwetsch, Heinzelmann & Co., Inc., 57 William St., New York.

—Clinton Gilbert, 2 Wall St., New York, has prepared a statistical analysis covering 16 casualty insurance companies and 49 fire and marine insurance companies, with complete figures for 1926.

—Prince & Whitley have prepared for distribution an analysis of Fisk Rubber Company.

—George Nelson is now located at 74 Trinity Place, New York.

## Reports and Documents.

PUBLISHED AS ADVERTISEMENTS

### UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1926.

Office of United States Steel Corporation,  
51 Newark Street, Hoboken, New Jersey,  
March 8th 1927.

To the Stockholders:

The Board of Directors submits herewith a combined report of the operations and affairs of the United States Steel Corporation and Subsidiary Companies for the fiscal year which ended December 31 1926, together with a statement of condition of the finances and property at the close of that year.

#### INCOME ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1926

The total earnings were, after deducting all expenses incident to operations, including ordinary repairs and maintenance (approximately \$121,000,000), allowance for employes' profit sharing fund, and taxes (including reserve for Federal income taxes), per General Profit and Loss Account, page 16 (pamphlet report).....		\$207,345,153.18
Less, Interest on outstanding bonds and mortgages of the subsidiary companies.....		8,286,284.27
Balance of Earnings in the year 1926.....		\$199,058,868.91
Less, Charges and Allowances for Depletion and Depreciation applied as follows, viz.:		
To Depreciation and Replacement Reserves and Sinking Funds on Bonds of Subsidiary Companies.....		\$53,171,075.95
To Sinking Funds on Bonds of U. S. Steel Corporation.....		11,049,835.37
		64,220,911.32
Net Income in the year 1926.....		\$134,837,957.59
Deduct:		
Interest on U. S. Steel Corporation Bonds outstanding, viz.:		
Fifty Year 5 per cent Gold Bonds.....		\$9,178,602.50
Ten Sixty-Year 5 per cent Gold Bonds.....		8,050,066.66
		\$17,228,669.16
Premium paid on Bonds redeemed by sinking funds, viz.:		
On Subsidiary Companies' Bonds.....		\$255,059.29
On U. S. Steel Corporation Bonds.....		987,924.94
		1,242,984.23
		18,471,653.39
Balance.....		\$116,366,304.20
Add: Net balance of sundry receipts and charges, including adjustments of various accounts.....		301,100.69
Balance.....		\$116,667,404.89
Dividends for the year 1926 on U. S. Steel Corporation Stocks, viz.:		
Preferred, 7 per cent.....		\$25,219,677.00
Common, 7 per cent.....		35,581,175.00
		60,800,852.00
Surplus Net income in the year 1926.....		\$55,866,552.89
Less, Sums appropriated and expended or to be expended account of additions, improvements or betterments to plants and property.....		30,000,000.00
Balance carried forward to Undivided Surplus.....		\$25,866,552.89

#### UNDIVIDED SURPLUS OF U. S. STEEL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

(Since April 1 1901)

Surplus or Working Capital provided in organization.....	\$25,000,000.00
Balance of Surplus accumulated by all companies from April 1, 1901 to Dec. 31 1925, exclusive of subsidiary companies' inter-company profits in inventories, per Annual Report for year 1925.....	\$496,863,109.03
Add, Net adjustment of Federal Tax, Depletion and Depreciation Reserves of previous years in connection with redetermination of invested capital and requirements for such reserves.....	\$17,442,160.14
Less, amount of foregoing addition to surplus appropriated for capital expenditures made.....	11,669,422.47
	5,772,737.67
	\$502,635,846.70
Add, Balance of Surplus Net Income in the year 1926, as above.....	25,866,552.89
	528,502,399.59

Total Undivided Surplus, Dec. 31 1926, exclusive of Profits earned by subsidiary companies on inter-company sales of products on hand in Inventories at that date (see note below).....\$553,502,399.59

Note.—Surplus of Subsidiary Companies amounting to \$38,230,574.21, and representing Profits on sales of materials and products to other subsidiary companies which are on hand in latter's Inventories December 31 1926, is deducted from the amount of Inventories included under Current Assets in Consolidated General Balance Sheet.

#### OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR.

The very favorable conditions which prevailed in the steel industry in the opening quarter of 1926, mentioned in last year's annual report, were not wholly maintained during the entire year. The volume was, however, of sufficient proportions of total capacity to permit of economical operations, and to produce generally satisfactory results for the year. In the first quarter the operations of the subsidiary companies, as reflected by their tonnage output of rolled and finished products for sale, was 94 per cent of capacity, while for the entire year the average was 88 per cent, compared with 78.4 per cent in 1925. As shown by the detailed table of production statistics of the several principal departments for 1926, page 20 (pamphlet report), the increase in output compared with 1925 fluctuated widely in respect of the different classes of finished products for sale, very large increases being shown for rails, track fittings and car wheels, tubing and pipe, sheets and tin plate and finished structural work, while in the other classes of output the increases were relatively small or nominal. The following is a condensed summary of—

#### PRODUCTION—1926 AND 1925.

	1926.	1925.	Increase.	
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Per Cent.
Iron and Manganese Ore.....	29,262,741	27,996,845	1,265,896	4.5
Limestone, Dolomite and Fluorspar.....	5,513,739	5,344,893	168,846	3.2
Coal.....	34,294,657	31,475,568	2,819,089	9.0
Coke.....	17,336,334	16,301,224	1,035,110	6.3
Pig Iron, Ferro and Spiegel.....	15,705,301	14,798,999	906,302	6.1
Steel Ingots (Bessemer and Open Hearth).....	20,306,668	18,898,697	1,407,971	7.5
Rolled and Finished Steel Products for Sale.....	14,334,512	13,271,010	1,063,402	8.0
	Bbls.	Bbls.	Decrease.	
Universal Portland Cement.....	14,526,000	15,722,000	1,196,000	7.6

There were built during 1926 at the car plants of the subsidiary companies 4,040 railroad freight cars and 1,969 mine and industrial cars. At the shipbuilding plants 2 ocean and coastwise steamers, 3 lighters and 100 barges and car floats were completed and delivered. In addition, a very considerable quantity of repair and overhauling work, including the production of equipment and ship parts, and other machine and fabricating shop work, was handled by the car and shipbuilding plants.

## SHIPMENTS AND BUSINESS.

The shipments of all classes of products in comparison with shipments during the preceding year were as follows:

	1926.		1925.		Increase or Decrease.	
	Tons.		Tons.		Tons.	Per Cent.
<i>Domestic Shipments—</i>						
Rolled and Finished Steel Products.....	12,970,877		12,340,010		630,867	5.11 Inc.
Pig Iron, Ingots, Ferro and Scrap.....	227,537		213,479		14,058	6.59 Inc.
Coal, Coke and Iron Ore.....	1,104,191		761,676		342,515	44.97 Inc.
Sundry Materials and By-Products.....	132,024		124,019		8,005	6.45 Inc.
Total tons all kinds of materials, except Cement.....	14,434,629		13,439,184		995,445	7.41 Inc.
Universal Portland Cement (Bbls.).....	15,101,788		14,753,487		348,301	2.36 Inc.
<i>Export Shipments—</i>						
Rolled and Finished Steel Products.....	1,327,052		1,048,836		278,216	26.53 Inc.
Pig Iron, Ferro and Scrap.....	2,887		4,970		2,083	41.91 Dec.
Sundry Materials and By-Products.....	143,400		130,562		12,838	9.83 Inc.
Total tons all kinds of materials.....	1,473,339		1,184,368		288,971	24.40 Inc.
Aggregate tonnage of Rolled and Finished Steel Products shipped to both Domestic and Export Trade.....	14,297,929		13,388,846		909,083	6.79 Inc.
Total Value of Business (Covering all of above shipments, including cement, completed cars, ships, barges and car floats delivered and other business not measured by the ton unit):						
	1926.		1925.		Increase.	
					Amount.	Per Cent.
Domestic (not including inter-company sales).....	\$886,710,521		\$847,089,777		\$39,620,744	4.68
Export.....	100,426,645		81,060,949		19,365,696	23.89
Total.....	\$987,137,166		\$928,150,726		\$58,986,440	6.36

Prices received in 1926 were fairly stable throughout the year with, however, a downward tendency. The average prices received for the total tonnages of rolled and other finished products shipped, netted on the domestic shipments \$1.12 per ton less than the average received per ton for an equal tonnage of similar products respectively shipped in 1925; and as to export shipments the per ton price netted \$2.82 less than the average secured in the preceding year. The average price received for domestic and export tonnage combined was \$1.28 per ton less than in 1925. The export business in point of tonnage showed a substantial increase over 1925 and was the largest in any year since 1920. Prices obtainable in the foreign markets, and to some extent for domestic tonnage in markets bordering on the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific Coasts of the United States, were, however, relatively low owing to the severe competition of European manufacturers, whose labor cost in production and transportation cost in delivery were materially less than that of the mills in the United States. As a consequence the direct profit results from the export business as a whole were not fully compensatory for the proportion of capital invested and employed in the business, but this was to a considerable extent offset by the reduced average cost of operation in producing and supplying domestic tonnage by reason of the increased volume and continuity of employment afforded the mills through the export business, which in 1926 equalled 9.28% of the total tonnage of rolled and finished steel products shipped.

## VOLUME OF BUSINESS

The total value of business transacted by all companies during the year 1926, as represented by their combined gross sales and earnings, equaled the sum of \$1,508,076,090, as compared with a total of \$1,406,505,195 in the preceding year.

This amount represents the gross value of the commercial transactions conducted by the several subsidiary companies, and includes sales made between the subsidiary companies and the gross receipts of the transportation companies for services rendered both to subsidiary companies and to the public.

The earnings for the year resulting from the above gross business represent the combined profits accruing to the several corporate interests on the respective sales and services rendered, each of which is in itself a complete commercial transaction.

The following is a statement of the gross sales and earnings classified by operating groups. Gross sales of products are stated on basis of f. o. b. mill values.

	1926.		1925.		Increase.	
					Amount.	Per Cent.
<i>Gross Sales by Manufacturing, Iron Ore and Coal and Coke Companies:</i>						
To customers outside of U. S. Steel organization.....	\$987,137,166		\$928,150,726		\$58,986,440	6.36
Inter-company sales (sales between subsidiary companies).....	384,586,172		348,062,804		36,523,368	10.49 Inc.
<i>Gross Earnings and Receipts of Transportation and Miscellaneous Companies:*</i>						
Transportation Companies.....	\$1,371,723,338		\$1,276,213,530		\$95,509,808	7.49 Inc.
Miscellaneous Companies.....	105,546,790		101,155,127		4,391,663	4.33 Inc.
Total.....	\$1,508,076,090		\$1,406,505,195		\$101,570,895	7.22 Inc.

\*Includes earnings and receipts both for inter-subsidiary company business and of business with interests outside of the U. S. Steel organization.

## TAXES

The total charges and allowances from income for accrued Taxes for the year compared with similar charges for 1925, were as follows:

	1926.		1925.		Increase.	
					Amount.	Per Cent.
State and other local Taxes.....	\$35,266,010		\$35,298,993		\$32,983	0.09 Dec.
Federal Income and Excise Taxes.....	17,133,571		15,624,198		1,509,373	9.66 Inc.
Total.....	\$52,399,581		\$50,923,191		\$1,476,390	2.90 Inc.

## MAINTENANCE, DEPLETION AND DEPRECIATION

The expenditures made during the year for general maintenance and upkeep of the properties and the further provisional allowances for accruing deterioration and obsolescence of improvements, equipment and facilities, and for depletion of natural resources, in comparison with similar expenditures and allowances for the preceding year, were as follows:

<i>Expended for—</i>	1926.		1925.		—Increase or Decrease—	
					Amount.	Per Cent.
Ordinary repairs and maintenance, exclusive of blast furnace and coke oven relinings, &c.....	\$114,866,352		\$114,195,840		\$670,512	.59 Inc.
Blast furnace and coke oven relinings, &c.....	4,693,324		4,944,173		250,849	5.07 Dec.
Extraordinary replacements.....	3,350,450		4,295,207		944,757	22.00 Dec.
Total expended.....	\$122,910,126		\$123,435,220		\$525,094	.43 Dec.
In addition to the foregoing there was appropriated from Earnings for exhaustion of natural resources and for depreciation of plants and properties, a total in excess of amount expended therefrom and included in above expenditures, the following:						
By subsidiary companies based on their investment cost of property subject to depletion and depreciation.....	51,271,425		41,733,239		9,538,186	22.85 Inc.
By U. S. Steel Corporation to cover amortization of appreciated cost to it of investment in stocks of subsidiary companies in excess of their investment in tangible property.....	11,049,835		10,623,625		426,210	4.01 Inc.
Total expended and appropriated from Earnings for maintenance, depletion and depreciation.....	\$185,231,386		\$175,792,084		\$9,439,302	5.37 Inc.

The large increase over 1925 in the provisional allowances by subsidiary companies arose in part from the fact that the gross investment cost in property subject to depreciation is constantly increasing, thus placing a larger annual burden upon earnings for amortization, and because in 1926 it was necessary to write off rather substantial amounts of property investment cost for obsolescence in connection with abandonment of old plants which had not been fully covered by depreciation allowances.

## BONDED AND MORTGAGE DEBT.

Retirements and issues made during the year as follows:

<i>Retired</i> —Through operation of the sinking funds for respective issues, viz.:	
U. S. Steel Corporation bonds.....	\$10,824,000
Subsidiary Companies' bonds.....	3,977,000
	\$14,801,000
Subsidiary Companies' bonds and mortgages maturing.....	2,068,000
Total.....	\$16,869,000
<i>Issued</i> —Subsidiary Companies' bonds and real estate mortgages issued and assumed.....	92,775
Net Decrease in the year.....	\$16,776,225

## CAPITAL STOCK.

The amount of outstanding capital stock of the United States Steel Corporation on December 31 1926 was the same as at the close of the preceding year, viz.:

Common Stock.....	\$508,302,500
Preferred Stock.....	360,281,100

No issues of capital stock have been made except in connection with the organization of the Corporation and the acquirement at that time (1901) of cash working capital and the capital stocks of the several subsidiary companies then purchased.

## SPECIAL DIVIDEND.

On December 16 1926 the Board of Directors unanimously voted to recommend to the stockholders, at the annual meeting of the Corporation to be held on Monday, April 18 1927, that the Common capital shares of the Corporation be increased by 2,033,210 shares, which is equivalent to 40 per cent of the present outstanding Common shares, for the purpose of distributing the same as an extra special dividend to Common stockholders.

In the period from April 1 1901 to December 31 1926, after providing for depletion and depreciation arising from exhaustion of natural resources and deterioration of improvements, including the writing off of property abandoned, making payment of interest on bonded and other debt, and setting aside reserves for contingencies, the net profits earned totaled the aggregate sum of.....\$2,345,308,723

Of this there were distributed in Cash dividends on Capital Stock the following:

On Preferred Stock, 180¼%.....	\$672,929,461
" Common Stock, 131¼%.....	667,125,176
	1,340,054,637
Balance of Surplus earned.....	\$1,005,254,086
This balance of Surplus has been largely reinvested in fixed property of the organization, the amount so applied being:	
(1) Formally appropriated to finance net expenditures for extensions, additions, improvements and permanent investments.....	\$476,751,687
(2) Similarly applied but still carried in Undivided Surplus Account.....	228,601,937
	705,353,624

Leaving amount of Undivided Surplus Account per the Balance Sheet represented by net working assets in hand.....\$299,900,462

This balance of Undivided Surplus is lodged in the following assets:

Inventories.....	\$209,403,022
Receivables.....	40,926,678
Securities.....	66,272,009
Cash.....	84,488,101
Advanced operating charges.....	2,814,917
	\$403,904,727
Less: Current Liabilities.....	\$62,980,635
Contingent Liabilities.....	41,023,630
	104,004,265
Net as above.....	\$299,900,462

Under the charter of the Corporation, the Preferred shares are entitled to receive dividends at the annual rate of 7 per cent before any dividends may be paid on the Common shares and they are limited to that rate; and in case of dissolution of the Corporation the Preferred shares are entitled to be paid in full, at par, before anything is paid to the holders of Common shares. If at any time this regular dividend on the Preferred or any part is not currently paid, it is accumulated and remains a permanent lien which must be paid in full before anything can be paid upon the Common shares. Thus these separate classes of stock are independent of each other and must be protected in accordance with their charter rights. The Directors of the Corporation have no discretion in the matter. They must fully protect each and both; and in doing so they must always have under consideration the future as well as the present. The security for the Preferred must be maintained and after this the Common stock is entitled to the available surplus if and when in the judgment of the Board of Directors it can be distributed with safety. If in order to protect the properties and business of the Corporation it is necessary to use the surplus or a part of it in restoring the properties or in extending, diversifying or enlarging the business, it may properly be done, but it is still surplus so long as tangible property values exist to represent the same. If then it is proper to distribute any part of this surplus so invested in tangible property, it should under these conditions be in Common stock. In this way the rights and interests of both classes of stock are advanced and protected. To the extent surplus is invested in the property and business the Preferred stock is made more secure both as to insurance of payment of the annual dividend and the maintenance of resources available for liquidation of the Preferred. But the additional earnings, if any, obtained from such investment of surplus belong to the Common stock subject to the prior rights of the Preferred stockholders.

The action of the Directors in investing a part of surplus funds for the purpose of increasing capacity and improving properties was intended and thus far has proved to be for the benefit of both Preferred and Common shareholders. It has fortified and strengthened and made more valuable the Preferred shares and at the same time has added to the earning capacity of the Common shares. What has been done or proposed was decided upon after the most painstaking and careful deliberation by the Board.

The annual meeting of the stockholders at which action will be taken on the recommendation to increase the Common stock for the preceding purpose will be held on Monday April 18 1927, notice of and proxy for which have been or will be mailed to stockholders. The stock of the Corporation should be fully represented at this meeting and as the list of Stockholders is very large there is necessarily involved a considerable amount of work in the examination and recording of proxies. It is, therefore, hoped that each Stockholder favoring the proposal who does not expect to attend in person will at his or her earliest convenience sign and return the proxy prepared for that purpose.

## CAPITAL EXPENDITURES.

In continuation of the policy of the Corporation adhered to from its organization, liberal outlays were made during the year for additions, extensions and improvements, largely in order to replace old, obsolete and high cost plants and units, to establish equipment and facilities at modern and efficient standards to insure economical operation and utilize what have been waste residues, in some directions to expand lines of products, and in others to meet the growing demands of the trade. Facilities for increasing the total production of steel have not, however, been a leading feature of this program as evidenced by the comparative Ingot capacity which at December 31 1926 was 23,176,900 tons per annum compared with

22,749,100 tons at close of 1925, an increase of but 1.8%. During the year the following old plants and units were abandoned and dismantled: Upper Union works, Pittsburgh; Allegheny blast furnace, Pittsburgh; Crescent tin plate works, Cleveland. At Homestead works, Pittsburgh, the old 28-inch blooming mill and the 23-33-inch and 35-inch structural mills were abandoned, being replaced by a 54-inch blooming mill and a combination 36-28/32-inch structural mill; National Tube Co. at its Riverside plant dismantled 2 skelp mills, at the Pittsburgh works, Continental department, 2 skelp mills, 1 lap weld furnace and 32 puddling furnaces, and at its National works 3 lap weld furnaces. The investment cost in all the foregoing and of all improvements abandoned is charged off against reserves set aside from earnings, and when new plants or units are built to substitute for abandonments the entire cost of the same is charged to property or capital investment account.

The total of expenditures made by the Corporation and the subsidiary companies for the foregoing purposes during 1926, less credits from sales of property and salvage, also credit for net reduction in lock-up in advanced charges for stripping and development work at mines, etc., was \$76,060,520. This net amount was expended for the following classes of property, viz.:

For Manufacturing properties, exclusive of By-Product Coke plants.....	\$59,485,328	
“ By-Product Coke plants, including distributing gas line from Clairton plant to steel plants in Pittsburgh district.....	4,149,217	
“ Coal properties:		
Additional coal areas and surface lands.....	\$1,385,991	
Additions and betterments at coal plants.....	2,055,830	
		3,441,821
For Iron Ore properties (largely mining plant improvements).....		1,529,942
“ Limestone and flux properties.....		221,378
“ Railroads.....		4,562,278
“ Water Transportation properties:		
Great Lakes fleet.....	\$1,548,347	
Ocean fleet.....	134,475	
River transportation service.....	1,374,227	
		3,057,049
“ Water, gas and other public service properties.....		942,893
“ Land and supply companies—net credit arising from sales of houses and property in excess of expenditures made for additions and improvements.....		1,023,485
“ Net credit in lock-up of stripping and development expenses at mines:		
Expended during year for this work.....	\$4,938,411	
Less, absorbed in operating expenses.....	5,244,312	
		305,901
<b>Total.....</b>		<b>\$76,060,520</b>

At the close of 1926 the balance unexpended on authorized appropriations of the subsidiary companies for extensions, additions and improvements, including the budget for 1927 for stripping and development work at iron ore mines, totaled \$121,042,000. It is estimated that approximately \$100,000,000 of this will be expended in 1927. All of this amount, however, will not be for outlays on capital account as a portion of same is for repair and renewal work and will be absorbed in current operating expenses or from reserve funds provided from earnings.

#### EMPLOYEES AND PAYROLL.

The average number of employees in the service of the Corporation and the subsidiary companies during the entire year, the total payroll and average wages paid, compared with similar results in 1925, were as follows:

Employees of—	1926.	1925.	Increase or Decrease.	
	Number.	Number.	No. & Amount.	Per Cent.
Manufacturing Properties.....	183,389	179,040	4,349	2.43 Inc.
Coal and Coke Properties.....	25,985	25,920	65	.25 Inc.
Iron Ore Properties.....	13,283	14,305	1,022	7.14 Dec.
Transportation Properties.....	25,535	25,596	61	.24 Dec.
Miscellaneous Properties.....	5,007	4,972	35	.70 Inc.
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>253,199</b>	<b>249,833</b>	<b>3,366</b>	<b>1.35 Inc.</b>
Total wages and salaries.....	\$467,409,446	\$456,740,355	\$10,669,091	2.34 Inc.
Largest number of employees in any one month.....	259,600 (December)	258,946 (March)		
Smallest number of employees in any one month.....	242,622	241,815		
Average Earnings per Employee per day for Year:				
All employees, exclusive of General Administrative and Selling force.....	\$5.82	\$5.77	\$.05	.87 Inc.
Total employees, including General Administrative and Selling force.....	\$5.94	\$5.88	\$.06	1.02 Inc.

**Employees Stock Subscription.** The usual offer to employees to subscribe for Common stock of the United States Steel Corporation for the year 1927 has been deferred until approximately June 1 1927. The offer will then be made with reference to conditions prevailing at that time in respect of the stock arising out of the plan approved by the Directors to submit to the stockholders at the annual meeting the proposal for an increase in the Common shares for use in distribution of a stock dividend.

**Profit Sharing Plan.** In accordance with the Profit Sharing Plan adopted by the stockholders in 1921, appropriation was made from the earnings of 1926 of a fund for distribution under such plan. The allotment and distribution were made in February 1927 by the Profit Sharing Committee of Stockholders elected at the stockholders' annual meeting in April 1926. Of the awards made by the Committee, sixty per cent was paid in cash and the remainder covered by Certificates of Conditional Interest in shares of Common stock of the Corporation in which the Committee invested such part of the appropriation. The stock covered by the Certificates of Conditional Interest is deliverable in January 1932 to employees holding such certificates, provided they are then in the service of the Corporation or its subsidiaries, or is deliverable prior to that date if they die while in the service or are retired under the Corporation's Pension Plan.

**Pensions.** During the year 1926 the Trustees of the United States Steel and Carnegie Pension Fund paid in pensions to retired employees a total of \$2,537,917 compared with \$2,068,653 disbursed in the year 1925. Pensions were granted during the year to 1,185 retiring employees and at the close of the year there were 5,737 names on the pension rolls, a net increase of 653 during the year. Since the inauguration of the plan in 1911 an aggregate of \$15,833,726 has been paid in pensions.

**Housing and Welfare.** During the year the subsidiary companies advanced a net additional sum of \$2,700,067, largely to employees, on sales contracts and mortgages, bearing interest at 5% and payable in installments over a period of years, to assist them in acquiring homes under the Corporation's Home-Owning Plan. At December 31 1926 the total principal amount due for advances as above was \$14,996,480. The efforts of the Corporation and the subsidiary companies in general welfare and educational work for the betterment of the material interests and living conditions of the employees and their families, were continued on lines previously outlined in these reports. These efforts cover a wide range of activities, are recognized and accepted by the employees as of real interest and benefit to them and correspondingly are in the interest of the Corporation. These activities are one of the established conditions of service.

**Sanitation.** The expenditures for this particular service in the interest of the employees in 1926 was \$3,218,704, compared with \$3,641,740 in the preceding year. The constant attention given to sanitary conditions and practices surrounding the employees while in service has raised these to a high standard and has been beneficial to the health and conveniences of the employees as well as raising the efficiency of their service. At the close of 1926 there were in use in and about the plants and works 4,691 sanitary drinking fountains, 2,138 comfort stations with toilet equipment, including 25,453 washing faucets or basins, 5,291 showers and 183,779 lockers.

**Accident Prevention.** Expenditures of \$1,867,324 were made in 1926, compared with \$1,914,100 in previous year, for safety work, including installation of devices and appliances, rearrangement of equipment and instruction of employees, to minimize liability and danger of injury. While safety work requires continued large expenditures for safety devices and appliances, yet as accidents largely rise from thoughtlessness and lack of proper precaution by employees, strenuous and



continuing efforts are made to educate the employees in safety methods of performing their tasks. In this the service of employees is enlisted to the fullest practical extent. At present selected employees of upwards of 10,000 at a time are serving regularly on safety committees of instruction. In 1926 the disabling accidents per 100 employees in service was 20.5% less than in 1925, and was the lowest rate in any year since accident prevention work was systematically started.

*Accident Relief.* Disbursements during 1926 for work accidents, including accrual of liabilities under State compensation laws, the actual payment of which is spread over a period of years, were \$4,920,207, compared with \$4,628,046 in 1925. Eighty-eight per cent of the year's charges was paid, or is payable, directly to the injured employees or their families.

*Number of Stockholders.* The number of registered stockholders at December 31 1926 was 143,703, of whom 15,914 held both Preferred and Common stock. The number holding Preferred was 73,016, and of Common 86,601. Included in the total number of registered holders were 43,713 employees.

## UNFILLED ORDERS.

At the close of 1926 the unfilled orders of the subsidiary companies for all kinds of steel products totaled 3,960,969 tons, compared with 5,033,364 tons at the close of 1925. This reduction is attributed principally to the fact that in the closing months of 1925 there was a large influx of orders, resulting in the carrying over into 1926 of a substantial tonnage of unfilled orders. During 1926 new business was received on a more nearly uniform basis, as to aggregate tonnage; and this condition has continued since January 1 1927. In short, current offering of tonnage has of late been for more prompt delivery than previously was the custom. The specifications for shipment since January 1 1927 have been of large volume, the operations of the subsidiaries at date of writing of this report being about 90% of capacity based on ingot output.

Grateful appreciation is expressed to the officers and employees of the Corporation and of the several subsidiary companies for the loyal and faithful service rendered in the efficient management of the properties and for the results secured during the past year.

By order of the Board of Directors.

ELBERT H. GARY, *Chairman.*

## CONSOLIDATED GENERAL BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1926.

## ASSETS.

PROPERTY ACCOUNTS—Properties Owned and Operated by the Several Companies:		
Balance of this account as of December 31 1926, less Depletion, Depreciation and Amortization Reserves per table on page 14 (pamphlet report)		\$1,667,391,498.21
MINING ROYALTIES—		
Mining Royalties on unmined ore, in respect of part of which notes of subsidiary companies are outstanding in amount of \$26,408,316.17, as see contra	\$65,789,584.74	
Less, Reserved from Surplus to cover possible failure to realize all of same	7,000,000.00	58,789,584.74
DEFERRED CHARGES (Applying to future operations of the properties)—		
Advanced Mining and other operating expenses and charges	\$1,865,991.95	
Discount on subsidiary companies' bonds sold (Net)	948,924.88	2,814,916.83
INVESTMENTS—		
Outside Real Estate and Investments in sundry securities, including Real Estate Mortgages	\$10,373,855.25	
Land Sales Installment Contracts and Mortgages under Employees' Home-owning Plan	14,996,480.20	25,370,335.45
SINKING AND RESERVE FUND ASSETS—		
Cash resources held by Trustees account of Bond Sinking Fund (Trustees also hold \$214,204,000 of redeemed bonds, not included as liabilities in this Balance Sheet.)	\$1,609,034.20	
Contingent Fund and Miscellaneous Assets	3,857,022.90	
Insurance and Depreciation Fund Assets (includes bonds available for future sinking fund requirements):	\$100,917,614.59	
Securities*	3,791,011.37	
Cash	104,708,625.96	110,174,683.06
*Note.—There are not included in this item capital obligations of subsidiary companies amounting to \$41,660,365.54, held in these funds, as such obligations are excluded from liabilities in this consolidated balance sheet. Such securities were acquired direct by United States Steel Corporation from the subsidiaries.		
CURRENT ASSETS—		
Inventories, less credit for Reserve and for amount of inventory values representing Profits earned by subsidiary companies on Inter-Company sales of products on hand in Inventories December 31 1926. (See note opposite.)	\$281,255,460.67	
Accounts Receivable	86,428,934.69	
Bills Receivable	7,341,120.37	
Agents' Balances	1,347,674.30	
Sundry Marketable Securities (including part of U. S. Govt. Securities owned)	72,615,282.32	
Time and other special Bank Deposits	8,072,744.60	
Cash (in hand and on deposit with Banks, Bankers and Trust Companies, subject to cheque)	132,536,949.91	589,598,166.86
		\$2,454,139,185.15

## LIABILITIES.

CAPITAL STOCK OF UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION—		
Common	\$508,302,500.00	
Preferred	360,281,100.00	\$868,583,600.00
CAPITAL STOCKS OF SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES NOT HELD BY UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION (Book value of same)		
BONDED, MORTGAGE AND DEBENTURE DEBT OUTSTANDING— (For detailed statement see page 22, pamphlet report.)		476,754.23
United States Steel Corporation 50 Year 5% Bonds	\$179,866,000.00	
United States Steel Corporation 10-60 Year 5% Bonds	160,236,000.00	
	\$340,102,000.00	
Subsidiary Companies' Bonds, guaranteed by U. S. Steel Corporation	98,739,000.00	
Subsidiary Companies' Bonds, not guaranteed by U. S. Steel Corporation	53,187,900.00	
Subsidiary Companies' Real Estate Mortgages and Purchase Money Obligations	660,452.99	492,689,352.99
SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES' MINING ROYALTY NOTES—Maturing over a period of 32 years, substituted for previously existing mining royalty obligations—Guaranteed by United States Steel Corporation, \$25,238,316, not guaranteed, \$1,170,000; non interest bearing, \$25,907,352, interest bearing, \$500,964		26,408,316.17
CURRENT LIABILITIES—		
Current Accounts Payable and Pay Rolls	\$56,597,901.07	
Accrued Taxes, not yet due, including reserve for Federal Income Tax	42,439,211.86	
Accrued Interest, Unpresented Coupons and Unclaimed Dividends	6,384,599.66	
Preferred Stock Dividend No. 103, payable February 26 1927	6,304,919.25	
Common Stock Dividend No. 90, payable March 30, 1927	8,895,293.75	121,121,925.59
Total Capital and Current Liabilities		\$1,509,279,948.98
SUNDRY RESERVES—		
Contingent, Miscellaneous Operating and other Reserves	\$81,183,368.92	
Insurance Reserves	40,173,467.66	121,356,836.58
APPROPRIATED SURPLUS TO COVER CAPITAL EXPENDITURES— (See statement on page 14, pamphlet report.)		
Invested in Property Account—Additions and Construction		270,000,000.00
UNDIVIDED SURPLUS OF UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES—		
Capital Surplus provided in organization	\$25,000,000.00	
Balance of Surplus accumulated by all companies from April 1 1901 to December 31 1926 per table on page 2, (pamphlet report)	528,502,399.59	
Total, exclusive of Profits earned by Subsidiary Companies on Inter-Company sales of products on hand in Inventories December 31 1926 (see note below)		553,502,399.59
		\$2,454,139,185.15

Note.—That part of the Surplus of Subsidiary Companies representing Profits on sales of materials and products to other subsidiary companies and on hand in latter's Inventories is, in this Balance Sheet, deducted from the amount of Inventories included under Current Assets.

We have audited the above Balance Sheet, and certify that in our opinion it is properly drawn up so as to show the financial position of the United States Steel Corporation and Subsidiary Companies on December 31 1926.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO., *Auditors.*

New York, March 1 1927.

## PROPERTY INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS DECEMBER 31 1926

Gross Fixed Property Investment Account, December 31 1925, exclusive of Stripping and Mine Development, Logging Plants and Structural Erection Equipment		\$2,295,817,870.86
Add, Net of sundry adjustments during 1926		1,641,971.33
Capital Expenditures on Property Account in 1926		76,366,421.36
		<u>\$2,373,826,263.55</u>
Less, Amounts written off in year 1926 to Depletion and Depreciation Reserves for investment cost of natural resources exhausted and of improvements, equipment and facilities dismantled and retired		22,577,961.48
		<u>\$2,351,248,302.07</u>
Gross Fixed Property Investment, December 31 1926		
Deduct, Balances in Depletion, Depreciation, Amortization and Current Maintenance Reserves, December 31 1926:		
Depletion, Depreciation and Replacement Reserves, exclusive of those specifically applied as per succeeding item	\$426,974,265.93	
Specifically applied for redemption of bonds through Bond Sinking Funds	203,862,449.69	
Amortization Reserves account excess construction cost arising from war-time conditions	68,409,608.84	
Current Maintenance Reserves	22,779,980.11	
		<u>722,026,304.57</u>
Net Fixed Property Investment Account, December 31 1926		<u>\$1,629,221,997.50</u>
Investment in Stripping and Development at Mines and Logging Plants, and in Structural Erection Equipment:		
Balance at December 31 1925	\$38,475,401.99	
Expended during the year 1926	4,938,411.11	
		<u>\$43,413,813.10</u>
Less, Charged off in 1926 to operating expenses	5,244,312.39	
		<u>38,169,500.71</u>
Balance December 31 1926		
Total of Property Investment Account, December 31 1926, per Consolidated General Balance Sheet		<u>\$1,667,391,498.21</u>

## APPROPRIATED SURPLUS TO COVER CAPITAL EXPENDITURES DECEMBER 31 1926

Amount of appropriations made from Earnings and from Surplus Net Income to cover capital expenditures for additions, betterments and improvements, and which appropriations in the within Consolidated General Balance Sheet are formally written off in reduction of the Property Investment Account		\$206,751,687.38
Amount of appropriations made from Surplus Net Income to cover the same class of expenditures as above specified, but which in the Consolidated General Balance Sheet are carried in the account "Appropriated Surplus to cover Capital Expenditures"		270,000,000.00
Total		<u>\$476,751,687.38</u>

## UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES, CONDENSED GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31 1926.

GROSS RECEIPTS—Gross Sales and Earnings (see page 4, pamphlet report)		\$1,508,076,090.63
Operating Charges:		
Manufacturing and Producing Cost and Operating Expenses, including ordinary maintenance and repairs and provisional charges by subsidiary companies for depletion and depreciation		\$1,264,973,911.63
Administrative, Selling and General Expenses, exclusive of general expenses of transportation companies, but inclusive of appropriation under employees' profit-sharing plan	38,972,713.15	
Taxes (including reserve for Federal income taxes)	52,399,581.44	
Commercial Discounts and Interest	9,595,447.49	
		<u>\$1,365,941,653.71</u>
Less, Amount included in above charges for allowances for depletion and depreciation here deducted for purpose of showing same in separate item of charge, as see below	53,171,075.95	
		<u>1,312,770,577.76</u>
Balance		<u>\$195,305,512.87</u>
Sundry Net Manufacturing and Operating Gains and Losses, including royalties received, idle plant expenses, etc.	\$5,064,747.69	
Rentals received	1,605,120.03	
		<u>6,669,867.72</u>
Total Net Manufacturing, Producing and Operating Income before deducting provisional charges for depletion and depreciation		<u>\$201,975,380.59</u>

## OTHER INCOME AND CHARGES.

Net Profits of properties owned, but whose operations (gross revenue, cost of product, expenses, etc.) are not classified in this statement	\$241,107.92	
Income from sundry investments and interest on deposits, etc.	12,694,401.80	
		<u>\$12,935,509.72</u>
Balance		<u>\$214,910,890.31</u>
Less, Reserve for estimated and contingent liability of subsidiary railroads to United States under Transportation Act	\$2,641,382.09	
Net balance of Subsidiaries' Inter-Company Profits not yet realized as cash assets*	4,924,355.04	
		<u>7,565,737.13</u>
Total Earnings in the year 1926 per Income Account, page 15 (pamphlet report)		<u>\$207,345,153.18</u>
Less Interest Charges on Subsidiary Companies' Bonds and Mortgages		<u>8,286,284.27</u>
Balance of Earnings for the year before deducting provisional charges for depletion and depreciation		<u>\$199,058,868.91</u>
Less, Charges and Allowances for Depletion and Depreciation:		
By Subsidiary Companies	\$53,171,075.95	
By U. S. Steel Corporation	11,049,835.37	
		<u>64,220,911.32</u>
Net Income in the year 1926		<u>\$134,837,957.59</u>

\* These profits have been earned by individual subsidiary companies on inter-company sales made and service rendered to (for) other subsidiaries but being locked up in the inventory value of materials held by the purchasing companies December 31st 1926 are not to that date included as part of the reported earnings of the combined organization. Such profits are embraced only in the year in which they are converted into a cash asset.

## COMPARATIVE INCOME ACCOUNT FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31 1926 AND 1925.

	1926.	1925.	+Increase. —Decrease.
EARNINGS—Before charging interest on Bonds and Mortgages of Subsidiary Companies:			
First Quarter	\$47,155,460.85	\$41,849,764.09	+\$5,305,696.76
Second Quarter	49,911,150.34	42,634,705.17	+7,276,445.17
Third Quarter	54,893,856.01	44,523,558.12	+10,370,297.89
Fourth Quarter	55,584,685.98	44,775,397.22	+10,809,288.76
Total for year	*\$207,545,153.18	*\$173,783,424.60	+\$33,561,728.58
Less, Interest on outstanding Bonds and Mortgages of the Subsidiary Companies	8,286,284.27	8,244,959.93	+41,324.34
Balance of Earnings	\$199,058,868.91	\$165,538,464.67	+\$33,520,404.24
Less, Charges and Allowances for Depletion and Depreciation applied as follows, viz.:			
To Depletion and Replacement Reserves and Sinking Funds on Bonds of Subsidiary Companies	53,171,075.95	45,463,053.99	+\$7,708,021.96
To Sinking Funds on U. S. Steel Corporation Bonds	11,049,835.37	10,623,625.44	+426,209.93
Net Income in the year	\$134,837,957.59	\$109,451,785.24	+\$25,386,172.35
Deduct:			
Interest on U. S. Steel Corporation Bonds outstanding	17,228,669.16	17,761,388.75	—532,719.59
Premium Paid on Bonds redeemed by Sinking Fund, viz.:			
On Subsidiary Companies' Bonds	255,059.29	222,329.77	+32,729.52
On U. S. Steel Corporation Bonds	987,924.94	880,439.61	+107,485.33
Balance	\$116,366,304.20	\$90,587,627.11	+25,778,677.09
Add, Net Balance of sundry receipts and charges, including adjustments of various accounts	301,100.69	15,025.78	+286,074.91
Dividends on U. S. Steel Corporation Stocks, viz.:	\$116,667,404.89	\$90,602,652.89	+26,064,752.00
Preferred, 7%	\$25,219,677.00	\$25,219,677.00	—
Common, 7%	35,581,175.00	35,581,175.00	—
Surplus Net Income	\$55,866,552.89	\$29,801,800.89	+\$26,064,752.00
Less, Sums appropriated and expended or to be expended account of additions, improvements or betterments to plants and property	30,000,000.00	25,000,000.00	+5,000,000.00
Balance carried forward to Undivided Surplus	\$25,866,552.89	\$4,801,800.89	+\$21,064,752.00
Balance of Earnings after making allowances for estimated amount of Federal income tax			

PRODUCTION OF RAW, SEMI-FINISHED AND FINISHED PRODUCTS BY SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES IN THE YEARS 1926 AND 1925.

Products—	1926. Tons.	1925. Tons.	—1926 Increase— Tons. Per Cent.	
<b>ORES MINED—</b>				
In the Lake Superior Region (Iron Ore)—				
Missabe and Vermilion Ranges	22,679,710	21,151,499	1,528,211	7.2
Gogebic, Menominee and Marquette Ranges	3,088,953	3,097,330	*8,377	*.3
In the Southern Region—Alabama (Iron Ore)	3,364,391	3,607,832	*243,441	*6.7
In Brazil, S. A. (Manganese Ore)	129,687	140,184	*10,497	*7.5
Total	29,262,741	27,996,845	1,265,896	4.5
<b>LIMESTONE QUARRIED</b>				
(Includes Dolomite and Fluorspar.)	5,513,739	5,344,893	168,846	3.2
<b>COAL MINED—</b>				
For use in the manufacture of coke	25,659,335	23,692,607	1,966,728	8.3
For steam, gas and all other purposes	8,635,322	7,782,961	852,361	11.0
Total	34,294,657	31,475,568	2,819,089	9.0
<b>COKE MANUFACTURED—</b>				
In Bee Hive Ovens	3,823,047	3,289,905	533,142	16.2
In By Product Ovens	13,513,287	13,011,319	501,968	3.9
Total	17,336,334	16,301,224	1,035,110	6.3
<b>BLAST FURNACE PRODUCTION—</b>				
Pig Iron	15,540,912	14,651,481	889,431	6.1
Spiegel, Ferromanganese and Ferrosilicon	164,389	147,518	16,871	11.4
Total	15,705,301	14,798,999	906,302	6.1
<b>STEEL INGOT PRODUCTION—</b>				
Bessemer Ingots	4,343,788	4,389,328	*45,540	*1.0
Open Hearth Ingots	15,962,880	14,509,369	1,453,511	10.0
Total	20,306,668	18,898,697	1,407,971	7.5
<b>ROLLED AND FINISHED STEEL PRODUCTS FOR SALE—</b>				
Steel Rails (Heavy and Light Tee and Girder)	1,764,589	1,518,424	246,165	16.2
Blooms, Billets, Slabs, Sheet and Tinplate Bars	750,137	809,946	*59,809	*7.4
Plates	1,526,153	1,425,506	100,647	7.1
Heavy Structural Shapes	1,029,152	993,241	35,911	3.6
Merchant Bars, Hoops, Skelp, Light Shapes, &c.	2,821,093	2,805,302	15,791	.6
Tubing and Pipe	1,690,798	1,402,809	287,989	20.5
Wire Rods	168,754	177,567	*8,813	*5.0
Wire and Wire Products	1,414,418	1,407,302	7,116	.5
Sheets (Black and Galvanized) and Tinplates	1,884,789	1,640,521	244,268	14.9
Finished Structural Work	615,315	496,057	119,258	24.0
Angle Splice Bars and All Other Rail Joints	313,345	268,690	44,655	16.6
Spikes, Bolts, Nuts and Rivets	73,941	64,945	8,996	13.9
Axles	84,585	78,988	5,597	7.1
Steel Car Wheels	77,317	58,274	19,043	32.7
Sundry Steel and Iron Products	120,026	123,438	*3,412	*2.8
Total	14,334,412	13,271,010	1,063,402	8.0
<b>MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS—</b>				
Zinc	73,730	69,231	4,499	6.5
Sulphate of Iron	29,114	25,076	4,038	16.1
Fertilizer—"Duplex Basic Phosphate"	21,771	11,852	9,919	83.7
Fertilizer—Sulphate of Ammonia	194,010	183,248	10,762	5.9
Ammonia (as Liquor)	664	1,059	*395	*37.3
Benzol Products	171,435	161,906	9,529	5.9
Universal Portland Cement	14,526,000	15,722,000	*1,196,000	*7.6

\* Decrease.

ALLIS CHALMERS MANUFACTURING COMPANY

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1926.

Milwaukee, Wis., March 12 1927.

To the Stockholders:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, there is submitted herewith the annual report of Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company for the fiscal year ended December 31 1926, together with comparative Income Account and Balance Sheet as at December 31 1926 and 1925.

COMPARATIVE INCOME ACCOUNT.

	1926.	1925.
Sales billed	\$30,682,542.76	\$28,921,357.18
Cost of sales, including depreciation, development, selling, publicity and administrative expenses	27,186,126.06	25,639,654.93
Operating income	\$3,496,416.70	\$3,281,702.25
Add—Other income:		
Interest, discount, royalties, commissions, etc.	720,474.87	689,666.18
Total income	\$4,216,891.57	\$3,971,368.43
Deduct—		
Provision for Federal income taxes and contingencies	620,000.00	554,000.00
Net income, carried to surplus	\$3,596,891.57	\$3,417,368.43

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31 1926 AND 1925.

	1926.	1925.
<b>PROPERTY—</b>		
Factory sites, buildings, machinery, equipment, patents, patterns, drawings and goodwill	\$41,060,763.04	\$40,757,339.66
Deduct—Reserve for depreciation of buildings, machinery and equipment	10,228,916.80	9,737,742.21
	\$30,831,846.24	\$31,019,597.45
<b>Current and Working Assets—</b>		
Inventories of work in process, manufactured stock, materials and supplies	\$13,602,763.09	\$12,315,342.92
Accounts and notes receivable	7,482,696.30	7,751,050.55
Liberty bonds, Treasury notes and other marketable securities	10,013,205.12	9,890,646.93
Cash in banks and on hand	1,908,761.52	1,584,037.37
	\$33,007,426.03	\$31,541,077.77
<b>Other Assets, Etc.—</b>		
Land sales contracts, outside real estate and property not required for manufacturing operations	\$1,182,399.73	\$1,178,289.19
Deferred charges including unexpired insurance	286,222.32	45,839.97
	\$1,468,622.05	\$1,224,129.16
Total	\$65,307,894.32	\$63,784,804.38

LIABILITIES.

	1926.	1925.
<b>Capital Stock Issued—</b>		
Preferred	\$16,500,000.00	\$16,500,000.00
Common	26,000,000.00	26,000,000.00
	\$42,500,000.00	\$42,500,000.00
<b>Current Liabilities—</b>		
Accounts payable and payrolls	\$1,601,551.20	\$1,337,427.64
Advances received on contracts	933,080.88	872,105.34
Reserve for erection and completion of contracts billed	1,185,683.42	1,176,242.04
Accrued taxes	1,322,027.14	1,196,675.84
Dividends payable:		
Preferred—January 15 1927	\$288,702.75	
Common—February 15 1927	386,560.50	
	675,263.25	675,263.25
Reserves—	\$5,717,605.89	\$5,257,714.11
General contingencies	\$1,528,764.94	\$1,393,755.16
Employers' liability for accident compensation	406,382.59	374,032.78
Surplus—	\$1,935,147.53	\$1,767,787.94
Balance beginning of year	\$14,259,302.33	\$13,542,986.90
Add—Net income for year ended Dec. 31	3,596,891.57	3,417,368.43
	\$17,856,193.90	\$16,960,355.33
Deduct—For preferred and common dividends	2,701,053.00	2,701,053.00
	\$15,155,140.90	\$14,259,302.33
Total	\$65,307,894.32	\$63,784,804.38

INCOME ACCOUNT.

The net income for the year 1926, after full provision for Federal taxes and all other charges, was \$3,596,891.57 compared with \$3,417,368.43 the preceding year, which was equivalent, after preferred dividends, to \$9.48 per share on the common stock as compared with \$8.78 in 1925. Sales bills and net income by quarters for the past two years compare as follows:

	—1926—		—1925—	
	Sales Billed.	Net Income.	Sales Billed.	Net Income.
First quarter	7,328,018.01	828,401.45	7,130,952.29	847,053.27
Second quarter	7,354,067.39	826,157.76	7,042,750.27	830,022.23
Third quarter	7,811,853.78	925,661.67	7,298,570.90	826,107.36
Fourth quarter	8,188,603.58	1,016,670.69	7,449,083.72	914,185.57
Total	30,682,542.76	3,596,891.57	28,921,357.18	3,417,368.43

During the year 1926 there was expended for standard development the sum of \$639,123.31, of which amount \$404,709.57 was absorbed in expenses. The balance of \$234,413.74, representing development charges on Reyrolle Electric Switchgear, was deferred and will be assessed against future operations on this line. Expenditures for maintenance and general upkeep of buildings, machinery and equipment amounted to \$1,356,670.79. The reserve set aside for depreciation of buildings, machinery and equipment amounted to \$649,764.74.

Current inventories of work in process, manufactured stock, materials and supplies were carefully reviewed by an Inventory Committee at the close of the year and conservatively valued at \$13,602,763.09. Accounts and notes receivable of \$7,482,696.30 were investigated and any doubtful items charged off.

#### DIVIDENDS.

Four quarterly dividends were paid of  $1\frac{3}{4}\%$  each on the preferred stock and  $1\frac{1}{2}\%$  each on the common stock; the total disbursements on this account being \$2,701,053.00.

#### SECURITIES.

As at December 31 1926, the Company owned the following securities, which, in the aggregate, represented values lower than the market:

Liberty bonds and Treasury notes.....	\$5,463,584.64
Sundry State, county and municipal bonds.....	3,575,707.88
Railroad, public utility and industrial bonds and stocks.....	973,912.60
	<u>\$10,013,205.12</u>

#### INCREASE IN PLANT AND WORKING CAPITAL.

The capital expenditures during the year for additions to buildings, new machinery, sundry equipment, etc., less credits applied on account of sales and machinery scrapped, were \$303,423.38.

The working capital as at December 31 1926, comprising cash, marketable securities, accounts receivable and current inventories, less accounts payable, payrolls, taxes, dividends and other current obligations, amounted to \$27,289,820.14, compared with \$26,283,363.66 the year before, an increase of \$1,006,456.48.

#### UNFILLED ORDERS AND BOOKINGS.

The unfilled orders at the close of 1926 were \$11,634,711.71 compared with \$10,147,072.74 on December 31 1925. The bookings of new business in 1926 totaled \$32,170,181.73, contrasted with \$28,944,401.99 in 1925, an increase of 11.14%.

#### STOCKHOLDERS.

At the close of the year there were of record 3,232 holders of preferred stock and 2,964 holders of common stock.

#### DEVELOPMENT.

Development and engineering design have continued along the lines heretofore established as standard. Units of larger capacity and greater reliability are characteristic of all engineering progress. Included in the important development work of the year were the following:

The first Allis-Chalmers Reyrolle Armored Electric Switchgear was placed in operation near the end of 1926 at the 172nd Street Substation of the New York Edison Company. Other contracts obtained include those with Public Service Company of Northern Illinois and Waukegan Generating Company, the latter covering the largest units of this type ever built.

The Company is building two 22,000 KV-A and one 18,000 KV-A vertical waterwheel generators of the "umbrella type" for Phoenix Utility Company.

Six 3,000 K.W. railway rotary converters for the City of Philadelphia were designed and manufactured; these are the largest machines of this type that have been built by the Company.

During the year the Company received orders for transformers which in total KV-A capacity exceeded that of any previous year. Among these are four 15,000 KV-A 132,000 volt for Commonwealth Edison Company, Chicago, equipped with motor operated devices for changing taps while in operation; four 10,000 KV-A now being built for the Southern California Edison Company, arranged to carry 2-3 load as self-cooled and full load by means of blowing air on the radiators.

A new line of motors known as enclosed, self-ventilating motors has been developed and placed in production at Bullock Works.

The 50,000 K.W. (80,000 B.H.P.) steam turbine unit sold in 1925 to the Waukegan Generating Company has been built and run in the shops. This unit will be placed in operation about April, 1927.

The Company is building a high back pressure 5,000 K.W. non-condensing steam turbine unit. The field for such units, for process work, is increasing.

The Company has designed, built and placed in operation during 1926 a 6,000 K.W., 3,600 R.P.M. high pressure condensing steam turbine unit, which is entirely successful.

A contract with the Susquehanna Power Company covers four 54,000 H.P. units under a head of 89 ft., and the physical

dimensions of these machines are the greatest of any ever built in hydraulic turbine work. In addition to the contract for these four turbine units, the Company has a contract with the above for four 27 $\frac{1}{2}$  ft. diameter butterfly valves for direct connection to the spiral casings of said turbines.

A 56,000 H.P. impulse wheel for the Southern California Edison Company, to be operated under a head of 2,200 ft., is the highest power impulse wheel ever built. Considerable study has been given to the designs for increasing impulse wheel efficiency and it is contemplated that the actual power house tests will show that the Company has made important progress in this direction.

The Louisville Hydroelectric contract covering eight 13,500 H.P. single runner vertical shaft turbines for 35 ft. head have been designed and approximately 60% completed. These turbines represent the largest machines of this type now built in the United States and have opened a new field of development.

A number of new single stage, double suction centrifugal pumps were developed, as well as multistage, double suction pumps. These fit into the Company's standard lines, are more efficient than the older design and lower in cost. Among the larger pumps sold were five 72 inch and five 48 inch horizontal type for the Sanitary District of Chicago and one 72 inch vertical pump for the City of Chicago, all from new designs made during the year.

The Company has developed a new line of forged steel pumps for oil line service and is also developing and will endeavor to place on the market in 1927, a full line of hydraulic casting cleaners.

The pistons of Corliss Engines have been improved in design to make them more suitable for high steam temperatures now frequently used, while the Drop Valve Engine has been developed to operate with steam pressures and temperatures higher than those for which the Corliss Engine is adapted.

Gas compressors for very high pressures (4,500 lbs. per square inch) for chemical industries, have been developed and built.

At the present time the largest gas engines are of 4,000 K.W. capacity, and the Company has made preliminary plans for engines of 6,000 K.W. capacity.

The Crushing and Cement Machinery Division has completed several machines of new and improved design. The 60-in. crushers for the Chile Exploration Company have been completed, and one has been shipped.

Advances and improvements have been made in standard lines of gyratory crushers, and the new direct motor drive gearless gyratory crusher has been successfully tried out.

In the cement machinery line, the Company has designed and built new and improved carrying and driving mechanisms for cement kilns and coolers of the greater sizes.

The Company has improved and enlarged its line of compeb mills for cement grinding, and is now engaged in building a compeb mill having a capacity from fifty to one hundred per cent higher than any heretofore manufactured.

Improvements have been made in the control and safety mechanisms on large hoists, including an installation for semi-automatic liquid control.

Furnaces and plant equipment for the production of sponge iron in Japan were manufactured and are in course of installation.

The largest creosoting cylinder for timber treating so far built was designed and manufactured, viz.: 9 ft. 6 in. diameter, 165 ft. long, for 250 lbs. working pressure and weighing about 250 tons.

Applications of synchronous motors direct connected to band sawmills were made. The Company also developed, for a concern which uses wood byproducts, a new system for cutting up yellow pine stumps, roots and other waste for use in wood chemical work.

Efforts in the Transmission Division were largely centred in further development of the Allis-Chalmers Texrope drive, which has expanded into various classes of industries in increasing volume.

Improvements in design and reduction in costs of the tractor were made which have enabled the Company to materially reduce the selling price per unit for 1927.

#### GENERAL.

Late in the year the Company acquired from Nordyke and Marmon, Inc., of Indianapolis, the latter's flour milling machinery business. All records, drawings, patterns, patents, jigs, fixtures and manufactured stock relating thereto were taken over and the manufacture of this line will be continued at West Allis Works.

The Government's claim against the Company for additional taxes of prior years has not yet been settled. During 1926 some progress was made but it is uncertain when the matter will be finally determined.

The books and accounts have been examined by Price Waterhouse & Co., Certified Public Accountants, and their Certificate is appended hereto.

The annual meeting of the Company will be held at its principal office in Wilmington, Delaware, at 12 o'clock noon on May 5 1927.

The Board of Directors desires to express its appreciation of the efficient services rendered by the officers and employees of the Company.

OTTO H. FALK, *President.*

By Order of the Board of Directors.

## THE NORTH AMERICAN COMPANY

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE YEAR 1926.

## LETTER OF THE PRESIDENT.

Newark, N. J., March 15 1927.

To the Stockholders of

*The North American Company:*

The accompanying report of the Vice-President and General Manager, certificate of Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co., Chartered Accountants, and financial statements cover the operations of The North American Company and its subsidiaries during the year 1926.

As has been stated in previous Annual Reports, your Company does not maintain a centralized management or engineering organization. The North American Company does not class as subsidiaries, nor consolidate with its own financial statements the final statements of any companies except those in which it or its subsidiaries own voting control and at least 75% of the common stock. Control of the companies classed as subsidiaries is held through permanent investments, amounting in one case to about 78%, and in all other cases to from 90% to 100% of the common stock of such companies. This is in accordance with the policy announced by your Company in its Annual Report for the year 1905, a time somewhat antedating the era of Commission regulation, that:

The management of your Company believes that the policy which should govern the administration of public utilities, if they are to be stable and uniformly profitable investments, is to develop their facilities so that they may be adequate not only to meet the present demands of the communities in which they operate with service of the highest standard, but also to respond immediately to the growth of such communities and their business, however rapid it may be.

The North American Company stands in a protective relation to these properties. It is not seeking to exploit them for present large profits. It holds their securities as permanent investments, and seeks to establish them in the favor and confidence of the public by just methods and efficient administration, and to maintain their finances on the most conservative basis.

To preserve sound capital structures and provide a proper proportion of the capital requirements of the subsidiaries, the investments of the parent company are increased from time to time by purchases of additional amounts of their common stocks.

Dividends on the Common Stock of your Company are paid quarterly in Common Stock, cash which would otherwise be distributed being reinvested in the growing equities of the subsidiaries. This dividend policy is in effect a combination of cash dividends and subscription rights, with the advantage of greater convenience to stockholders because of the issuance of stock in small amounts at frequent intervals. The Preferred and Common Stocks are listed on the New York Stock Exchange, and the London and Amsterdam Stock Exchanges have granted permission to deal in the Common Stock. Any stockholder desiring to convert his dividend stock into cash may do so through his own broker or local bank. For the convenience of stockholders who do not have such facilities, your Company will, upon request, arrange for the sale of their dividend stock.

Increases in annual earnings after the payment of all dividends, and in accumulated surplus, are shown on the charts accompanying the report of the Vice-President and General Manager.

The continued progress of your Company and its subsidiaries has resulted in a steadily growing interest of investors, as reflected in the increased number of holders of the stock of your Company since it was classified into Preferred and Common shares in August 1921. On December 31 1926 the holders of the Preferred Stock numbered 11,700 and the holders of the Common Stock numbered 25,150, the average holdings being, respectively, 52 and 163 shares.

In conformity with our long standing policy of informing stockholders of important developments, consolidated income statements and consolidated balance sheets are sent to the stockholders quarterly, supplemented by other pertinent information from time to time. A booklet outlining the history of your Company from its organization in June 1890 to June 30 1926 was recently prepared for the information of stockholders. Those who may not have already received copies of the booklet may do so upon request.

It is with deep regret that we report the death, since the last annual meeting, of Mr. Richard E. Breed and of Mr. Anson W. Burchard, Directors of your Company, who, due to their unusual abilities, had achieved marked prominence in the public utility industry.

By orders of the Board of Directors.

F. L. DAME, *President.*

## REPORT OF

## VICE-PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER.

During 1926 general business conditions in the territories served by the subsidiaries of The North American Company continued at the active pace which marked 1925 as a year of extensive development. The volume of each class of utility service rendered was substantially larger than in the preceding year, the increased demands for service being reflected in the earnings statements and in the large expenditures for additions to the plants and systems of the subsidiaries. Increases in various income account items also result in part from the inclusion for the full year 1926 of the properties acquired during the latter part of the year 1925.

For the information of stockholders who now receive the Company's Annual Report for the first time, it is appropriate to state that the accounts of its public utility subsidiaries, which produce more than 90% of total earnings, are kept in conformity with uniform classifications of accounts prescribed by regulatory commissions. Moreover, the accounts of the Company and of each of its subsidiaries are audited each year by independent accountants, under whose supervision the annual financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries are consolidated. In accordance with usual custom there are appended certificate of Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co., Chartered Accountants, and consolidated financial statements, covering the year 1926. There are also appended charts showing the progress of the Company and its subsidiaries, and a list of the principal subsidiaries.

## CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND SURPLUS STATEMENTS.

An increase in revenues from each class of utility business contributed to the \$115,850,466.45 of combined Gross Earnings, which were \$22,821,499.79, or 24.53%, greater than in 1925.

The increase of \$9,395,752.88, or 17.09%, in Operating Expenses, Maintenance and Taxes, which amounted to \$64,382,877.83, occurred chiefly in the three major items—fuel, labor and taxes. Unit costs of fuel and average wage rates varied slightly from the levels which prevailed during 1925, the greater expenditures for these purposes in 1926 being due to larger amounts of services rendered.

Of the total increase in Gross Earnings, approximately 59% was retained in Net Income from Operation, which amounted to \$51,467,588.62, an increase of 35.29%.

The electric and heating business of the subsidiaries provides an increasing proportion of Net Income from Operation, of which more than 87% was derived from these classes of business in 1926.

Other Net Income in 1926 consisted chiefly, as in the past, of income on investments exclusive of holdings in subsidiaries whose operations are consolidated in the financial statements, and also included profit on the sale of the stock of West Kentucky Electric Power Company, a small utility disposed of early in the year because its location was remote from the Company's other utility subsidiaries.

Increase in Interest Charges was due primarily to the inclusion for the full year 1926 of interest and amortization applicable to obligations of subsidiaries acquired late in 1925, rather than to increase in total funded debt, which on December 31 1926 was only \$803,874 greater than at the close of the previous year. Larger disbursements for dividends on preferred stocks of subsidiaries were occasioned by sales of substantial additional amounts of these stocks throughout the year in continuance of customer ownership campaigns. Increase in the amount of such dividends shown in the income statement was due also to the inclusion for the entire year 1926 of dividends on outstanding preferred stocks of those subsidiaries acquired in the latter part of 1925.

Appropriations for Depreciation Reserves aggregated \$11,908,093.97, or more than 10% of Gross Earnings, an increase both in amount and in percentage over appropriations in 1925.

Balance for Dividends and Surplus amounted to \$17,563,507.20, an increase of \$4,267,396.36, or 32.10%. After deducting dividends of \$1,820,107.50 on Preferred Stock of The North American Company, the balance amounted to \$15,743,399.70, an increase of \$4,210,908.61, or 36.51%, and was equivalent to approximately \$3.85 per share of Common Stock outstanding on December 31 1926, and approximately \$4.05 per share on the average number of shares outstanding during the year 1926. For the preceding year the corresponding balance was equal to \$3.12 per share of Common Stock outstanding on December 31 1925, and \$3.74 per share on the average number of shares outstanding during the year 1925.

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET.

The net increase in Property and Plant amounted to \$51,489,103.58, more than 85% of which represented expenditures for additional electric generating capacity, transmission and distribution lines, sub-stations and extensions of customer services, to provide for the continued substantial growth of the electric business.

Additions to electric generating capacity included the initial installation of 90,000 horsepower in the new Avon plant of The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, placed in operation in August 1926; 50,000 horsepower added in the Lakeside plant of Wisconsin Electric Power Company; and the initial installation of 40,000 horsepower in the new Balch hydro-electric plant of San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, California, placed in operation in January 1927. Extensions to high tension transmission lines included a 104-mile 220,000-volt steel tower line, placed in operation in July 1926, connecting the systems of the California subsidiaries and resulting in substantial advantages to them through equalization of load conditions and interchange of power supply.

Additions to gas facilities consisted chiefly of extensions of high and low pressure mains. Important additions to railway and transportation utilities, the largest of which are operated by The Milwaukee Electric Railway and Light Company, included extensions of rapid transit lines, new safety passenger cars and motor buses, to improve railway schedules and efficiency.

Increases, aggregating \$5,013,526.56, in Investments were due largely to the purchase by The North American Company of an interest in the common stock of North American Light & Power Company, and the acquisition of Common Stock of The North American Company by Western Power Corporation, a subsidiary, to be held against the conversion of bonds of that company. These increases were partly offset by sales of certain other investments held by The North American Company and various subsidiaries.

Net working assets amounted to \$16,091,098.78, a decrease of \$14,933,305.04, chiefly due to the utilization of such funds which had been provided for additions to Property and Plant and Investments.

The net increase in Funded Debt of Subsidiaries on December 31 1926 as compared with December 31 1925 was only \$803,874.32.

The principal senior financing during the year consisted of the sale of \$10,800,000 Refunding and First Mortgage 5% Bonds by The Milwaukee Electric Railway and Light Company to retire \$9,800,000 of its 6% Bonds and provide part of its construction requirements; the sale of \$10,000,000 General Mortgage 5% Bonds by The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company to reimburse its treasury for construction expenditures previously made; and the sale of \$10,000,000 5½% Convertible Collateral Trust Gold Bonds by Western Power Corporation to redeem \$5,823,000 of its 6½% Debentures and provide for additional investments in preferred and common stocks of its subsidiaries. The increase in total funded debt on account of the issues of bonds of The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and Western Power Corporation was practically offset by the retirement of bonds of other subsidiaries, including \$6,500,000 Consolidated (First) Mortgage Bonds of The Milwaukee Electric Railway and Light Company which were paid at maturity on February 1 1926 without recourse to bond financing. The refunding operations referred to above will result in substantial reductions in interest requirements of the respective companies and materially improve their financial positions. Cash for payment of more than \$8,500,000 of bonds of subsidiaries retired without refunding was provided from proceeds of sales of additional amounts of

their preferred stocks, which aggregated \$17,440,049.69 during the year, and from proceeds of parent company purchases of additional amounts of their common stocks.

The increase of \$3,898,040.84 in Common Stock and Scrip of The North American Company consisted principally of stock issued in payment of dividends.

On December 31 1926 Reserves amounted to \$72,863,954.63, an increase of \$8,071,491.71, or 12.46%.

After all dividends on Preferred and Common Stocks of The North American Company, and miscellaneous charges aggregating \$269,286.18, Surplus increased \$11,541,588.77, or 37.71%. On December 31 1926 Surplus amounted to \$42,147,236.94, in addition to \$23,821,632.84 Capital Surplus.

#### OPERATIONS.

Electric output for the year amounted to 4,753,617,875 kilowatt hours, an increase of 48.23%; gas output amounted to 4,106,838,900 cubic feet, an increase of 37.14%; and revenue passengers carried on the railway and bus systems aggregated 199,969,489, an increase of 7.10%. On December 31 1926 electric service was being furnished to 938,680 customers, an increase of 11.04%; heating service to 2,346 customers, an increase of 32.91%; and gas service to 90,555 customers, an increase of 17.28%, from December 31 1925. Despite continuance throughout the year of unfavorable conditions in the coal industry, the output of the coal producing subsidiaries aggregated 4,221,052 tons, an increase of 15.02% over the year 1925.

Electric generating plants of the subsidiaries further improved the noteworthy economies previously achieved which have accorded them high rank in the industry. Continuing research, development of the most effective operating methods, as well as more intensive use of existing facilities and their extension and interconnection, have been advantageous to customers as indicated by further decreases in their average costs of service, which in 1926 were 2.052 cents per kilowatt hour of electric energy compared with 2.320 cents in 1925.

Operating ratio, or the proportion of Gross Earnings required for Operating Expenses, Maintenance and Taxes, was 55.57% for 1926, as compared with 59.11% for 1925. The decrease in average revenues from electric service, and reduction in operating ratio, reflect, in addition to increased economy in production, the inclusion for the full year 1926 of sales by the large hydro-electric properties acquired late in 1925. The long-established policy of keeping the properties at the highest standards of efficiency, and promptly retiring and replacing property when economical operation is furthered thereby, has been an important factor in the continued improvement in operating ratios.

Maintenance expenditures in 1926 aggregated \$7,917,376.02 and were in addition to appropriations of \$11,908,093.97 for Depreciation Reserves previously referred to.

The relations of the subsidiaries with the public and with their employees continue to be cordial. This is evidenced by the large and increasing amounts of their securities purchased and held in the territories which they serve, the number of investors now being in excess of 65,000.

EDWIN GRUHL, *Vice-President and General Manager.*  
March 15 1927.

#### CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT.

	Year Ended Dec. 31 1926.	Year Ended Dec. 31 1925.
Gross Earnings	\$115,850,466.45	\$93,028,966.66
Operating Expenses, Maintenance and Taxes	64,382,377.83	54,987,124.95
Net Income from Operation	\$51,467,588.62	\$38,041,841.71
Other Net Income (Including profit on sale of property and other credits)	4,143,441.36	3,574,835.83
Total	\$55,611,029.98	\$41,616,677.54
Deductions:		
Interest Charges (Including amortization of Bond Discount and Expense)	16,414,630.19	13,001,929.55
Preferred Dividends of Subsidiaries	8,355,435.25	4,624,595.15
Minority Interests	1,369,363.37	1,266,129.28
Total Deductions	\$26,139,428.81	\$18,892,654.28
Balance for Depreciation, Dividends and Surplus	\$29,471,601.17	\$22,724,023.26
Appropriations for Depreciation Reserves	11,908,093.97	9,427,912.42
Balance for Dividends and Surplus	\$17,563,507.20	\$13,296,110.84

#### CONSOLIDATED SURPLUS STATEMENT.

Surplus, January 1 1926		\$30,605,648.17
Additions:		
Balance of Income, Year ended December 31 1926		17,563,507.20
Deductions:		\$48,169,155.37
Dividends on Stock of The North American Company:		
Preferred	\$1,820,107.50	
Common (Paid in Common Stock)	3,932,524.75	
	\$5,752,632.25	
Other Charges to Surplus—Net	269,286.18	6,021,918.43
Surplus, December 31 1926		\$42,147,236.94

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET.

ASSETS.		December 31 1926.	December 31 1925
Property and Plant.....		\$575,883,305.80	\$524,394,202.22
Cash and Securities on Deposit with Trustees.....		2,061,573.73	2,468,057.92
Investments:			
Stocks and Bonds of Other Companies.....		34,617,983.47	29,900,491.97
Sundry Investments, including Preferred Stocks and Bonds of Subsidiaries.....		2,554,756.78	5,308,721.72
The North American Company Common Stock (held by subsidiary for conversion of bonds).....		3,050,000.00	-----
		<u>\$40,222,740.25</u>	<u>\$35,209,213.69</u>
Current and Working Assets:			
Cash.....		9,282,823.16	11,204,077.04
United States Government Securities.....		13,657,378.60	15,133,343.13
Notes and Bills Receivable.....		589,429.94	1,041,387.54
Accounts Receivable.....		12,763,620.09	16,503,476.46
Material and Supplies (at cost or less).....		10,792,759.91	10,611,630.38
		<u>\$47,086,011.70</u>	<u>\$54,493,914.55</u>
Prepaid Accounts.....		1,425,820.80	1,281,932.16
Discount and Expense on Securities.....		15,165,984.69	14,236,729.53
		<u>\$681,845,436.97</u>	<u>\$632,084,050.07</u>
LIABILITIES.		December 31 1926.	December 31 1925.
6% Cumulative Preferred Stock (Authorized \$60,000,000):			
Stock.....		\$30,333,500.00	\$30,333,100.00
Scrip.....		2,250.00	2,650.00
		<u>\$30,335,750.00</u>	<u>\$30,335,750.00</u>
Common Stock (Authorized \$60,000,000):			
Stock.....		40,810,670.00	36,954,390.00
Scrip.....		102,550.00	60,789.16
		<u>\$40,913,220.00</u>	<u>\$37,015,179.16</u>
Preferred Stocks of Subsidiaries.....		137,217,413.63	119,777,363.94
Minority Interests in Capital and Surplus of Subsidiaries.....		9,748,669.76	9,443,855.13
Dividend Payable in Common Stock.....		1,019,596.25	923,458.50
Funded Debt of Subsidiaries.....		348,364,900.00	346,547,025.68
Less amount deposited with Trustees.....		55,581,850.00	54,567,850.00
		<u>\$292,783,050.00</u>	<u>\$291,979,175.68</u>
Current Liabilities:			
Notes and Bills Payable.....		9,545,783.31	3,401,014.47
Accounts Payable.....		5,681,414.06	5,110,232.41
Sundry Current Liabilities.....		3,408,560.28	3,774,875.32
		<u>\$18,635,757.65</u>	<u>\$12,286,122.20</u>
Accrued Liabilities:			
Taxes Accrued.....		7,668,398.98	6,170,476.04
Interest Accrued.....		3,457,968.80	3,767,079.29
Dividends Accrued.....		1,100,616.10	1,181,590.99
Sundry Accrued Liabilities.....		132,171.39	64,242.21
		<u>\$12,359,155.27</u>	<u>\$11,183,388.53</u>
Reserves:			
Depreciation.....		64,423,093.10	57,020,160.72
Other Reserves.....		8,440,861.53	7,772,302.20
		<u>\$72,863,954.63</u>	<u>\$64,792,462.92</u>
Capital Surplus (Premium on Capital Stock).....		23,821,632.84	23,741,645.84
Surplus.....		42,147,236.94	30,605,648.17
		<u>\$681,845,436.97</u>	<u>\$632,084,050.07</u>

PRICE, WATERHOUSE &amp; CO.

66 Pine Street, New York, March 5 1927.

The North American Company,  
60 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

We have examined the books and accounts of The North American Company for the year ending December 31 1926 and have been furnished with the reports of the subsidiary companies as of that date, and certify that the attached consolidated balance sheet and statements of income and surplus are in accord therewith.

The books and accounts of the subsidiary companies were examined by us at September 30 1926, except the accounts of the Western Power Corporation subsidiary companies, which were examined and certified to as at that date by Messrs. Haskins & Sells. As a result of our examinations we found the accounts to be well and accurately kept.

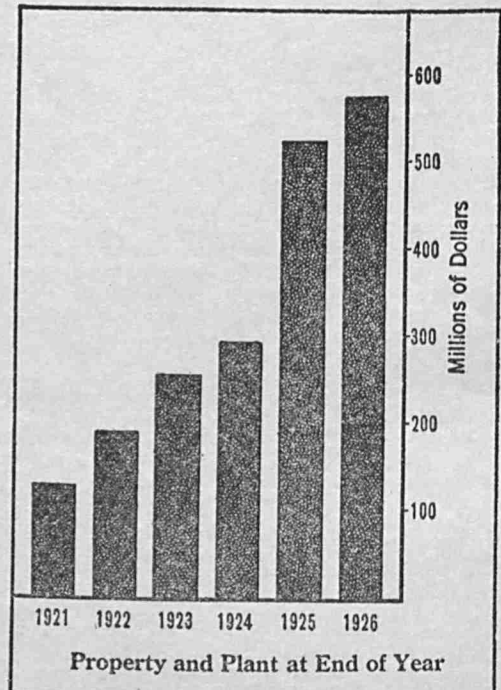
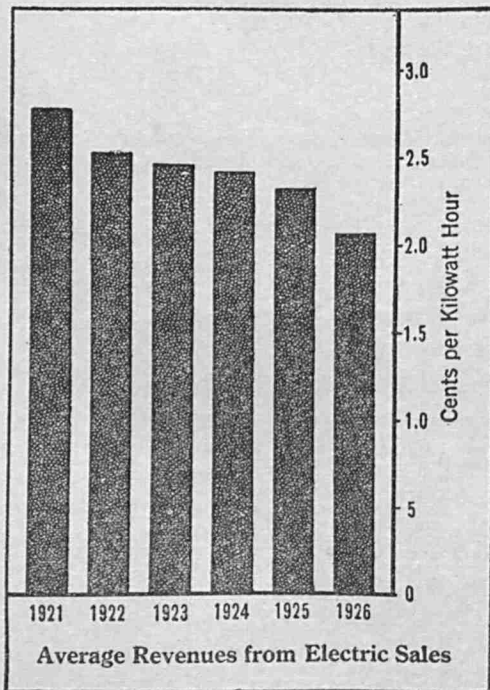
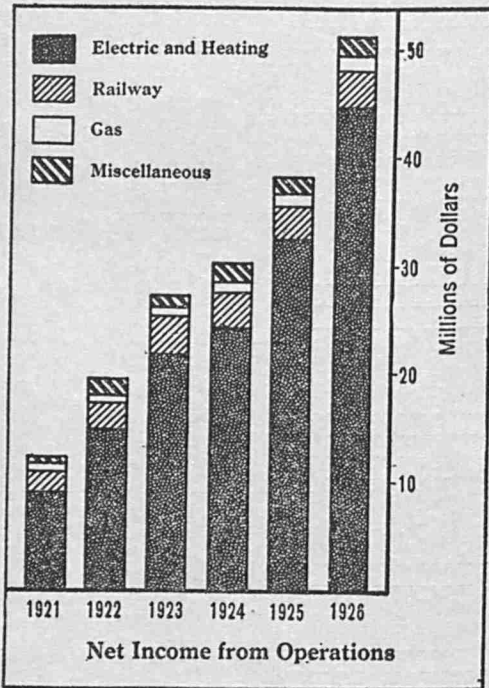
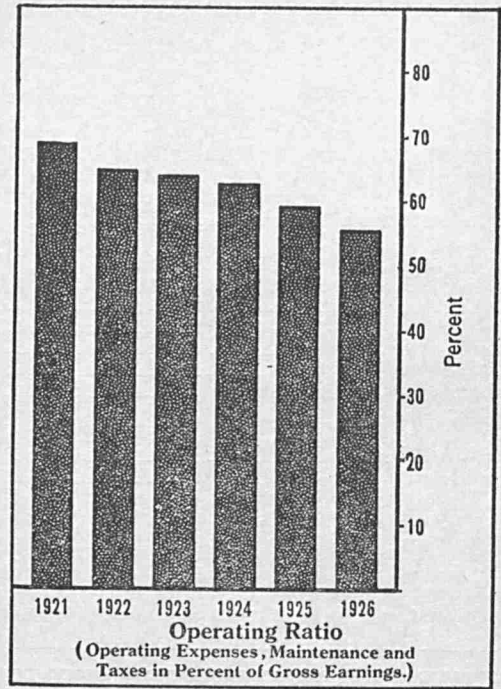
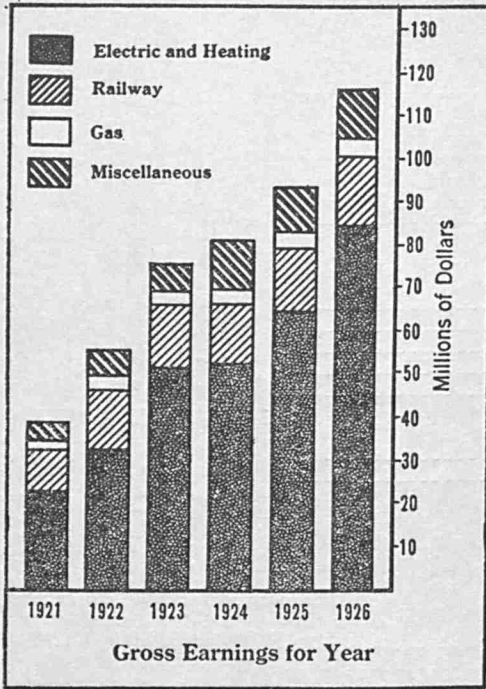
On the foregoing basis we certify that, in our opinion, the consolidated balance sheet shows the financial position of the combined companies at December 31 1926 and the statements of income and surplus fairly set forth the combined results of the operations for the year ending on that date.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE &amp; CO.

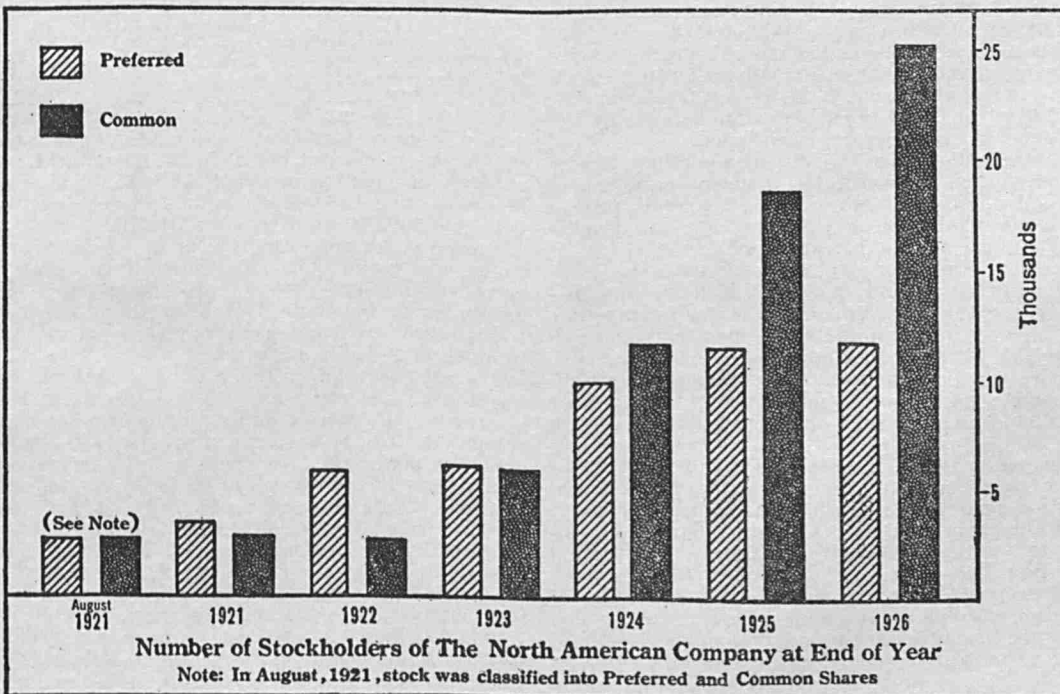
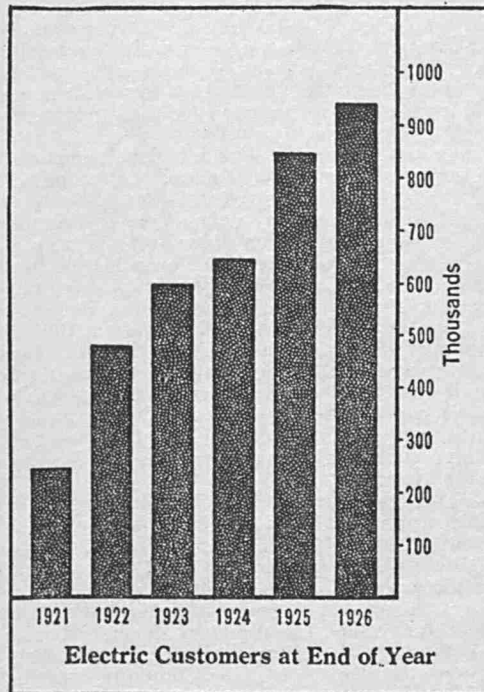
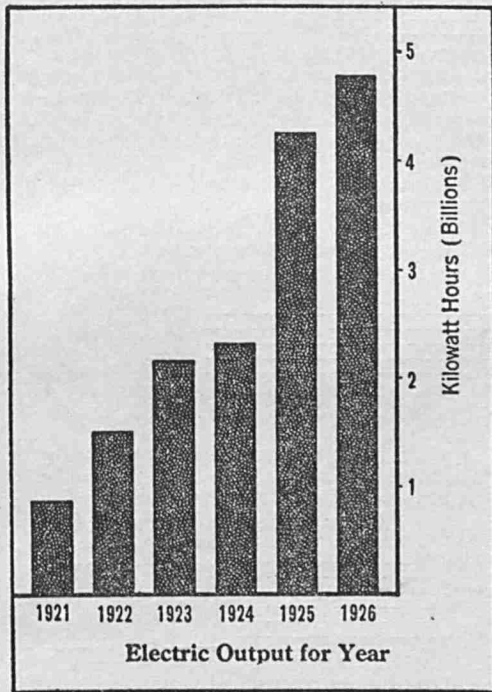
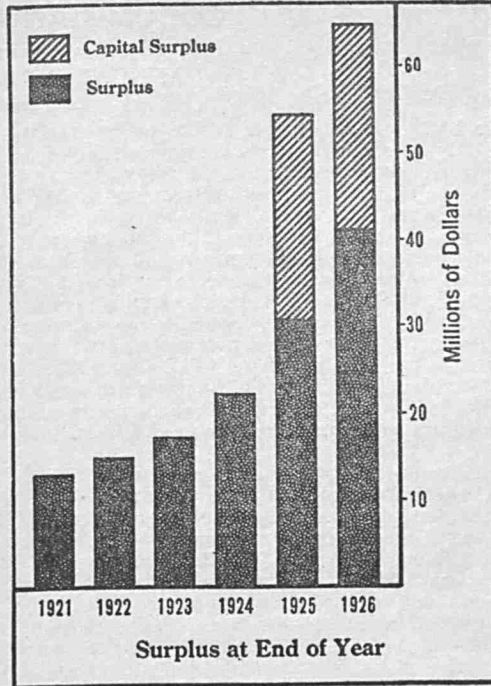
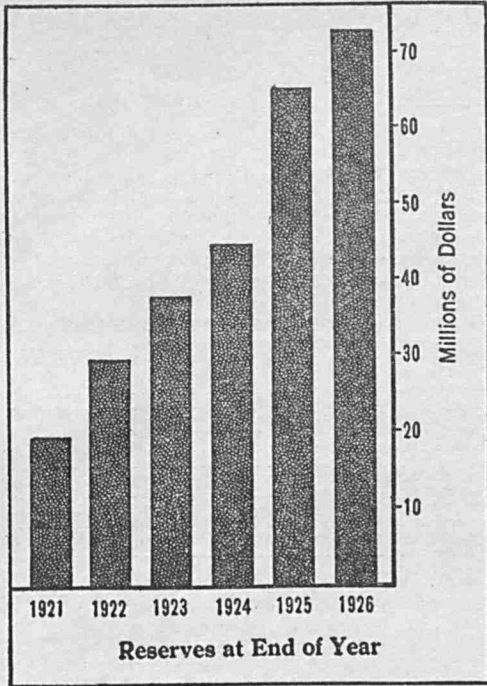
## PRINCIPAL COMPANIES CONTROLLED BY THE NORTH AMERICAN COMPANY.

ALTON GAS COMPANY  
ALTON LIGHT & POWER COMPANY  
ALTON RAILWAY COMPANY  
CALIFORNIA ELECTRIC GENERATING COMPANY  
CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI VALLEY ELECTRIC PROPERTIES  
CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY, THE  
DALLAS CITY LIGHT COMPANY  
EAST ST. LOUIS LIGHT & POWER COMPANY  
EAST ST. LOUIS RAILWAY COMPANY  
EAST ST. LOUIS & SUBURBAN COMPANY, THE  
EAST ST. LOUIS & SUBURBAN RAILWAY COMPANY  
EDISON SECURITIES CORPORATION  
FORT MADISON ELECTRIC COMPANY  
GREAT WESTERN POWER COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA  
IRON MOUNTAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, THE  
KROKUK ELECTRIC COMPANY  
MIDLAND COUNTIES PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION  
MILWAUKEE ELECTRIC RAILWAY AND LIGHT COMPANY, THE  
MILWAUKEE NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY

MISSISSIPPI RIVER POWER COMPANY  
NORTH AMERICAN EDISON COMPANY  
NORTH AMERICAN UTILITY SECURITIES CORPORATION  
PENINSULAR POWER COMPANY  
60 BROADWAY BUILDING CORPORATION  
ST. LOUIS & ALTON RAILWAY COMPANY  
ST. LOUIS & BELLEVILLE ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY  
ST. LOUIS COUNTY GAS COMPANY, THE  
ST. LOUIS AND EAST ST. LOUIS ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY  
SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT AND POWER CORPORATION  
UNION COLLIERY COMPANY  
UNION ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY (MISSOURI)  
UNION ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY OF ILLINOIS  
WESTERN POWER CORPORATION  
WEST KENTUCKY COAL COMPANY  
WIRED RADIO, INC.  
WISCONSIN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY  
WISCONSIN GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY  
WISCONSIN TRACTION, LIGHT, HEAT & POWER COMPANY







## COLUMBIAN CARBON COMPANY

ANNUAL REPORT—MARCH 15 1927.

The year 1926 was satisfactory from every standpoint. Earnings were increased 20% over the preceding year. Important additions were made to the physical properties of the company. Investments and contracts were also made which the directors believe will contribute greatly to the future earning power and stability of the business.

Consolidated earnings after operating charges and Federal taxes, but before reserves for depreciation and depletion, amounted to \$4,155,158. Thirty-seven per cent of this amount, or \$1,536,525, was reserved for depreciation and depletion, leaving a consolidated net profit, after reserves, of \$2,618,632 as compared with \$2,166,290 in 1925. After payment of dividends at the rate of \$4 per share, and deduction of distributed and undistributed earnings on minority stock of subsidiary corporations, the credit to surplus was \$924,812.

During the year the company expended \$3,054,547 for capital assets hereafter enumerated in detail.

Despite the demand thus made upon its resources, its cash position at the close of the year was sound. Liquid assets on December 31 1926 amounted to \$6,262,853, of which \$1,143,852 was in cash, \$803,771 in receivables, and \$529,812 in Liberty bonds and U. S. Treasury notes. Total liabilities on the same date, including reserve for Federal income tax, were \$2,297,355, of which \$1,350,000 consisted of a purchase money mortgage on an important block of proven and developed gas acreage, maturing in equal annual installments over a period of three years.

Total reserves for depreciation and depletion on December 31 1926 amounted to \$9,381,089. In consequence of the conservative policy of the company in this respect, most of its West Virginia property and a considerable part of its Louisiana property is now charged down to a salvage value. Hence the amount annually reserved for these purposes will hereafter tend to decrease.

Perhaps the most noteworthy business development of the year was the acquisition of 125,000 shares of the stock of the Interstate Natural Gas Company, and the conclusion of a contract to sell to said company natural gas to the amount of approximately fourteen billion cubic feet per annum for a period of ten years. The Interstate Natural Gas Company has completed the construction of a twenty-two inch natural gas pipe line, one hundred and seventy miles in length, from the Monroe, Louisiana, field to the oil refinery of the Standard Oil Company of Louisiana at Baton Rouge. Besides supplying natural gas for the fuel requirements of the refinery, it is expected that the line will furnish gas at wholesale "gate rates" for domestic and industrial consumption in Natchez, Baton Rouge and other cities, and to a connecting line now under construction to points on the Mississippi south of Baton Rouge.

The 125,000 shares owned by the Columbian Carbon Company constitute approximately 25% of the outstanding stock of the Interstate Natural Gas Company. The present market value of this stock is several times the figure at which it is carried on the annexed balance sheet.

In order to assure an ample reserve of natural gas for every future need in Louisiana, the directors deemed it wise to enlarge the holdings of the company in the Monroe field by acquiring the gas leases of The Texas Company, which constituted one of the largest and most desirable blocks of acreage in the field. These leases comprise approximately 18,600 acres, with twenty-four producing gas wells having a daily open flow capacity in excess of 200,000,000 cubic feet. The bulk of the acreage lies in an area in which a rock pressure of one thousand pounds or more prevails, affording strong assurance of long productivity. The cost was \$1,802,000, of which \$452,000 was paid in cash and the balance by the purchase money mortgage above mentioned.

As a further safeguard, the company also purchased in fee the Austin plantation of over three thousand acres and a number of smaller parcels of land. Besides being fully proven gas territory, the plantation acreage has substantial value from an agricultural and timber standpoint.

By virtue of these additions to its already extensive holdings, the company has not only placed itself in an impregnable position as regards its future supply of gas for pipe line purposes and for its own manufacturing operations, but will be able to avail itself of further opportunities to sell gas to industrial consumers or pipe lines. In view of the spectacular progress now being made in opening up new markets for gas from the Monroe field, such opportunities seem certain to arise.

Other developments of the year include the organization of the Pineville Gas Company, and construction of a natural gas distribution system in Pineville, La., a town of about 4,000 inhabitants; construction of a gasoline plant at Greenwood, La., to extract gasoline from natural gas passing through the pipe line of the Bethany Oil & Gas Company leading to Shreveport, La.; commencement of construction of another natural gasoline plant at Shamrock, Texas, which will treat gas passing through the pipe line of the Northern Texas Utilities Company extending from Wheeler County to Wichita Falls, Texas; completion of three units of a carbon black factory of new and improved design at Wesear, Texas,

to utilize residue casing head gas supplied by the Phillips Petroleum Company from its properties in Hutchinson and Carson Counties; and the acquisition of oil and gas leases covering about 20,000 acres of land in Wheeler and Gray Counties, Texas, and Beckham County, Oklahoma, a considerable part of which lies in proximity to oil or gas wells of other producers.

The following is a summary of capital expenditures made during the year:

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	
125,000 shares Interstate Natural Gas Company	\$625,000.00
Gas rights under leases on 18,634 acres and 24 gas wells, purchased from the Texas Company (subject to purchase money mortgage of \$1,350,000)	452,086.25
Austin plantation of 3,184 acres in fee	270,645.95
Other Louisiana lands in fee and leases, including one well	85,563.42
Oil and gas leases on 19,936 acres and 140 acres in fee in Wheeler and Gray Counties, Texas, and Beckham County, Oklahoma	236,033.54
Oil and gas leases in Kentucky and West Virginia	44,886.68
Drilling (23 producing wells)	269,029.94
Construction carbon black factory at Wesear, Texas	837,988.25
Construction gasoline plant at Greenwood, La.	35,131.02
Construction natural gas distribution system, Pineville, La.	46,364.55
Miscellaneous	151,817.88
	\$3,054,547.48

Comparative production figures are as follows:

Year—	PRODUCTION			
	Carbon Black (Pounds)	Lamp Black and other Pigments (pounds)	Gasoline (gallons)	Natural Gas (cu. ft.)
1926	60,687,107	4,188,136	10,374,461	40,218,879,000
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

Production of carbon black and other pigments was somewhat curtailed on account of the ample inventory carried. The company continued, however, to produce as in prior years approximately 35% of the total output of the United States, the other 65% being divided among twenty-five manufacturers.

Sales of natural gas were by far the largest in the history of the company, showing an increase of sixty-five per cent over the previous year. The following table shows the growth of this branch of the business.

Year—	SALES OF NATURAL GAS.	
	Cubic Feet.	Gross Revenue.
1926	12,406,650,000	\$1,596,199.20
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

The line to Alexandria, La., made an excellent record. Its sales for 1924 were \$275,939; in 1925 increased to \$374,779 and in 1926 to \$792,707.

As already pointed out, the company is now in a stronger position than ever before as regards reserves of natural gas. This is graphically shown by the following tables:

Year—	ACREAGE ON DECEMBER 31 1926.		
	Owued.	Leased.	Total.
West Virginia	550	16,364	16,914
Louisiana	33,329	25,912	59,241
Wyoming	304	200	504
Kentucky	60	15,829	15,889
Texas	140	15,519	15,659
Oklahoma	58	4,416	4,474
	34,421	80,687	112,681

The above figures represent an increase of 43,235 acres over the previous year.

Year—	WELL RECORD			
	Producing Wells Dec. 31 1925.	Drilled or Purchased 1926.	Abandoned or Sold 1926.	Producing Wells Dec. 31 1926. Drilling.
West Virginia	141	9	13	137
Louisiana	117	34	--	151
Kentucky	10	5	1	14
	268	48	14	302

The Monroe, Louisiana, field continues to rank as one of the foremost natural gas fields of the world. Open flow capacity of our wells in that field as of the close of the year amounted to 1,183,000,000 cubic feet per day, as compared with 826,000,000 on December 31, 1925.

Prospects for the current year are very favorable. The tonnage of carbon black moved in January and February exceeded that of any two months of last year. While prices are somewhat below the 1926 level, there is every indication that this will be compensated by a considerable increase in production and shipments.

A great expansion in the volume of natural gas sales will result from the contract with the Interstate Natural Gas Company. Deliveries under this contract commenced on January 1 1927, and are now averaging well over 20,000,000 cubic feet per day. It is expected that they will be gradually enlarged to the full contract quantity within the next few months. Our company retains the right to extract the gasoline from all gas delivered. A contract has also been concluded with the Louisville Gas & Electric Company for the sale of gas from our holdings in Eastern Kentucky. By the terms of the contract, deliveries are at present limited to 1,500,000 cubic feet per day, but will be increased to 7,500,000 cubic feet per day next winter. The company still has a daily production of several million feet available for sale in West Virginia. An effort will be made to dispose of this gas in the near future.

While maintaining the position of the Columbian Carbon Company as the leading producer of carbon black, it is the policy of the present management to devote increasing attention to the sale of natural gas for general commercial and industrial use. This policy aims, first, to stabilize the earnings of the company by diversifying its sources of revenue, and, second, to make its regular dividend altogether independent of its carbon black operations. Gratifying progress has already been made towards the accomplishment of these purposes, and further plans of a far-reaching character are in contemplation. The directors also have in view a moderate increase of the output of natural gas gasoline. The absorption plant now under construction at Shamrock, Texas, is expected to add at least two million gallons per year of settled production. Several other gasoline projects are being considered and carefully investigated, and will be undertaken if feasible.

Following the practice adopted last year, there is attached to this report, in addition to the customary audit of the accountants, a schedule showing the record of the company for the past ten years. During this period net profits, after all charges, including Federal taxes and reserves for depreciation and depletion, have averaged twenty-nine per cent of the gross revenue. In 1926 the percentage was thirty-three.

Respectfully submitted.

F. F. CURTZE, *President.*

45 East 42nd Street, New York City,  
March 15 1927.

LESLIE, BANKS & COMPANY,  
*Accountants.*  
7 Dey Street.

New York, March 4 1927.

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of the Columbian Carbon Company:

We have audited the accounts and records of the Columbian Carbon Company and its subsidiary companies for the year ended December 31 1926, 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 1926.

LESLIE, BANKS & COMPANY, *Auditors.*

COLUMBIAN CARBON COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES  
COMPARATIVE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1926.

ASSETS

	At Dec. 31 1925.	At Dec. 31 1926.
Current:		
Cash	\$1,128,834.03	\$1,143,852.02
Notes Receivable	959,075.07	57,130.15
Accounts Receivable	447,788.79	746,641.13
Investments—At Cost:		
U. S. Government Bonds and Treasury Notes	579,812.74	529,812.74
Interstate Natural Gas Company (125,000 shares)		625,000.00
Other Marketable Securities	14,167.50	14,167.50
Total Investments	\$593,980.24	\$1,168,980.24
Accrued Interest	\$6,711.28	\$6,842.23
Inventory of Finished Products, Materials and Supplies (lower of Cost or Market)	2,712,542.66	3,139,408.16
Total Current Assets	\$5,848,932.07	\$6,262,853.93
Property:		
Plant, Pipe Lines, Equipment, Real Estate, Leases, Wells and Mineral Rights (Schedule "B")	\$16,591,325.50	\$20,020,455.05
Stocks and Bonds of Other Companies:		
United Lamp Black Works, Ltd.	\$105,970.79	\$105,970.79
Monroe Gas Company	98,400.00	107,400.00
Arkansas, Louisiana & Missouri Ry. Co.	70,000.00	70,000.00
Miscellaneous	289,500.00	319,311.50
Total Stocks and Bonds of Other Companies	\$563,870.79	\$602,682.29
Other Assets:		
Loans and Advances	\$121,573.23	\$92,859.44
Deferred Notes and Accounts Receivable	6,689.59	9,979.16
Total Other Assets	\$130,262.82	\$102,838.60
Copyrights, Trademarks, Goodwill, etc.	\$531,222.81	\$531,516.31
Deferred Charges	\$127,258.71	\$162,496.34
	\$23,792,872.70	\$27,682,842.52

LIABILITIES.

	At Dec. 31 1925.	At Dec. 31 1926.
Current:		
Accounts Payable	\$323,382.06	\$521,105.61
Federal Taxes for Year—Estimated	310,000.00	370,000.00
Accrued Interest		56,250.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$633,382.06	\$947,355.61
Mortgage:		
Purchase Money Mortgage on Leases and Wells purchased from The Texas Company:		
Due 1927	\$	\$450,000.00
Due 1928		450,000.00
Due 1929		450,000.00
	\$	\$1,350,000.00
Minority Stockholders' Interest—In Subsidiary Corporations	\$750,590.30	\$757,665.21
Reserve for Depreciation and Depletion (Schedule "B")	8,064,033.25	9,381,089.87
Deferred Income	3,677.73	615.23
Capital Stock and Surplus (Schedule "A")		
402,131 shares of no par value, less 100 shares in Treasury	14,341,189.36	15,246,116.60
Contingent Liabilities at December 31 1926:		
Notes Receivable discounted, \$626,543.84. (Since paid by makers at maturity.)		
	\$23,792,872.70	\$27,682,842.52

COLUMBIAN CARBON COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES.

COMPARATIVE CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDED DEC. 31 1925-1926.

	Year 1925.	Year 1926.
Sales—Net	\$7,286,162.65	\$7,730,942.87
Cost of Sales:		
Labor, Material and Other Charges	\$2,286,499.21	\$2,122,830.51
Depreciation and Depletion for Year	1,622,727.36	1,536,525.79
Total Cost of Sales	\$3,909,226.57	\$3,659,356.30
Gross Profit on Sales	\$3,376,936.08	\$4,071,586.57
Selling, Administrative and General Expense	947,887.13	1,007,009.52
Net Profit on Sales	\$2,429,048.95	\$3,064,577.05
Other Income:		
Rentals, Interest, Dividends, Discounts, Commissions, Royalties, &c.	178,489.31	142,232.75
	\$2,607,538.26	\$3,206,809.80
Other Charges:		
Loss on Property Sold or Abandoned	93,453.03	55,300.56
Miscellaneous	37,794.95	162,876.73
Total Other Charges	\$131,247.98	\$218,177.29
Net Profit from Operations for Year	\$2,476,290.28	\$2,988,632.51
Deductions from Net Profit:		
Federal Income Tax on Earnings for Year (Estimated)	310,000.00	370,000.00
Dividends paid during year:		
By Columbian Carbon Company	1,604,909.00	1,606,954.00
By Subsidiaries to Minority Interest		77,090.00
	\$1,604,909.00	\$1,684,044.00
Balance of Profit applicable to Minority Interest	45,865.58	9,775.90
Total Deductions from Net Profit	\$1,960,774.58	\$2,063,819.90
Balance of Net Profit Credited to Surplus Account	\$515,515.70	\$924,812.61

**FAMOUS PLAYERS-LASKY CORPORATION**  
AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES.

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT,**  
YEAR 1926.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS OF JANUARY, 1 1927.

<i>ASSETS</i>	
Cash	\$6,562,913.91
Bills Receivable	153,729.43
Accounts Receivable:	
Advances to subsidiary companies (not consolidated)	\$1,081,627.34
Advances to outside producers (secured by film)	1,544,218.65
Film customers and sundries	2,558,415.26
	5,184,261.25
Inventory:	
Negatives, positives, film and supplies	\$22,276,141.79
Rights to plays, scenarios, etc	1,503,216.68
	23,779,358.47
Securities	382,888.09
Total current and working assets	\$36,063,151.15
Deposits to secure contracts	788,388.43
Investments in subsidiary and affiliated companies (not consolidated)	21,780,414.87
Land, buildings, leases and equipment, after depreciation, and after giving effect to increase in land values arising through independent appraisals of \$8,624,000.00	75,318,935.40
Deferred charges	3,628,242.79
Goodwill (after applying \$8,624,000.00 appreciation in land values, based on independent appraisals)	6,314,844.16
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$143,893,976.80</b>

<i>LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL</i>	
Bills Payable	\$5,079,594.34
Accounts Payable	2,343,653.81
Owing to subsidiary companies (not consolidated)	139,663.87
Excise taxes, payrolls and sundries	1,875,754.90
Owing to outside producers and owners of royalty rights	972,326.86
Purchase money notes and mortgage bonds, being obligations of subsidiary companies maturing serially within twelve months	2,250,303.13
Serial payments on investments due within twelve months	4,289,888.00
1926 Federal taxes (estimated)	555,179.82
Reserve for dividend declared on common stock payable Jan. 3, 1927	1,155,372.14
Reserve for dividend declared on preferred stock payable Feb. 1, 1927	154,894.00
Total current liabilities	\$18,816,630.87
Advance payments of film rentals, &c. (self-liquidating)	1,679,779.36
Purchase money notes and mortgage bonds, being obligations of subsidiary companies maturing serially after one year	33,494,366.84
Serial payments on investments due after one year (\$1,198,595.00 payable in advance of maturity on notice from holder)	13,102,455.49
Reserve for contingencies	423,247.61
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	\$67,516,480.17
Interest of minority stockholders in subsidiary companies with respect to capital and surplus	815,675.35
Capital (represented by):	
Preferred Stock:	
Issued (100,000 shares, \$100 par value)	\$10,000,000.00
Redeemed (22,550 shares)	2,255,000.00
Outstanding (77,450 shares)	7,745,000.00
Common Stock (574,590 shares of no par value)	52,083,399.05
	\$59,828,399.05
Surplus	15,733,422.23
	75,561,821.28
	<b>\$143,893,976.80</b>

Contingent mortgage liability of subsidiary companies	\$1,087,500.00
Contingent liability on investment notes discounted	2,760,000.00
	\$3,847,500.00

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED JANUARY 1, 1927.	
Profit for 12 months	\$6,100,815.71
Less: Provision for Federal taxes	500,000.00
Balance carried to surplus	\$5,600,815.71

CONSOLIDATED SURPLUS ACCOUNT AT JANUARY 1, 1927.	
Surplus at December 26, 1925	\$15,209,316.68
Add: Profit for 12 months to January 1, 1927, after providing for Federal taxes, as above	5,600,815.71
	\$20,810,132.39
Less Dividends:	
On common stock (paid and reserved in 1926)	\$4,443,640.16
On preferred stock (paid and reserved in 1926)	633,070.00
	5,076,710.16
Surplus at January 1, 1927	<b>\$15,733,422.23</b>

We have examined the accounts of the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation and its subsidiaries for the twelve months ending January 1, 1927, 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 January 1, 1927, and the earnings for the twelve months ending on that date.

March 14, 1927.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.

## HAYES WHEEL COMPANY

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1926.

Jackson, Michigan, March 5 1927.

To the Stockholders—

The position of your company as at December 31 1926 is set forth in the Balance Sheet submitted herewith, and the net earnings for the year ending that date are shown in the accompanying statement of Profit and Loss. The books and accounts of the Company have been audited, as in previous years, by Price, Waterhouse & Company, Public Accountants, a copy of whose certificate appears on the last page of this report [pamphlet].

Sales for the year totaled \$9,753,481, compared with \$16,484,833 in 1925. This decline was occasioned largely by the fact that some of the Company's largest customers are now making part of their wheel requirements. Coupled with this, there was a marked decline in selling prices, reflecting the keen competition which has prevailed in the wheel industry during the past year. Notwithstanding the difficult situation with which the Company had to contend, full provisions for maintenance and for depreciation of plant and equipment have been made, and there has been no diminution of appropriations or effort for the constant improvement of processes.

The result is reflected in net profits after depreciation and maintenance and State and Federal taxes, which for the year amounted to \$308,321. In view of this condition and until the trend of business is more clearly defined, the Board of Directors has considered it conservative and in the best interests of the stockholders to pass for the time being the dividend on the Non Par Common Stock of the Company.

The Company closes the year in excellent financial condition, with current assets of approximately \$3,745,000, including \$1,800,000 of cash items, against \$374,000 of current liabilities, which includes no indebtedness to banks. The entire amount of First Mortgage Bonds outstanding at the beginning of the year, amounting to \$559,100, was called for retirement and cancelled at February 1 1926 and during the year Preferred Stock in the amount of \$554,300 was also purchased for retirement.

There never has been a time when the Company's plants and equipment were in better condition for efficient operation in every department. Inventories are conservatively valued, free from all obsolescence, and, as will be noted, based upon the year's sales, represent less than two months' supply.

No effort is being spared by your management in striving to effect all possible increase in efficiency and economy without impairing the organization, with the result that overhead has been materially reduced. At the same time, the Company has been broadening its lines of output. It is not only producing a complete line of automotive wheels in wood, wire and disc, with composite hub, effecting economy to the car manufacturer, but also a complete line of wheels for commercial vehicles; all types of rims for both passenger and commercial vehicles; and is now manufacturing wire wheels for the majority of the airplane manufacturers of this country.

Respectfully submitted,

C. B. HAYES, *President.*

## HAYES WHEEL COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES.

## STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1926.

Sales	\$9,753,481.12
Deduct—Manufacturing cost of sales, general and selling expenses	9,493,890.72
Profit from operations	\$259,590.40
Add—Other Income:	
Discount on purchases, interest earned, &c.	132,038.68
Together	\$391,629.08
Deduct—Cash discount on sales	10,133.12
Total profits and income from operations	\$381,495.96
Deduct—	
Interest on first mortgage bonds	\$3,197.18
Premium paid on bonds retired (entire issue redeemed as of February 1 1926)	13,977.50
	17,174.68
Balance, profit before providing for Federal income tax	\$364,321.28
Deduct—Provision for Federal income tax	56,000.00
Balance, net profit carried to the surplus account	\$308,321.28

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31 1926.

ASSETS.	
Property Account:	
Land, buildings, machinery and equipment, &c., partly at cost and partly at values as appraised in 1920 and 1921 by Coats & Burchard Company, plus net additions since—	
Land	\$154,837.54
Buildings	1,842,835.10
Machinery and equipment	4,091,415.04
Office furniture and equipment	93,047.29
Automobile equipment	39,796.89
Together	\$6,221,931.86
Less—Reserve for depreciation	2,882,266.42
	\$3,339,665.44
Plant located at Flint, Michigan, stated at estimated realizable value	125,000.00
	\$3,464,665.44
Trade Name, Patents and Good-will	1.00
Miscellaneous Investments (at cost)	102,049.38
Current Assets:	
Inventories of raw and work materials and supplies on hand and in transit, at cost or market, whichever is lower	\$1,525,255.34
Accounts receivable, less reserve	414,183.63
Amounts owing by officers and employees	4,616.52
Cash surrender value of life insurance	160,057.52
Cash in banks and on hand	1,640,809.44
	3,744,922.45
Deferred Charges to Future Operations:	
Unexpired insurance premiums, advances, &c.	23,694.95
	\$7,335,333.22
LIABILITIES.	
Capital Stock:	
7½% cumulative preferred (authorized 20,000 shares) par \$100.00—11,355 shares	\$1,135,500.00
Less—500 shares purchased for retirement	50,000.00
	\$1,085,500.00
Common—(authorized 200,000 shares) no par value—200,000 shares	\$2,000,000.00
Less—2,956 shares in treasury, at cost	26,045.37
	1,973,954.63
	\$3,059,454.63
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	\$218,359.53
Accrued payrolls, royalties, local taxes, &c.	99,612.37
Provision for 1926 Federal income tax	56,000.00
	373,971.90
Surplus:	
Balance at January 1 1926	\$4,352,244.44
Add—Adjustments in respect of Federal income and profits taxes for prior years, &c.	\$22,789.62
Net profit for the year ended December 31 1926, per statement attached	308,321.28
Together	331,110.90
	\$4,683,355.34
Deduct—	
Premium paid on preferred stock purchased for retirement	\$32,319.68
Dividends paid—	
On preferred stock \$108,735.97	
On common stock—	
\$3.25 per share. 640,393.00	640,393.00
	749,128.97
	781,448.65
	\$3,901,906.69
	\$7,335,333.22

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & COMPANY  
Dime Bank Building  
Detroit, Michigan

February 10 1927.

To the Stockholders of the

Hayes Wheel Company, Jackson, Michigan:—

We have examined the books and accounts of the Hayes Wheel Company and its principal subsidiary companies for the year ended December 31 1926 and certify that the attached consolidated balance sheet and statement of profit and loss have been correctly prepared therefrom.

We have satisfied ourselves that only actual additions and extensions to the properties during the year have been added to the capital accounts and that adequate provision has been made for accruing renewals and depreciation.

The inventories of raw materials, work in progress and finished stock on hand at December 31 1926, as certified by responsible officials, have been valued at cost or market prices, whichever were lower at that date.

The cash and securities have been verified by actual count or inspection or by certificates from the depositaries and adequate provision has been made for bad and doubtful accounts and for all ascertained liabilities, and

WE CERTIFY, That in our opinion, the balance sheet and relative statement of profit and loss are properly drawn up so as to show the financial position of the combined companies on December 31 1926, and the results from operations for the year ended on that date.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE &amp; CO.

## FREEPORT TEXAS COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES.

ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE YEAR ENDED NOVEMBER 30 1926.

*Wilmington, Delaware, March 7 1927.*

*To the Stockholders of the Freeport Texas Company:*

Throughout the fiscal year ended November 30 1926 your Company produced sulphur continuously from both the Bryanmound and Hoskins Mound deposits, the total production approximately 600,000 tons, about equally divided between the two properties.

Of the total plant capacity of 23,800 rated H.P. at Bryanmound, 14,000 rated H.P. was in service at the end of the year, these boilers having been converted for burning of gas in substitution of fuel oil. In addition, boilers of 2,800 rated H.P. are now being converted for gas burning and will be put in operation during the present month.

Increased steaming capacity is desirable because of the fact that shipments for the fiscal year exceeded production, although very slightly, stocks being reduced during the period by approximately 7,000 tons. The requirements for 1927 will considerably exceed those for 1926 and will be met by utilization of whatever reserve boiler capacity is needed.

During the past year, geophysical research to more accurately determine the total dome area covered by both Bryanmound and Hoskins Mound properties, has proven areas of potential sulphur-bearing formation—far greater than heretofore considered probable. There are ample reserves to support production for a long period of years.

Success in controlling the escape of hot water in the porous Hoskins Mound formation has been increasingly demonstrated during the year—the sealing of cavities and channels by the injection of mud under heavy pressure, having proven so effective as to no longer leave any doubt as to the ability to control underground flows by this method.

The most important factor during the year, as to increased economy in operations, was the substitution of natural gas for fuel. A contract of five years' duration was made with the Houston Pipe Line Company at a price for gas which, compared with the present prices for fuel oil, will effect a saving of approximately \$2,000 per day in total fuel costs. To accomplish this, it was necessary to advance to the Pipe Line Company \$750,000 and to expend \$125,277.20 in boiler conversion costs. The loan to the Pipe Line Company is being repaid in monthly installments and will be entirely returned by October 1927.

From the main system of the Pipe Line Company carrying gas from the Southwest Texas gas field, a 16-inch line was laid to Bryanmound via Hoskins Mound—a total of 54 miles. The reserves of gas under control of the Houston Pipe Line Company are considered fully adequate for a period much beyond the life of the present contract. The Hoskins plant, being the first reached by the pipe line, is now receiving its full fuel requirements, while Bryanmound at the moment is supplied to the extent of about 40%. Bryanmound will receive its full supply of gas about March 15 1927, when the compressor station of the Pipe Line Company at Edna, Texas, will have been completed.

When both properties are fully supplied with gas, the total saving, as stated above, will approximate \$1 per share per annum on the capital stock of your Company.

The demand for crude sulphur is strong at \$18 per ton at the mines and \$22 and \$22.50 per ton Eastern seaboard.

The Company's low-priced contracts have largely been fulfilled so that the realization per ton is now at a higher level than for many years past. A still higher level will be realized during the year 1927, as the remaining low-priced contracts now on the books of the Company are completed.

All foreign tonnage is sold through the Sulphur Export Corporation, which was organized in October 1922, except sales to Canada, which are excluded from the operations of the Export Corporation and are handled as domestic business. The operations of the Export Corporation have been most satisfactory. Since its organization, foreign markets have been stabilized and prices advanced in excess of \$5 per ton. Realizations from foreign sales are now somewhat higher than from domestic sales.

The world's consumption of sulphur is estimated at about 1,900,000 tons; of this, Japan produces and consumes about

30/40,000 tons. The remainder, or approximately 1,860,000 tons, is now being supplied by the two American producers and Italy. However, Italy's production, for several years past has been steadily declining, leaving a comparatively small export balance after supplying her own needs. Thus a unique industrial situation exists in that all but about 15% of the world's production is mined by the two American companies.

As shown by the consolidated balance sheet of your Company mailed to stockholders February 17 1927 there are no current liabilities beyond those of the regular routine of business; no bank indebtedness, bonds or preferred stock outstanding.

During the fiscal period, the Company's cash was depleted in the total amount of \$1,942,576.40, consisting of \$1,276,728.43 paid to the United States Government on February 19 1926 for additional tax assessment for the year 1918; \$125,277.20 for conversion of boilers for the burning of gas, and \$540,570.77 on account of loan to the Houston Pipe Line Company. These were extraordinary expenditures and will not recur.

A substantial refund against taxes paid for 1917 is due the Company by the United States Government and is now in process of adjustment. Payment within a short time is expected.

There has been no change in the fleet of vessels. The tankers which have been engaged in transporting oil from Mexico will not hereafter be so fully occupied in this trade, due to the substitution of gas for fuel oil, but will be limited to refinery requirements. At present there is a good market for tanker charters to profitably employ any excess capacity. No mortgage or other indebtedness exists against the fleet.

Consideration by your Board of Directors is being given to the sale of one of the tankers.

The refinery located at Bryanmound returned a fair profit for the fiscal year and, as heretofore stated, its entire cost was long ago returned through earnings.

Your Company's subsidiary, La Espuela Oil Company, did not increase production during the year. Under existing conditions in Mexico, no drilling was carried on. Owing to the substitution of gas for fuel, demands on La Espuela have lessened and its entire production goes to the refinery at Bryanmound.

The injunction sought to prevent issuance of bonds by the Brazos River Navigation District to improve Freeport Harbor was denied by the United States District Court in a unanimous opinion rendered by Judges Hutcheson, Foster and Sheppard. An appeal from this decision was taken to the United States Supreme Court and was dismissed February 21 1927 for lack of jurisdiction. Whether there will be further attempts to delay the improvement is not yet clear. However, great confidence is felt in the result of this litigation being favorable to port improvement.

The extent to which the port is used at present is dependent upon varying conditions of the Brazos River. Total shipments by water during the calendar year consisted of 461,633 tons, of which 308,503 tons, or 66.8%, were loaded at Freeport with the depth of water ranging from 14 to 19 feet only; the remainder, or 153,130 tons, was shipped by rail for loading at Texas City, incurring an additional cost of approximately \$1 per ton. One hundred and twenty-one vessels were loaded, wholly or in part, at Freeport. Shipments by vessel were made to the Atlantic seaboard, the Pacific Coast and the Gulf of Mexico, and to foreign ports through the Sulphur Export Corporation.

The Sulphur Export Corporation made shipments during the fiscal period to the following destinations: Africa, Algeria, Argentina, Australasia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dutch East Indies, Esthonia, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, India, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

With dependable water of project depth, all vessel tonnage will be handled over the Company's docks at Freeport at great saving in rail, wharfage and extra handling charges.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

E. P. SWENSON, *President.*

## The Commercial Markets and the Crops

COTTON—SUGAR—COFFEE—GRAIN—PROVISIONS  
PETROLEUM—RUBBER—HIDES—METALS—DRY GOODS—WOOL—ETC.

### COMMERCIAL EPITOME

[The introductory remarks formerly appearing here will now be found in an earlier part of the paper immediately following the editorial matter, in a department headed "INDICATIONS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY."]

Friday Night, March 18 1927.

COFFEE on the spot was steady early with Santos 4s at 18½c. and Rio 7s at 15¾ to 16c. Rio and Santos cables were firm or slightly higher. Rio on the 17th inst. was 75 to 150 reis higher; exchange 5 61-64d.; dollars, 88310 at both points. Brazil was not offering coffee on the 12th inst. and the cost-and-freight market was steady and unchanged at about ½c. higher. Santos offers for prompt shipment included Bourbon 4s at 17.05 to 17.35c.; 5s at 16.60c.; 5-6s at 16.60c.; genuine Bourbon 3-5s at 17.45c.; 3s at 18¾c.; 4-5s at 16.80 to 16.90c.; 6-7s at 16.20c.; Bourbon separations 6-7s at 15.70c.; 7-8s at 14.60c.; part 3-5s at 16.85 to 17½c.; 6s at 16½c.; Peaberry 4-5s at 17.05c.; Rio 7s at 15 to 15.40c.

Later spot trade was small but prices were firm with the lower grades of Brazilian scarce. Rio 7s, 16¼c.; Santos 4s, 18 to 18½c. Cost and freights were in better supply and easier on the 16th. For prompt shipment offers included Santos Bourbon 2-3s at 18 to 18¼c.; 3s at 17¾ to 18½c.; 3-4s at 17.05 to 17.70c.; 3-5s at 16.95 to 17.35c.; 4-5s at 16½ to 16.95c.; 5-6s at 16.45c.; 6s at 16.35c.; 7-8s at 15.80c.; part Bourbon or flat bean 2-3s at 18½c.; 3s at 17½ to 18.40c.; 3-4s at 17.20 to 17¾c.; 3-5s at 16¾ to 17¼c.; 5-6s at 16¼c.; 6s at 16½c.; peaberry 3-4s at 17½c. 4s at 17¼c.; 4-5s at 17.05c.; Rio 7s at 15.10 to 15.15c.; 7-8s at 14.85c.; 8s at 14.60c., and Victoria 7-8s at 14.80c.; 8s at 14.60c., and Victoria 7-8s at 14.80c. Santos Bourbon 4s for March-April shipment, 16¾c.; 4s for March-May at 16½c. and 4s, part Bourbon for April, at 16¾c.

Still later, spot trade was not brisk, but prices were firm. For prompt shipment Santos Bourbon 3s, 17¾ to 18¾c.; 3-5s at 16¾ to 17.30c.; 4-5s at 16.65 to 16.95c.; 5s at 16½c.; 6s at 16.35c.; Bourbon separations 6-7s at 15.85c.; 7-8s at 14.70 to 15.90c.; part Bourbon or flat bean 2-3s at 18½c. to 19.45c.; peaberry 4-5s at 17.05c.; Rio 7s at 15.10 to 15.15c.; 7-8s at 14.85c.; 8s at 14.60c.; Victoria 7-8s at 14.70c.; Santos part Bourbon 4s for December shipment were offered at 15¾c. Mild coffee was in moderate demand and steady. Fair to good Cucuta 18¼ to 20½c.; washed 23 to 25c.; Bucaramanga natural 24 to 25c.; washed 23 to 24½c.; Honda 23¼ to 24c.; Medellin 26¼ to 27c.; Manizalles 24½ to 25½c.; Mexican, washed, 27 to 27½c.; Mandheling 36½ to 39c.; genuine Java 34 to 35c.; Robusta washed 17½ to 17¾c.; Mocha 26½ to 27½c.; Harrar 26 to 26½c.; Costa Rica good 26 to 27c.; Guatemala, prime, 25½ to 26½c.; good 24½ to 25c.; Bourbon 22 to 23c.

Futures early in the week were unchanged to 20 points lower. The sales on the 15th inst. were 34,000 bags. The Brazilian cables were steady but the feeling here was uncertain. Demand does not much increase. People are awaiting further developments. Impending big crops are a damper, though it is said that Santos looks with greater favor on the policy of the Defense Committee. Rio receipts, it is said, will be limited by the authorities. But nobody was inclined to take the aggressive. In general operators and others were seemingly acting on the old maxim "When in doubt do nothing."

In the opinion of some, exchange rates have practically ceased to be a factor in making prices, unless the attempt to stabilize should prove a failure. The market accommodated itself to the proposed rates and much depends now on whether exporters become anxious to sell in discounting the coming large crop of Santos or not. Present prices, some think, are cheap with the chances in favor of higher spot prices. To some there seems no reason why normal stocks should not be carried. The market, according to one view, seems to be slowly but surely shaping itself to the new crop position in Brazil. The trade, it is contended will be able to satisfy their immediate needs with lower Santos offers lately current, together with the good supplies of mild coffees arriving.

Some contend that if the figures recently issued by the Department of Commerce can be taken as a criterion, the trade here must ere long buy more freely to meet the increase in consumption indicated by these figures. They show that the importations from Brazil only were 7,676,946 bags in 1926, or 16.2% greater than those for the preceding year. The visible supply for this country is nearly 100,000 bags smaller and the invisibles from all indications far below the average for the season. These are considered by some as factors to offset the prospective big crops for 1927-28 and the popular doubt as to the stability of Government control in Brazil. Big discounts on the distant months some think nullify the bearish factors.

Liverpool advices said: "We are not optimistic about a recovery of the price. Conservative estimates indicate about 21,000,000 bags for the total of the next Brazil's

crop. The most invigorating stimulus to the market would be the stabilization of the Brazilian currency. It is a matter that can only be completed, we think, at a much later period, being of that momentous nature which is of necessity slow in maturing." To-day futures closed 2 to 10 points lower with sales of 27,250 bags. March was liquidated with some freedom. Cost and freight offers were steady; Santos 4-5s were 17.15c. and upward; Rio 7s, 15.20c. The cables were very dull. Final prices here were 2 points lower to 25 points higher, the latter on March, than a week ago.

Spot unofficial 16-¼ | May-----13.87@ ---- | September 12.05@ 12.06  
March-----14.80@ ---- | July-----12.85@ ---- | December 11.60@ ----

SUGAR.—Early in the week rumors were afloat that prompt Cuba sold on the 14th inst. at 3 1-16c. c. & f. The tone on the 15th inst. was weaker on raw sugar. Sales were confirmed of 125,000 bags at 3c., including Porto Ricos in port and near due, Philippine due March 19, Cuba loading and prompt. Larger sales than the above are believed to have been made. Futures on the 15th inst. declined 1 to 3 points on this crop, while closing unchanged on the next; sales, 83,000 tons. Some tired bulls let go. Cuba, Europe and New York sold. Some leading Cuban interests bought. Outsiders also bought.

On the 16th inst. offerings at 3c. were much larger and finally 2 31-32c. was accepted as futures fell 5 to 9 points on transactions of 92,150 tons. Of prompt Cuban raws 35,000 bags sold at 2 31-32c. c. & f. or 4.74c. delivered; 2,000 tons of Philippines due early in April are said to have sold at 4.71c. or 2 15-16c. c. & f. Cuban basis. Prompt sugar prices hinge on development in futures. European cables were weak. Cubas for March shipment were offered at 19s 9½d. perhaps less but near shipments were dull. Three cargoes for May shipment to Europe sold at 14s 11½d. c. i. f. Refined was dull at 5.90 to 6.20c. the lower price for prompt shipment.

Liberal offerings of nearby Porto Ricos seemed to encourage buyers to hold aloof in expectation of lower prices. Dulness of trade in refined sugar was perhaps one of the most discouraging factors. Some stress the fact that Cuban production is progressing rapidly, practically half of the crop under the limitation decree being finished, and add that it is expected that the smaller centrals will commence closing down in the near future.

New Orleans opinion is that the market is gradually working into a condition where bullish factors will assert themselves. Traders are waiting for the peak of the Cuban crop movement to pass and anticipating the time when consumption will increase. Free offerings from Java may hold the market in check for a while, but there is an undercurrent of confidence noticeable which is reflected in good support, especially on depressions. If Europeans are liberal buyers, as they are likely to be, since stocks abroad are reported to be running comparatively light, American buying when it develops may be difficult to satisfy, except perhaps at higher prices eventually. Some say they concur with the U. S. Department of Agriculture in its recent statement that the ultimate trend of sugar prices will be towards a higher level, but they think that this may not become plain until later on, when stocks are ordinarily much reduced.

A feature was the big trading in futures on the 17th inst. when the total sales at the Exchange were estimated at 133,100 tons including 40,000 July and 42,000 September. Cuban interests are supposed to have sold largely. Prices declined 6 to 10 points. A trade commission house bought some 20,000 tons supposedly hedging sales to Europe. Prices rallied and closed 1 to 6 points lower. Prompt Cuban sugars sold at 2 31-32c. for 15,000 bags to Boston. To-day futures closed 1 to 9 points higher with sales of 69,800 tons. Prompt raws were offered at 3c. with bids generally 2¾c. Refined was slow. Futures closed 15 to 20 points lower than a week ago.

Spot unofficial 2 15-16 | July-----3.10@ 3.11 | December---3.12@ ---  
March-----2.90@ --- | September---3.20@ --- | January-----2.92@ ---  
May-----3.00@ ---

LARD on the spot was steady for a time with a fair demand; prime Western, c.&f. New York, 13.10 to 13.20c. in tierces; compound carlots in tierces, New York, 11c.; refined Continent, 13¾c.; South America, 14¾c.; Brazil, 15¾c. Spot on the 17th inst. was 12.95 to 13.05c. for prime Western; refined Continent, 13¼c.; South American, 14¼c.; Brazil, 15¼c. Futures declined slightly on the 15th inst. with hogs lower. Packers are supposed to have recently sold out long holdings. Later pressure from this source decreased. The stock at Chicago on March 15 was 30,749,920 lbs., against 29,477,439 on March 1, an increase of 1,272,481 for the first half of the month. On March 15 a year ago the total was 23,556,718 lbs. An increase for the first part of the month this year of about 1,500,000 lbs. had been expected.

In Chicago offerings of lard were light at one time and a little commission house buying caused an advance. The improvement attracted some outside selling and the market showed a tendency to sag. The large hog run at Chicago, however, was partially offset by light receipts at several Western points, supposedly due to bad condition of roads caused by heavy rains last week. Futures on the 17th inst. were 2 to 3 points lower with hogs off 10 to 15c.; receipts, 126,300, against 113,300 a week ago and 113,800 last year. A rise to-day was due to buying by commission houses and packers and a firmer tone for cash lard. Hogs were generally steady with the top \$11.80. Western hog receipts were \$6,000, against 77,000 a year ago. Final prices show a decline for the week of 2 to 5 points.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF LARD FUTURES IN CHICAGO
Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri.
March delivery, May delivery, July delivery

PORK quiet; mess, \$37.50; family, \$39.50 to \$41.50; fat back pork, \$30 to \$33. Ribs, Chicago, cash, 16.50c., basis of 40 to 60 lbs. average. Beef, firm; mess, \$19 to \$21; packet, \$19 to \$21; family, \$21 to \$22; extra India mess, \$34 to \$36; No. 1 canned corned beef, \$2.50; No. 2, \$4.25; 6 lbs., South America, \$12.75. Cut meats, steady; pickled hams, 10 to 20 lbs., 22 1/4 to 22 3/4c.; pickled bellies, 6 to 12 lbs., 21 3/4 to 23 3/4c.; bellies, clear, dry salted, boxed, 18 to 20 lbs., 18 7/8c.; 14 to 16 lbs., 19 1/4c. Butter, lower grade to high scoring, 45 1/2 to 48 1/2c. Cheese, 23 to 28c. Eggs, medium to extra, 23 1/2 to 30c.

OILS.—Linseed of late has been quiet and easier. Raw oil in earlots, cooerage basis, was quoted at 10.5c., but business could have been done, it is said, at 10.3c. on a firm bid. Spot tank cars were quoted at 9.7c, but 9.5c. would have been accepted; in lots of 5 barrels and more, 10.9c. to 11.1c. was asked. Coconut, oil, barrels, spot, 10 to 10 1/4c.; Manila, coast tanks, 8c.; spot tanks, 8 3/8c.; China wood, New York drums, spot, 32c.; Pacific Coast tanks, spot, 26 1/2c.; Corn, crude tanks, plant, low acid, 8 1/4c.; Olive, Den., \$1.75; Soya bean, 9 1/2c.; blown barrel, 14c. Lard, prime, 15 1/4c.; extra strained winter, New York, 13 3/4c. Cod, Newfoundland, 63 to 65c. Turpentine, 75 to 81c. Rosin, \$10.60 to \$17.75. Cottonseed oil sales to-day, including switches, 18,200 barrels. P. Crude S. E., 7 5/8c. Prices closed as follows:

Spot, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October
Table with columns for months and prices

PETROLEUM.—The Standard Oil Co. of New York on the 15th reduced the tank wagon price of gasoline 1c. throughout its territory. The new price is now 20c. Gulf markets were tending lower. Jobbers were holding off. Exporters are doing little. On the 13th inst. the Standard Oil of New Jersey gasoline fell 1c. Mid-Continent crude dropped 10 to 35c. Cuts in other grades were expected. And on the 14th inst. Central crudes fell 10 to 13c. Ohio Oil Co. cut Wyoming 17 to 22c. Bunker oil was \$1.75 at local refineries. Kerosene has been very weak. Refiners at one time quoted 8c. for 41-43 gravity. In California to-day the first price change was made in gasoline. California General Petroleum and Gilmore Oil reduced prices 2c. to meet the differential of 6c. quoted to dealers by the Union Oil Co. At reduced prices export gasoline was in sharp demand. France wants four mixed cargoes. Kerosene was in fair demand with 41-43 gravity prime white 6 3/4c.; 44 water white, 7 3/4c., with exporters rather more inclined to take hold. New Orleans says Gulf gasoline was weak with U. S. Motor freely offered at 8c. Elk Basin, Grass Creek, light, Lance Creek and Wyoming crudes were reduced 22c. by the Ohio Oil Co. Big Muddy and Rock Creek, Wyoming, were cut 17c. and Artesia, New Mexico, crude 20c.

New York export prices: Gasoline, cases, cargo lots, U. S. Motor specifications, deodorized 25.65c.; bulk 10 1/2c.; Kerosene, cargo lots, S. W. cases 17.65c.; bulk 41-43, 8c.; W. W. 150 deg. cases 18.65c.; bulk 43-45, 8 1/4c.; Bunker Oil, f. o. b. dock \$1.75; Diesel oil, Bayonne, bbl. \$2.50; Gas oil, Bayonne, tank cars, 28-34 degrees 6c.; 36-40 deg. 6 1/2c.; Furnace Oil, bulk, refinery 7 1/2c.; Kerosene, tank wagon to store 16c.; bulk, W. W. del. N. Y. cars 9 1/4c.; refinery 43-45 gravity 8 1/4c.; prime white 41-43 del. tanks 9c.; refinery 8c.; Motor gasoline, garages (steel bbls.) 20c.; Up-State 20c.; single cars, del. 11 1/2c.; Naphtha, V. M. P. Deodorized in steel bbls. 21c.

Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas— Elk Basin, Big Muddy, Lance Creek, Grass Creek, Louisiana and Arkansas— Bellvue, Cotton Valley, Somerset Light, Pennsylvania, Buckeye, Eureka, Cornlna, Bradford, Illinois, Cabell, Lima, Ragland, Wortham, 40 deg., Indiana, Plymouth, Rock Creek, Princeton, Wooster, Smackover, 27 deg., Canadian, Gulf Coastal "A", Corsicana heavy, Artesia
Table with columns for oil types and prices

RUBBER.—March here on the 12th inst. rose 100 points on active tradi g. The total sales of all months were 690 tons. The bull points were the talk of an advance in tire prices in April and expectations of a bullish statement for February on consumption stocks and imports by the Rubber Association. Outside trade was not large but prices were strong. Spot to April standard was 1/4c. higher; also lesser

plantations, including No. 3 amber and rolled and flat brown crepe. Para was much firmer. Caucho Ball rose 1/2c. At the Exchange here on the 12th inst. March closed at 41.30c.; April at 41.60c.; May at 42c.; June at 42.40c., and July at 42.80c. Outside prices: Ribbed smoke spot and March, 41 3/4 to 42c.; April, 42 to 42 1/4c.; April-June, 42 1/4 to 42 3/8c.; July-September, 43 to 43 1/4c.; October-December, 43 5/8 to 44c.; first latex crepe, 42 to 43 3/8c.; clean, thin, brown crepe, 33 3/4 to 39c.; specky brown crepe, 37 3/4c.; No. 2 amber, 39 3/4c.; No. 3 amber, 38 3/4 to 39c.; No. 4 amber, 38 1/4c.; rolled brown, 34 3/4 to 35c.; Paras, up-river, fine, spot, 33 1/2 to 34c.; coarse, 26 to 26 1/2c. Caucho ball, upper, 28 to 28 1/2c.; Island fine, 30c. London on the 12th inst. rose 1/8 to 1/4c. Spot and March 20 3/8d. to 20 1/2d.; April-June, 20 5/8d. to 20 3/4d.; July-September, 21 1/4 to 21 5/8d.; October-December, 21 3/4 to 21 7/8d.

On the 14th inst. New York dropped 25 to 50 points on increased stocks in this country and lower London prices. The February report of the Rubber Association of America stated stocks on hand of 91,186 tons on Feb. 28, an increase of 17,086 tons over Jan. 31. It was a bolt from the blue. Both New York and London felt it. The consumption, however, in February of 30,137 tons showed a decrease of only 1,363 tons; afloat fell off 3,034 tons. The London stock showed another increase of 1,571 tons last week, but this was not unexpected. It had no effect. The average spot price was set at the close of business at 19.368d., a further increase of 0.110 point from Wednesday. In London on March 14 the stock was 61,516 tons. The London Board of Trade announced that imports into the United Kingdom during February totaled 27,492,000 lbs. and exports 10,262,000 lbs. Of the exports 2,955,600 lbs. were to America.

On the 14th inst. London closed with spot and March 20 1/4d. to 20 3/8d.; April-June, 20 1/2d. to 20 5/8d.; July-September, 21d. to 21 1/2d.; October-December, 21 1/2d. to 21 5/8d. Singapore on the 14th was 1/4 to 3/8d. higher after a holiday; spot, 20d.; April-June, 20 1/2d.; July-September, 21 1/2d. New York ended on the 14th inst. with March at 41.30c.; April at 41.60c.; May at 41.70c., and June at 42c. Outside prices: Spot and March, 41 3/8 to 41 5/8c.; April, 41 3/4 to 42c.; first latex crepe, 41 3/4 to 42c.; clean, thin, brown crepe, 38 3/4 to 39c.

New York on the 16th inst. advanced 10 to 60 points with London leading the rise, being up 1/8 to 1/4d. though not active. But New York reported a good demand, trade and speculative. Summer months were the most wanted. New York ended on the 16th inst. with March at 41.30c.; April at 41.90c. and May at 42.10c. Outside prices for Spot and March 41 3/4 to 42c.; April 42 to 42 1/4c.; April-June 42 1/2 to 42 3/4c.; July-Sept. 43 1/4 to 43 1/2c.; Oct.-Dec. 43 7/8 to 44 1/4c.; First latex crepe 42 to 42 1/4c.; clean thin brown crepe 38 3/4 to 39c. London Spot and March 20 3/8 to 20 1/4d.; April-June 20 3/4 to 20 7/8d.; Singapore March 19 3/4d.; April, May-June 20 3/4d.

Stocks, it is pointed out, have been increasing without interruption in the United States since August 1926, when they totaled 60,870 tons. At the end of September they were 62,078, October 65,989, November 69,385, December 72,510 and January 74,100 tons. Statisticians in the local rubber market yesterday laid the heavy February increase to the January imports, which reached the record total of 45,736 tons, while the January and February consumption fell below last year's figures for these months.

New York on the 17th inst. was dull and fell 30 to 40 points at the Exchange but spot remained at 42c.; sales, 382 tons, gainst 710 the day before. Para was steady; up-river rose 1/2c. to 33 to 33 1/2c.; coarse, 25 1/2 to 26c.; Caucho ball upper, 28 to 29c.; Island fine, 29 1/2c. Here May was 41.80c.; June, 42.10c. London opened higher and reacted in a quiet market; spot and March, 20 3/8 to 20 1/2d. Singapore, March 20 1/4d., a rise of 1/2d. New York to-day closed unchanged on most months with March up 10 and July off 10 points; March, 41.10c.; May, 41.80c.; June, 42.10c.; July, 42.40c.; October, 43.10c.; spot, 41.70c.

HIDES.—River Plate frigorifico are said to have been in rather better demand from American buyers, but Europe has latterly been indifferent. Prices fell; 2,500 Sansinena, 19 kilos average, sold at \$36, or 16 1/2c. c.&f. Last week's sales were 32,000 Argentine steers at 17 1/2 to 17 3/4c. c.&f.; 4,000 Montevideo steers at \$40, or 18 1/2c. c.&f. Most of the buying was for United States account. Common dry hides were quiet; Orinoco, 20 3/4c.; Savannilla, 20 1/2c. City packer were in slightly better demand; spready native steers, 15c.; native steers, 14c.; butt brands, 13 1/2c.; Colordos, 13c. New York City calfskins quiet. Stocks of skins with the exception of 7-9s are small. The asking price for 5-7s was \$1.85; 9-12s, \$2.65 to \$2.70; 7-9s, \$1.85. Later 4,000 Anglo Campana steers sold at \$37.50, or 17 1/2c. c.&f. A lot of 8,000 steers also sold at that price.

OCEAN FREIGHTS.—Grain rates tended downward. Less demand appeared for full cargoes. Later 11 1/4c. was accepted for cotton and \$3 for coal. Later demand from all trades was poor. London had a good River Plate business.

CHARTERS included time prompt across the Atlantic, delivery United States, 2.75c.; lumber North Pacific to Japan, \$10.25; grain, early April, Vancouver to Portugal, 38s.; sugar, Santo Domingo to United Kingdom-Continent, March, 23s.; time charter, West Indies, 6 or 7 months, \$1.50; another 4 months, \$1.70; asphalt, bulk, March, New York to French Atlantic, 21s.; nitrate, April, nitrate ports to South Atlantic, \$6; to North Atlantic, \$6.25; lumber, North Pacific to Cuba, April, \$16; Grays Harbor to Australia, \$15; coal, prompt, Hampton Roads to Rio, \$4.50;



sugar, refined, New Orleans to United Kingdom, 24c. one port, 25c. two ports; tankers, Tampico to North of Hatteras, prompt, 51c., it is stated; lumber, April, Gulf to Buenos Aires-Rosario, \$18, with options; asphalt, March, Gulf to Rotterdam-Hamburg, \$5; grain, Rosario to United Kingdom-Continent, excluding Portland, 27s. 6d.; Antwerp-Rotterdam, 6d. less.

TOBACCO has been steady with the supply of fillers said to be small, especially Wisconsin and Ohio. In fact, this applies to all States, it is said, except Pennsylvania. New crops are said to be none too promising. Florida wrappers are reported scarce and in other States they are not plentiful. The demand is fair. Wisconsin, 25 to 45c.; Ohio, 21 to 30c.; New York, 45c. for seconds; Pennsylvania broadleaf filler, 10c.; broadleaf binder, 15 to 20c.; Porto Rico, 75c. to \$1.10; Connecticut top leaf, 21c.; No. 1 seconds, 1925 crop, 65c.; 1924 crop, 34 to 40c.; seed fillers, 20c.; medium wrappers, 65c.; dark wrappers, 1925 crop, 40c.; 1924 crop, 28c.

COAL.—Soft coal prices have declined as there were rumors that the output will continue in soft coal fields after April 1 by districts. It may be continued throughout the entire field. Some now doubt whether there will be a strike. The highest grades fell 10c. early in the week. Pittsburgh thinks production will be suspended. Others think that the state of trade does not favor a strike and that the labor leaders know it. Navy standard, piers, \$5.50 to \$6; Navy supplementary, \$5.25 to \$5.50; superior low volatile, \$5.10 to \$5.35; high grade, low volatile, \$4.70 to \$4.80; ordinary low volatile, \$4.30 to \$4.70; high grade, medium volatile, \$4.50 to \$4.80; high volatile steam, \$4.20 to \$4.60; low sulphur gas, \$5.10 to \$5.30. Anthracite summer price reductions are spreading; some are as much as 80c. The lowest summer price quoted thus far for stove size is \$8.75 and for pea \$6. Of the reductions 25c. is to be replaced June 1 on the three larger sizes and 25c. on Sept. 1. Later smokeless declined. Smokeless, prime, low volatile coal sold, it seems, at as low as \$1.85 run of mine. It is quoted at \$1.75 to \$2.25 at Chicago and \$2 to \$2.25 Cincinnati. The tidewater price of \$4.50 to \$4.75 includes rail charge of \$2.62. Pocahontas and New River producers quote their run of mine at \$2.25 f.o.b. cars at the mine and ask \$3 for lump, egg and stove. Prices are off 25 to 50c.

COPPER was quoted at 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, delivered to Connecticut Valley by leading producers. Sales were said to have been made, however, at slightly under that price. Demand was lacking. In fact it is so small that the market is virtually untested. Production of crude copper in February in the United States was 69,031 tons, against 76,198 in January. Blister copper produced from scrap in February totaled 2,502 tons, against 2,230 in January. The export price was 13.65c. c.i.f. European ports. In London on the 15th inst. standard fell 2s. 6d. to £55 12s. 6d. for spot; futures fell 5s. to £56 2s. 6d.; sales, 200 spot and 1,800 futures; spot electrolytic declined 2s. 6d. to £62 12s. 6d.; futures rose 2s. 6d. to £63 2s. 6d. On the 16th inst. standard in London advanced 7s. 6d. to £56 for spot and £56 10s. for futures; sales, 300 tons spot and 900 futures; spot electrolytic advanced 5s. to £62 17s. 6d. and futures unchanged at £63 2s. 6d. Later there was more inquiry and prices were a little steadier. The official price is 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. per pound delivered to the Connecticut Valley. Sales for export increased at 13.65c. c.i.f. European ports. Exporters want prompt shipment. It is considered a good sign. Recently copper sold at as low as 13.30c. delivered for small lots for March delivery. In London on the 17th inst. spot standard advanced 5s. to £56 5s.; futures up 7s. 6d. to £56 17s. 6d.; sales, 100 tons spot and 1,900 futures; electrolytic, £62 17s. 6d. for spot and £63 2s. 6d. futures.

TIN of late has been rather quiet and easier. Shipments from the Straits for the first half of March were unusually large, being 4,105 tons. March sold at 69 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. to 69c.; April closed on the 16th inst. at 68 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.; May 67 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. Spot standard in London on the 15th inst. advanced 10s. to £312 15s.; futures rose 12s. 6d. to £299 15s.; sales 50 tons spot and 650 futures; spot Straits advanced £1 to £325 5s.; Eastern c. i. f. London declined £1 5s. to £307 15s. on sales of 125 tons. On the 16th inst. spot standard in London advanced £1 15s. to £314 10s.; futures advanced £1 10s. to £301 5s.; sales 10 tons spot and 640 futures; spot Straits up £2 5s to £327 10s.; Eastern c. i. f. London advanced £2 5s. to £310 on sales of 150 tons. Later the tone was irregular; the market is hard to gauge. March Straits deliveries sold at 69 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. and May at 67 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. April nominal at 68 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢. and June at 67c. Tin plate makers may curtail production in April. In London on the 17th inst. spot standard declined 10s. to £314; futures off £1 5s. to £300; sales 100 tons spot and 600 futures; spot Straits tin fell £1 to £326 10s.; Eastern c. i. f. London off £1 10s. to £308 10s. on sales of 225 tons.

LEAD has been in fair demand. March has been wanted. Prices were 7.65c. New York and 7.40c. East St. Louis. Russia has been buying Mexican lead on a large scale. In London on the 15th inst. prices fell 1s. 3d. to £28 for spot and £28 8s. 9d. for futures; sales, 1,000 tons futures. On the 16th inst. prices in London rose 2s. 6d. to £28 2s. 6d. for spot; futures advanced 3s. 9d. to £28 12s. 6d.; sales, 1,750 futures. Prices were steady with a fair business. New York, 7.65c.; East St. Louis, 7.40c.; March is most wanted. In London on the 17th inst. spot lead £28 2s. 6d.; futures off 2s. 6d. to £28 10s.; sales, 200 spot and 750 futures.

ZINC has been weaker with sellers offering freely at 6.70c. East St. Louis. A few producers were firm at 6.80c. but

as a rule the majority were inclined to cut that price considerably. High grade zinc was selling at 9 to 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢. New York. Business has been quiet. In London on the 15th inst. spot declined 2s. 9d. to £30 18s. 9d.; futures fell 1s. 3d. to £31 2s. 6d.; sales, 50; spot, and 750 futures. On the 16th inst. spot in London advanced 3s. 9d. to £31 2s. 6d.; futures up 2s. 6d. to £31 5s.; sales, 750 futures. Later prices were firmer at 6.70 to 6.70 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Galvanized sheets and wire makers have a better trade. London on the spot declined 1s. 3d. on the 17th inst. to £31 1s. 3d.; futures, £31 5s.; sales, 100 spot and 1,650 futures.

STEEL has been in moderate demand as a rule, though automobile makers have, it is said, bought rather more freely. Output is at a high level, that is close to 90% of ingot capacity. It is outrunning requirements. A bituminous coal strike is expected, but curiously enough its apparent imminence does not stimulate buying. Buyers think the trade will manage. Buying is in small lots. Second quarter business is distinctly dull or entirely absent. The West is having a better trade than the East. March orders have increased only slightly in the case of some companies. The U. S. Steel Corporation is said to be producing at 95%; it adds to surplus stocks in these dull times. Tin plate output is decreasing as a natural reaction after several months of unwonted activity. Railroads are not buying supplies as freely as was expected. Their purchases are moderated. A moderate demand, too, prevails for fabricated structural steel, especially for bridges. Auto sheets are reported firm at Pittsburgh; full-finished auto body, 4.15c. for No. 2 gauge material. Black sheets are about 2.85c.; 3.65c. is less frequently quoted for galvanized; blue annealed, 2.20c. Fabricators generally are working at 100% capacity and taking fair quantities of strip, merchant bars and common plates. Tank call steadier, plates at 1.90c. with contract tonnage less.

PIG IRON has been steadier. The composite price is 8c. higher after remaining stationary for a month. Only Eastern basic fell 25c. Valley basic was reported up to \$18.50. Producers are said to be husbanding the supply of this iron against the possibility of a prolonged coal strike. Some think, however, that there is not going to be a strike, or at least that it is more doubtful whether there will be. Birmingham was reported firm at \$18 for No. 2 foundry; output is maintained there. At Youngstown basic iron was firm at \$18.50 to \$19 Valley. Pittsburgh expects a long coal strike. Later New York reported sales of 5,000 tons; Philadelphia and Birmingham sold little. Buffalo seems a trifle steadier at \$17.50. Nowhere have there been striking features. Surplus stocks at the South are being reduced.

WOOL has been quiet and largely nominal here, but firm or higher in foreign markets with a good demand. In London March 15 demand good; attendance large. Continent largest buyer. In 14 days the total offerings will be 166,400 bales. Merinos compared with January advanced 5% and crossbreds including New Zealand and Puntas, 5 to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ %.

New Zealand greasy half-bred 56-58s brought 25d.; 56s, 22d.; greasy crossbred 48-50s, 20d.; 48s, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 46s, 14d. Sydney, 2,608 bales; greasy merino, 20 to 32d.; scoured, 36 to 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Queensland, 116 bales; greasy merino, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 24d.; scoured, 40 to 42d. Victoria, 2,137 bales; greasy merino, 28 to 31d.; scoured, 31 to 44d. Adelaide, 161 bales; greasy merino, 16 to 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. West Australia, 362 bales; greasy merino, 18 to 25d. New Zealand, 2,381 bales; greasy crossbreds, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 25d.; slipe, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Cape, 262 bales; greasy merino, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; scoured, 30 to 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Puntas, 2,298 bales; greasy merino, 10 $\frac{3}{4}$  to 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; crossbreds, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. i

In London on the 16th inst. offerings 12,778 bales. Prices firm. Demand good from England and the Continent.

New Zealand greasy halfbred 50-56s brought 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; greasy crossbreds, 50s, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 48-50s, 17d.; 48s, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 46-48s, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Sydney, 2,388 bales; greasy merinos, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; scoured, 30 to 44d. Queensland, 1,211 bales; greasy merinos, 16 to 28d.; scoured, 40 to 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Victoria, 1,239 bales; greasy merino, 22 to 26d.; scoured, 35 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 45d.; greasy crossbred, 24 to 27d. Adelaide, 1,155 bales; greasy merino, 19 to 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; scoured, 35 to 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. West Australia, 629 bales; greasy merino, 18 to 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Tasmania, 872 bales; greasy merino, 25 to 37d.; ditto crossbreds, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. New Zealand, 5,019 bales; greasy crossbreds, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; slipe, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Cape, 263 bales; greasy merino, 15 to 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; scoured, 32 to 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

In London on March 17 offerings 12,395 bales, chiefly Australian merinos. Continent took the best scoured at 47d.; greasy, 36d. New Zealand greasy crossbreds well taken by English buyers.

New Zealand best greasy halfbred 56-58s brought 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 56s sold at 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; crossbreds 50s, 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 48s, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 46-48s, 15d. Sydney, 3,959 bales; greasy merinos, 18 to 20d.; scoured merinos, 38 to 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; greasy crossbreds, 11 to 24d. Queensland, 1,456 bales; greasy merinos, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; scoured merinos, 30 to 47d. Victoria, 1,745 bales; greasy merinos, 19 to 36d.; scoured merinos, 32 to 43d. West Australia, 1,174 bales; greasy merinos, 17 to 33d.; scoured, 37 to 42d. New Zealand, 3,141 bales; greasy crossbreds, 14 to 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; slipe, 15 to 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Cape, 368 bales; greasy merinos, 18 to 20d. Falkland, 412 bales; greasy crossbreds, 16 to 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

In London on March 18 offerings 11,471 bales. Prices steady; demand good. Some 11,000 bales sold. Queensland scoured merinos brought 48d. At Christchurch, N. Z., March 14 offerings 13,000; sales, 12,800 bales; demand good. Prices in main called firm, though some sorts slightly easier. Merinos super, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; average, 15 to 19d.; crossbreds 56-58s, 17 to 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 50-56s, 16 to 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 48-50s, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 46-48s, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 40-44s, 11 to 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. At Perth on March 15 offerings 13,000; demand good. All sold, including everything in store to date. Compared with Feb. 22, merinos supers and Bradford wools advanced 5% and crossbreds 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 5%. Continental wools lambs and skirtings firm. Bradford was the largest buyer. At Melbourne on March 15 offerings 8,000. Selection good of







DEATH OF JOHN JONES OF LONDON.—John Jones, founder of Comtelburo, Ltd., died at his residence in Belsize Park-gardens, on Feb. 23 from pneumonia, at the age of 83.

Mr. Jones made a specialty of cotton statistics and as such enjoyed world wide fame. In his distinctive field, in gathering international statistical information regarding cotton, he was unexcelled.

WEATHER REPORTS BY TELEGRAPH.—Reports to us by telegraph this evening indicate that the rainy weather the early part of the week interrupted farm work in most sections of the cotton belt.

Texas.—Some additional cotton has been planted in this State but very little has been seeded outside of the extreme southern portions.

Mobile, Ala.—Farm work is progressing nicely. Fertilizer shipments are increasing.

Table with columns: Rain, Rainfall, Thermometer. Lists weather data for various locations like Galveston, Texas, Abilene, Brownsville, etc.

The following statement we have also received by telegraph, showing the height of rivers at the points named at 8 a. m. of the dates given:

Table with columns: Location, Height (Feet), Date (Mar. 18 1927, Mar. 19 1926).

WORLD SUPPLY AND TAKINGS OF COTTON.—The following brief but comprehensive statement indicates at a glance the world's supply of cotton for the week and since Aug. 1 for the last two seasons, from all sources from which statistics are obtainable, also the takings or amounts gone out of sight for the like period.

Table titled 'Cotton Takings, Week and Season' showing supply and takings for 1926-27 and 1925-26.

\* Embraces receipts in Europe from Brazil, Smyrna, West Indies, &c. This total embraces since Aug. 1 the total estimated consumption by Southern mills, 3,385,000 bales in 1926-27 and 2,990,000 bales in 1925-26.

RECEIPTS FROM THE PLANTATIONS.—The following table indicates the actual movement each week from the plantations. The figures do not include overland receipts nor Southern consumption; they are simply a statement of the weekly movement from the plantations of that part of the crop which finally reaches the market through the outports.

Table with columns: Week Ended, Receipts at Ports, Stocks at Interior Towns, Receipts from Plantations. Shows weekly data from Dec to Mar.

The above statement shows: (1) That the total receipts from the plantations since Aug. 1 1926 are 11,424,628 bales, in 1925 were 9,752,113 bales, and in 1924 were 8,991,067 bales.

INDIA COTTON MOVEMENT FROM ALL PORTS.—The receipts of India cotton at Bombay and the shipments from all India ports for the week and for the season from Aug. 1, as cabled, for three years, have been as follows:

Table showing India Cotton Movement from All Ports for Bombay, with columns for Receipts at Bombay, Exports from, and Total.

According to the foregoing, Bombay appears to show a decrease compared with last year in the week's receipts of 12,000 bales. Exports from all India ports record an increase of 7,000 bales during the week, and since Aug. 1 show an decrease of 374,000 bales.

ALEXANDRIA RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS.—We now receive weekly a cable of the movements of cotton at Alexandria, Egypt. The following are the receipts and shipments for the past week and for the corresponding week of the previous two years.

Table showing Alexandria Receipts and Shipments for March 16, 1926-27, 1925-26, and 1924-25.

Table showing Exports (bales) for Liverpool, Manchester, etc., with columns for This Week, Since Aug. 1, and 1925-26.

Note.—A cantar is 95 lbs. Egyptian bales weigh about 750 lbs. This statement shows that the receipts for the week ended March 16 were 210,000 cantars and the foreign shipments 15,000 bales.

MANCHESTER MARKET.—Our report received by cable to-night from Manchester states that the market in both yarns and cloth is quiet. Merchants are buying very sparingly. We give prices to-day below and leave those for previous weeks of this and last year for comparison.

Table showing Manchester Market prices for various cotton grades like 32s Cop Twist, 8 1/2 Lbs. Shrtngs, etc., with columns for 1926-27 and 1925-26.

SHIPPING NEWS.—As shown on a previous page, the exports of cotton from the United States the past week have reached 296,978 bales. The shipments in detail, as made up from mail and telegraphic returns, are as follows:

Table listing shipping news for various destinations like New York, Liverpool, etc., with columns for Ship Name, Date, and Bales.



market was firmer in the face of large shipments. Notwithstanding large receipts, stocks increase only slowly. Stocks deliverable against contracts are not sufficient there. At Winnipeg at times there was a very good demand for all grades of cash wheat. Spreads were 1/2 to 3c. better on some straight grades.

On the 17th inst. prices advanced slightly at first and then broke 2c., despite Liverpool's advance of 1/2d. and with River Plate and Manitoba offers firmer in the teeth of big shipments from Argentina. The trouble was the export demand was slack. Later, on the decline, 400,000 to 500,000 bushels sold. Argentine exports for the week were estimated at fully 7,000,000 bushels. The Black Sea cleared 488,000. Indications pointed, in other words, to another week of large world's shipments, with probably a further increase in passage stocks. The demand for both red and hard winter wheat of milling quality was better and cash wheat stood up better than futures. The flour trade, however, remained quiet. Indications pointing to an early opening of navigation were a bearish influence. Weather conditions were favorable for the next crop.

To-day prices ended 1/4 to 1/2c. lower generally. Export sales were only 300,000 to 400,000 bushels of Manitoba and winter. Scarcity of freight room hampered foreign business to some extent, so far as nearby trading was concerned. Liquidation was the order of the day. May wheat dropped to new low territory for the season. Southern Hemisphere shipments are large. The weather was good. Foreign demand, as we have seen, was light. Weakness in corn had some effect on wheat. It is true that the Liverpool cables were stronger than due and that Argentine markets were firm. Red and hard wheat at Chicago at one time was higher than yesterday. It was said that No. 3 red was only about 4c. under, against 8 to 9c. under on Thursday. Crop reports from Kansas were not so favorable. The Northwest was cold. The forecast was for lower temperatures. Winnipeg rallied. That braced other markets somewhat. Argentine exports for the week are 7,622,000; Australia, 4,448,000; North American shipments, 6,434,000; total world's shipments, 19,050,000. The passage stocks may increase. Some are evened up on the eve of the Government report on farmers' intentions to plant. Final prices show a decline for the week of 1 1/2 to 3c.

CLOSING PRICES OF DOMESTIC WHEAT AT NEW YORK. Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for May delivery and July delivery.

CLOSING PRICES AT NEW YORK FOR WHEAT IN BOND. Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for May delivery and July delivery.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT IN NEW YORK. Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and row for No. 2 red.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN CHICAGO. Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for May delivery in elevator, July delivery in elevator, and September delivery in elevator.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN WINNIPEG. Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for May delivery in elevator, July delivery in elevator, and October delivery in elevator.

Indian corn early in the week was steady at first but declined later owing to scattered selling. Though cash business was dull at Chicago a slight increase was noticed at outside points. The United States visible supply increased last week 1,485,000 bushels, against only 667,000 in the same week last year. The total is now 48,822,000 bushels, against 35,880,000 a year ago. The sore point is the big stock with a generally scanty demand. Chicago, it is true, received only 29 cars on the 15th inst. and cash prices were firm. The talk is that the country has moved out most of its surplus corn. It did not help the market. Yet some point out that corn has gone much more rapidly into consumption than in the previous season. Since Dec. 1 primary receipts in Chicago from Dec. 1 to March 12 have totaled 31,087,000 bushels, against 36,885,000 a year ago. Shipments out of Chicago weekly from Dec. 1 to March 12 have been 7,206,000 bushels, against 8,726,000 a year ago. The Chicago stock increased between Dec. 1 and March 12 8,094,000 bushels, against an increase during the same period last year of 15,156,000 bushels. Chicago has accumulated since Dec. 1 this season only 8,000,000 bushels out of receipts of 31,000,000. Last season it was 17,000,000 out of receipts of 36,885,000 bushels.

St. Louis wired that corn had been sold there to go to St. Joseph, Mo. A year ago St. Joseph, Kansas City and Omaha were all shipping corn to St. Louis. In Chicago some think the position is improving. May leads. The advance may not be rapid, say the bulls, as large stocks are a

handicap at the terminal markets, but the supply of corn on farms is below normal. Moreover, receipts are tapering off steadily and significantly. British cables said that there is no premium for nearby corn and arrivals were in excess of the actual demand, so that port stocks in Liverpool have increased nearly 300,000 bushels. On the 17th inst. prices were firm at first and weaker later. Cash demand did not increase. Receipts increased, though the total at Chicago was only 84 cars. Country offerings to arrive were rather large. The sales of futures on the 16th inst. at Chicago were 9,612,000 bushels.

To-day prices dropped 1 1/2 to 2c., but recovered some of the loss later. Receipts were light and there was less offering from the country. The weather, too, was unsettled. The cash demand was rather better. The forecast was for unsettled and colder weather. Cash markets were steady to 1c. higher. Cash corn has acted independently of futures of late. But the technical position of futures was weak. This offset everything else. Final prices show a decline for the week of 1 1/4c.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN IN NEW YORK. Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and row for No. 2 yellow.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN FUTURES IN CHICAGO. Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for May delivery in elevator, July delivery in elevator, and September delivery in elevator.

Oats declined with other grain. Besides, the receipts at Chicago were larger. It is true that a considerable percentage went to the industries. Hedge covering was not a factor, though cash demand was larger than had been expected. The United States visible supply decreased last week 1,341,000 bushels, against 1,463,000 in the same week last year. The total is now 41,215,000 bushels, against 56,845,000. On the 17th inst. prices followed other grain downward. There were only moderate receipts. No heavy offerings appeared. The cash demand was fair. The decline was 1/8 to 1/2c.

To-day prices closed 1/2 to 1c. lower under liquidation and in sympathy with other grain. About the only buyers were shorts. Receipts were moderate. But the cash demand was nothing very encouraging, although cash prices were steady. Final prices show a decline for the week of 3/4 to 1c.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF DOMESTIC OATS IN NEW YORK. Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for May delivery and July delivery.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN CHICAGO. Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for May delivery in elevator, July delivery in elevator, and September delivery in elevator.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN WINNIPEG. Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for May delivery in elevator, July delivery in elevator, and October delivery in elevator.

Rye declined under long liquidation, due to the continued increase in stocks. Last week the United States visible supply increased 262,000 bushels, against a decrease in the same week last year of 35,000 bushels. The total is 14,470,000 bushels, against 13,869,000 a year ago. On the 15th inst. commission houses continued to sell. Discouraged bulls got out. Some export business was done. It was not impressive. And the influence of a decline in wheat was apparent. Later Norway bought freely. Prices on the 17th inst. declined 1/2 to 3/4c., after an early exhibition of firmness in a rise of 1/2 to 1c., the latter on May. The export demand was reported the best in a fortnight.

To-day prices ended 3/8 to 1 1/8c. lower. The Northwest sold and there was general liquidation. The decline in other grain had its effect. Export demand was smaller. A little business was done with the Continent. It is now said that exporters on the 17th inst. took 650,000 bushels of cash rye. It is said that 1,750,000 bushels of the stock at Duluth have been sold for shipment on the opening of navigation. Final prices show a decline for the week of 2 to 2 1/2c. Small sales were made to-day here for Antwerp and France.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF RYE FUTURES IN CHICAGO. Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. and rows for May delivery in elevator, July delivery in elevator, and September delivery in elevator.

Closing quotations were as follows:

GRAIN. Table listing prices for Wheat, Corn, and Rye in New York and Chicago, and prices for Flour.

For other tables usually given here, see page 1626.

WEATHER BULLETIN FOR THE WEEK ENDED MARCH 15.—The general summary of the weather bulletin issued by the Department of Agriculture, indicating the influence of the weather for the week ended March 15, follows:

During the first few days of the week a moderate depression moved eastward over Gulf coast districts, attended by precipitation quite generally in the South from Arkansas and east Texas eastward, with some rather heavy rainfall in the Southeast. The principal storm of the week, however, moved from Arizona and New Mexico eastward to northern Texas, and thence northeastward to the Great Lakes on the 10-13th, attended by widespread rain or snow in the Southwest and general rains throughout the interior of the country.

Temperature changes were not marked. The week opened with warm weather prevailing quite generally, and higher than normal temperatures were the rule over much the greater portion of the country throughout nearly the entire period, except that moderately cold weather for the season was experienced during much of the week in the Southwest and most of the more western States. In the East the latter part of the week was unusually warm, but cooler weather prevailed at its close in most districts. The table on page 3 shows that the week was slightly cooler than normal in the west Gulf area and in practically all sections west of the Rocky Mountains, but the deficiencies in temperature were mostly small, being usually only 1 degree or 2 degrees. In all other sections of the country the temperature was much above normal, and markedly so in the interior and Northern States where the weekly means ranged from 6 degrees to as much as 18 degrees higher than the seasonal average. In the East, freezing weather did not extend farther south than central Virginia, while in the Mississippi Valley temperatures of 32 degrees or lower were confined to the Northern States; no subzero temperatures were reported from any part of the country.

The table shows also that precipitation was moderately heavy to heavy or excessive over a large area from the Ohio Valley southward, with some southern Mississippi Valley stations receiving from 4 to 6 inches or more for the week. There were substantial falls also in much of the central Great Plains, the western Lake region, and in Pacific coast districts. Elsewhere the amounts were mostly light.

The persistent abnormally high temperature has prematurely and unfavorably advanced fruit trees throughout the Central and Southern States, and the earlier varieties in many sections are in great danger of a later killing frost. Such fruits as peaches, pears, plums, and apricots are now blooming as far north as southern Missouri and the lower Ohio Valley, much in advance of an average season, and more than 300 miles north of the average killing frost date line at this time of year. Killing frost normally occurs as late as March 15 well toward the southern portions of the central and east Gulf States and to central Texas. Late reports from the recent freeze indicate that early fruits in the Southeast were not as badly damaged as at first thought.

There was much interruption by rains and wet soil to field work in the Cotton Belt, although considerable preparation for seeding was accomplished in the northwestern portion and the more eastern districts. Some additional cotton was planted in Florida and Texas, but little has as yet been seeded in the latter State, except in the extreme southern portion. It was also too wet for field work in much of the interior, but was favorable in the Middle Atlantic States and in most of the Northwest. Additional moisture over the western half of the country was welcome.

**SMALL GRAINS.**—The week was mostly favorable for winter wheat and the crop is making satisfactory progress quite generally, but reports show late-sown grain in poor condition in some upper Ohio Valley sections. Rains and snows over the Great Plains region and more western States were very favorable in supplying additional soil moisture, while cereal crops made good advance in the South. The seeding of spring oats is being delayed by wet soil in many sections, and this work is getting behind an average season, especially in the Southwest.

The Weather Bureau also furnishes the following resume of the conditions in the different States:

**Virginia.**—Richmond: Temperatures above normal; rainfall moderate favorable for plowing and farm work in general and good progress made, except soil rather wet in south and east. Bulk of potato crop on eastern shore planted, and planting begun in interior. Wheat doing well. Pastures greening. Early fruit beginning to bloom.

**North Carolina.**—Raleigh: Rain early in week; generally fair and warmer thereafter. Not much plowing account wet soil. Wheat, oats, rye and clover doing well. Truck fairly good. Peaches in full bloom; late reports indicate considerable peaches killed during recent cold; heaviest damage from Aberdeen south.

**South Carolina.**—Columbia: Previous frost damage estimates for peaches, pears, plums and cherries in northwestern counties considerably reduced and general condition elsewhere very good. Winter cereals, truck, and gardens improved and grain fields being pastured. Spring plowing advanced satisfactorily. Large quantities of asparagus being shipped about two weeks in advance of average season.

**Georgia.**—Atlanta: Early part of week moderately cold; latter part warmer rains frequent and soil mostly too wet to plow. Wheat, oats, rye, alfalfa, and pastures far in advance of normal. Planting potatoes and sugar cane and bedding sweet potatoes progressing rapidly. Melon planting begun in southwest. Many early and late varieties of peaches in bloom, apparently unimpaired. Preparation of spring gardens slow.

**Florida.**—Jacksonville: Warm and comparatively dry. Farm work made good progress. Replanted corn and melons coming up to good stand; early-planted fair to good. Planting corn continued throughout State, and some cotton planted in north and west. Tobacco beds good; transplanting begins in few days. Oats good progress. Planting beans continued in north; locally in central. Groves good; some heavy bloom. Rain needed generally on uplands.

**Alabama.**—Montgomery: Moderate temperatures; general and locally heavy rains on two days and some lowlands in west flooded. Wet soil in most sections delayed plowing. Planting corn and potatoes progressed slowly; sweet potatoes being bedded. Wheat and oats continue to do well. Pastures and truck crops mostly fair to good progress. Strawberries and sugar cane in coast section doing well. Freezes in early part of month killed peaches in some sections of north.

**Mississippi.**—Vicksburg: Moderate rains in south; mostly excessive in central and north, with locally damaging floods in north Saturday. Unseasonably cool Wednesday and Thursday. Farm work fair progress in south; generally poor elsewhere. Pastures and truck mostly fair progress.

**Louisiana.**—New Orleans: Frequent rains in most portions delayed planting rice and corn and preparation for cotton, but conditions improved with sunny weather since Sunday; more fair weather needed to dry soil in north and west. Oats, pastures, sugar cane, and truck doing well. Strawberries being marketed in good quality and quantity.

**Texas.**—Houston: Cool latter part of week with some damage to fruit in extreme west. Light to moderate precipitation, except in lower coast and portions of southwest, further delayed farm work in northern half of State where corn planting backward. Little cotton planted, except in extreme south. Progress and condition of wheat, oats, pastures, truck, fruit, and potatoes mostly good, although local complaints of cutworms in central and green bug damage to wheat and oats in northeast.

**Oklahoma.**—Oklahoma City: Moderate temperatures and generally clear skies favorable for farm work and good progress in plowing and planting until interrupted by general rain on 11th. Oats being seeded unusually late. Winter grains satisfactory progress and generally in good to excellent condition; green bugs reported in scattered localities, but not active. Pastures fair and improving.

**Arkansas.**—Little Rock: Favorable for farm work and growth of crops, except in southern and eastern portions where 6 to 10 inches of rainfall. Corn planting begun in a few southern localities; considerable ground ready elsewhere. Wheat, oats, truck, meadows, and pastures good. Onions, radishes, spinach, and other greens coming to local markets.

**Tennessee.**—Nashville: Prevailing wet weather turned wheat yellow in some eastern counties, but elsewhere good condition. Heavy rain in central portion interfered with farm work and delayed sowing of oats. Rye and barley greasy improved. Fruit trees budding and blooming. Some clover sowing accomplished.

**Kentucky.**—Louisville: Temperatures above normal. Wheat and grass made considerable growth and look well. Shrubs leafing and peaches and plums beginning to bloom. Moderate to heavy rains and little progress in plowing, early gardening, or plant-bed sowing as mostly too wet.

## THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

Friday Night, Mar. 18 1927.

Aside from woollens, textile markets have continued active and firm during the past week. In woollens business conditions have shown no change from the recent dullness, and

some producers are starting to reduce their output. In fact, some of the smaller mills have already closed down or curtailed operations to contracted schedules. As announced during the week, the American Woolen Co. will open its fall lines of women's wear fabrics for cloaks, suits and dresses next Tuesday despite the prevailing unsatisfactory conditions. Others are expected to do likewise within a few weeks. In the silk division, sentiment has appeared to be improving and sales have been increasing even though profit margins have continued more or less close. Nevertheless, some of the leaders in the trade have displayed their new lines of fall fabrics. One of the features has been the innovations in metallic silks. Sheer crepes were used as ground cloths for delicate tracteries of gold and silver opalescent metals. Variations were numerous and many new and novel designs and effects have been introduced. As to rayons, further advances of five cents per pound have been announced for certain grades of yarns, most of which were unaffected by the previous advances. The situation continues strong and factors are expecting still higher levels within the next few weeks. Mills are said to be well sold ahead with buyers freely anticipating their needs in sizable orders, and in some cases contracted as far ahead as July. The advance in primary markets succeeded in effectively stimulating the rayon fabric trade.

**DOMESTIC COTTON GOODS.**—The week in cotton goods was a repetition of the previous one when buying was active and prices firm. Demand for prompt deliveries did not abate, but instead increased to such proportions that spot deliveries of fine and fancy cottons commanded substantial premiums over goods to be made for deliveries after May. This was primarily due to the rush for certain fabrics which continue to sell freely in wholesale and retail wash goods departments. The demand for printed goods has continued very good and requests for prompt shipments have been constant. Likewise, the call for colored cottons has been steady enough to clean up odd stocks that could not be moved less than two months ago. Gingham and denims have received most attention and many manufacturers have had requests for prompt deliveries on old orders. In fact, some of the Southern mills have sold their output as far ahead as June. During the week news and various statistics have been very favorable. Among these was the report that sales of colored cotton goods for export, notably to Cuba, Manila and South American countries have been better than for some time past. Drills have sold for shipment to the Far East, and sheetings for export to East Africa. Statistics published by the Association of Cotton Textile Merchants confirmed the market news current during the past month. Sales during February were 31.4% in excess of production, unfilled orders increased 4%, stocks declined 15%, while shipments were 12.4% in excess of production. Other comparative statistics included the consumption report issued by the Census Bureau. This placed mill consumption of cotton during February at 590,447 bales, compared with 604,584 in January and 565,118 in February 1926. Consumption during the past seven months, that is from Aug. 1 to Feb. 28, totaled 4,024,487 bales, against 3,745,552 bales consumed during the same period in 1926. Print cloths, 28-inch, 64 x 64's construction, are quoted at 5¼c., and 27-inch, 64 x 60's, at 4¾c. Gray goods in the 39-inch, 68 x 72's construction, are quoted at 8c., and 39-inch, 80 x 80's, at 10½c.

**WOOLEN GOODS.**—Little change has been noted in the woolen and worsted markets. Conditions continued quiet, as buyers confined purchases to immediate requirements. About the only announcement of interest was the official declaration that the American Woolen Co. will open and show, on next Tuesday, their women's wear coat, suit and dress fabrics for next fall. The opening is about a week later than last year. Independents are expected to open their lines within the next few weeks. In the meantime, buying of spring merchandise has been very disappointing. However, it is believed that with the approach of Easter and early spring weather, consumer buying will improve. In an effort to help conditions, it has been proposed that the garment trade close down operations on Saturdays.

**FOREIGN DRY GOODS.**—Linen markets maintained a firm undertone during the past week. Sales continued on a liberal scale and sentiment regarding the future was optimistic, though there were some who viewed the recent primary advances with alarm, claiming that if higher prices were instituted at this time, consumer buying would be diverted into cotton goods. However, other factors did not share these opinions, claiming that the general housewife's ideas regarding linen values were rather hazy and if certain fabrics were desired, a few cents more or less would make but little difference. Furthermore, they pointed to statements made by factors upon their return from abroad that higher prices were justified owing to the smaller flax crop and supplies, which in many countries are insufficient to meet world requirements. Burlaps were slightly firmer, owing to the strength of primary markets. Light weights are quoted at 6.70-6.75c., and heavies at 9.10-9.15c.



State and City Department

NEWS ITEMS

Ohio (State of).—Bond Proposal Defeated.—The house highway Committee by a vote of 12 to 4 indefinitely postponed the Emmons constitutional amendment providing for a \$25,000,000 bond issue for the elimination of Statewide grade crossings.—V. 124, p. 1400.

Massachusetts (State of).—Legal Investments for Savings Banks.—We publish in full below a list issued by the State Bank Commissioner recently, showing the bonds and notes which, in the opinion of the Banking Department are, now legal investments for savings banks in Massachusetts under the provisions of clauses second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventeenth of Section 54, Chapter 168, General Laws. Clause second, relating to investments in public funds, has been applied only to those counties, cities, towns and districts which appear to have bonds or notes outstanding, and from which debt statements could be obtained. Clause third is the general law relating to railroad bonds, as amended by the addition of subdivision "o," continuing as legal investments bonds of certain railroads during the period of Government operation, and for two years after the cessation of such control, during which time the dividend requirements of certain railroads which had been under Federal control were waived. Clauses fourth, fifth, sixth, and sixth a relate to investments in street railway bonds, telephone company bonds, and gas, electric and water company bonds, respectively. Clause seventeenth provides that issues which complied with the old law shall continue, under certain conditions, to be legal investments, and that banks may not only continue to hold such bonds but may further invest in them.

Investments in bonds or notes of cities, towns and districts mentioned in the list should not be made, the Bank Commissioner says, "without further inquiry, as both their indebtedness and their valuations for the assessment of taxes are constantly changing."

The issues added to the latest list are designated below by means of the word "new" in black-faced type, while those that have been dropped are placed in black-face brackets.

PUBLIC FUNDS.

(Covering counties, cities, towns and districts which appear to have bonds or notes outstanding, and from which debt statements could be obtained.)

Public funds of the United States or of this commonwealth, or in the legally authorized bonds of any other State of the United States, but not including a territory, which has not within the twenty years prior to the making of such investment defaulted in the payment of any part of either principal or interest of any legal debt.

Bonds or notes of the following counties, cities, towns and districts in New England:

Table listing public funds for Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts, categorized by Counties, Cities, and Towns.

Legally authorized bonds for municipal purposes, &c., of the following cities outside of New England:

Table listing legally authorized bonds for municipal purposes in various cities across the United States, including Akron, Allentown, Atlanta, Baltimore, etc.

RAILROAD BONDS.

Table listing railroad bonds for various systems including Bangor & Aroostook, BOSTON & MAINE, MAINE CENTRAL, NEW YORK NEW HAVEN & HARTFORD, ATCHISON TOPEKA & SANTA FE, ATLANTIC COAST LINE, CENTRAL OF GEORGIA, CENTRAL OF NEW JERSEY, CHICAGO & NORTH WESTERN, CHICAGO BURLINGTON & QUINCY, DELAWARE & HUDSON, DELAWARE LACKAWANNA & WESTERN, GREAT NORTHERN, and ILLINOIS CENTRAL.

















SYRACUSE, Onondaga County, N. Y.—BONDS VOTED.—The voters authorized the issuance of \$150,000 water system bonds at the election held March 15.

TACOMA, Pierce County, Wash.—BOND SALES.—The following is a complete list of special improvement bonds, bearing interest at the rate of 6%, aggregating \$417,817.44, sold by the city of Tacoma from April to December inclusive during the year 1926:

Table with columns: Month, Sold During, Dist. No., Amount, Date, Due. Lists bond sales from April to December 1926.

The bonds are subject to call yearly.

TARRYTOWN, Westchester County, N. Y.—BONDS VOTED.—At an election held March 15 the voters authorized the issuance of \$75,000 library site purchase bonds.

TELFORD, Montgomery County, Pa.—BOND SALE.—The Telford National Bank of Telford recently purchased an issue of \$18,000 4 1/2% improvement bonds.

TEXAS (State of).—BONDS REGISTERED.—The State Comptroller of Texas registered for the week ending March 12, the following three issues of school bonds, aggregating \$4,700:

Table with columns: Name, Amount, Int. Rate, Due. Lists school bonds from Layah Independent School District, Chambers Co., and Dawson Co.

TITUS COUNTY COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 21 (P. O. Mount Pleasant), Tex.—BOND SALE.—The State Board of Education has purchased an issue of \$1,500 school bonds.

TITUSVILLE, Brevard County, Fla.—BOND SALE.—The \$249,000 6% street improvement bonds offered on March 11—V. 124, p. 1406—were awarded to the Langston Construction Co. of Orlando and the Bank of Titusville, jointly, at 95, a basis of about 7.07%. Dated April 1 1927. Due April 1 as follows: \$24,000, 1928, and \$25,000, 1929 to 1937 incl.

Table with columns: Bidder, Discount. Lists bidders for Titusville bonds including Brown-Crummer Co., Hanchett Bond Co., etc.

TOLEDO, Lucas County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.—The following eight issues of bonds, aggregating \$2,765,000, were awarded to a syndicate composed of Roosevelt & Son, Geo. B. Gibbons & Co., Pulley & Co., and E. H. Rollins & Sons, all of New York City, as 4 3/8s, at 102.91—a basis of about 4.18%:

- List of bond issues in Toledo: 1,000,000 intercepting sewers and pump stations bonds, 280,000 garbage disposal plant bonds, 200,000 fire department building bonds, etc.

Table with columns: Bidder, Rate Bid. Lists bidders for Toledo bonds including Wm. R. Compton Co., Northern Trust Co., etc.

TOOLEE, Tooele County, Utah.—BOND SALE.—The Ashton-Jenkins Co. of Salt Lake City has purchased an issue of \$22,000 4% sanitary sewer bonds. Due serially in 1 to 10 years.

TRINITY COUNTY (P. O. Groveton), Tex.—BONDS REGISTERED.—The State Comptroller of Texas registered on March 10 an issue of \$88,000 5% special road bonds. Due serially.

TRUMBULL COUNTY (P. O. Warren), Ohio.—BOND SALE.—The following two issues of 4 1/4% bonds, aggregating \$41,900 offered on March

15—V. 124, p. 1253—were awarded to Otis & Co. of Cleveland: \$25,000 road bonds. Due \$1,000 April and Oct. 1 1928 to 1932, incl., and \$1,000 April and \$2,000 Oct. 1 1933 to 1937, incl. 16,900 Ohltown Girard Road No. 65-F Weathersfield Township bonds. Due as follows: \$900 April 1 and \$1,000 Oct. 1 1928; \$1,000 April and Oct. 1 1929 to 1935 incl., and \$1,000 April 1 1936.

TUCKAHOE, Westchester County, N. Y.—BONDS VOTED.—A bond issue of \$216,000 for municipal improvements was authorized by the voters at the election held March 15.

TUPPER LAKE, Franklin County, N. Y.—BONDS VOTED.—At the election held March 15 the voters authorized the issuance of \$15,000 library bonds.

VAN BUREN COUNTY (P. O. Washington), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—The County Treasurer will receive sealed bids until 2 p. m. April 2 for \$4,500 road bonds.

VANDERBURGH COUNTY (P. O. Evansville), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—Chris Kratz, County Treasurer, will receive sealed bids until 10 a. m. March 26 for \$34,000 4 1/2% road bonds.

VERNON COUNTY (P. O. Viroqua), Wis.—BOND OFFERING.—Berlie Moore, County Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 10 a. m. April 9 for \$150,000 4 1/2% coupon series B, State trunk highway system bonds. Date May 1 1927. Denom. \$1,000. Due May 1 as follows: \$60,000, 1930, and \$90,000, 1931. Prin. and int. (M. & S.) payable at the County Treasurer's office.

WADSWORTH, Medina County, O.—INTEREST RATE—BASIS.—The \$16,000 North Lyman St. impt. bonds reported sold to W. L. Slayton & Co. of Toledo at a premium of \$548, equal to 103.42—V. 124, p. 1559—a basis of about 4.72%, bear interest at the rate of 5 1/2%. Due \$2,000 Oct. 11 1928 to 1935 incl.

WARSAW, Duplin County, No. Caro.—BOND OFFERING.—M. H. Thomas, Town Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 9 a. m. March 21 for \$20,000 6% town bonds. Dated Feb. 1 1927. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$1,000 Feb. 1 1938 to 1957 incl. Prin. and int. (F. & A.) payable at the Hanover National Bank, New York City. A certified check for 2% of the bid, payable to the Town Treasurer, is required.

WASHINGTON COUNTY (P. O. Salem), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.—Ellis Rosenbaum, County Treasurer, will receive sealed bids until 1:30 p. m. March 26 for \$34,000 5% road bonds. Date March 7 1927. Denom. \$1,700. Due \$1,700 May and Nov. 15 1928 to 1937, incl.

WASHINGTON COUNTY (P. O. Plymouth), No. Caro.—BOND OFFERING.—A. L. Owens, Chairman Board of County Commissioners, will receive sealed bids until 2 p. m. April 12 for \$150,000 funding bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Due serially, 1928 to 1952, incl. Bidders to state rate of interest. A certified check for 2% of the bid, required.

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY DISTRICT (P. O. Washington, D. C.), Md.—BOND SALE.—The \$300,000 4 1/2% water, sewer, bonds offered on March 11—V. 124, p. 1406—were awarded to a syndicate composed of Estabrook & Co. and Hannahs, Ballin & Lee, both of New York, and Colston, Heald & Trull, of Baltimore, at 102.44, a basis of about 4.36%. Date March 1 1927. Due in 50 years; optional in 30 years. Other bids were:

Table with columns: Bidder, Rate Bid. Lists bidders for Washington Sanitary District bonds including Kean, Taylor & Co., W. A. Harriman & Co., etc.

WATERLOO, Seneca County, N. Y.—BONDS VOTED.—The issuance of the following bonds, aggregating \$23,000, was approved by the voters at the election held March 15: \$19,000 macadam paving bonds. 4,000 street surface oiling bonds.

WATERTOWN, Middlesex County, Mass.—LOAN OFFERING.—The City Treasurer will receive sealed bids until 3:30 p. m. March 21 for the purchase on a discount basis of a \$200,000 temporary loan. Due Dec. 15 1927.

WAYLAND, Steuben County, N. Y.—BONDS VOTED.—The voters authorized the issuance of \$2,000 street paving bonds at an election held March 15.

WAYNESFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT, Auglaize County, O.—BONDS NOT SOLD.—The \$8,000 school bonds scheduled for sale on March 11—V. 124, p. 1559—have not been sold. J. C. Stooker, Clerk Board of Education.

WAYNESVILLE, Haywood County, No. Caro.—BOND OFFERING.—Mrs. T. C. Breeding, Town Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 2 p. m. March 22 for \$85,000 not exceeding 6% street improvement bonds. Date March 1 1927. Denom. \$1,000. Due March 1 as follows: \$3,000, 1930 to 1936, incl.; \$6,000, 1937 to 1942, incl., and \$7,000, 1943 to 1946, incl. Prin. and int. (M. & S.) payable at the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York City. A certified check for \$1,700, payable to the above-mentioned official, is required. Legality approved by Storey, Thorndike, Palmer & Dodge of Boston.

WEBB COUNTY (P. O. Laredo), Tex.—BOND SALE.—J. L. Arlitt of Austin has purchased an issue of \$300,000 5 1/2% highway bonds. These bonds were authorized at an election held on Nov. 20.

WEBSTER GROVES SCHOOL DISTRICT, St. Louis County, Mo.—BOND OFFERING.—F. D. Beardslee, Treasurer Board of Education, will sell at public auction at 8 p. m. March 30 \$100,000 4 1/2% registered school bonds. Dated April 1 1927. Denom. \$1,000. Due April 1 as follows: \$3,000, 1929; \$4,000, 1930; \$3,000, 1931; \$4,000, 1932 and 1933; \$5,000, 1934; \$4,000, 1935; \$5,000, 1936 to 1939 incl.; \$6,000, 1940 to 1942 incl., and \$7,000, 1943 to 1947 incl. Successful bidder may take and pay for the entire issue when the bonds are ready or may take and pay for the bonds as follows: \$30,000 when the bonds are ready for delivery, \$20,000 on June 1 1927, \$30,000 on July 1 1927 and \$20,000 on Sept. 1 1927. No joint bids will be considered. Bonds payable at the Mercantile Trust Co. of St. Louis. Legality to be approved by Charles & Rutherford of St. Louis. A certified check for \$1,000 required.

WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 12 (P. O. Keenesburg), Colo.—BOND SALE.—Benwell & Co. of Denver, recently purchased an issue of \$34,500 4 1/2% school bonds.

WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 64 (P. O. Keenesburg), PRE-ELECTION SALE.—Sidlo, Simons, Day & Co. of Denver, have purchased an issue of \$24,000 4 1/2% school bonds subject to the result of an election to be held on March 25.

WESTFIELD, Chautauqua County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.—The \$24,000 5% fire hall and jail bonds offered on March 1—V. 124, p. 957—were awarded to the National Bank of Westfield. Due March 1 as follows: \$5,000 1928 to 1931, inclusive, and \$4,000 1932.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY (P. O. Greensburg), Pa.—BOND OFFERING.—Weber A. Arter, County Comptroller, will receive sealed bids until 11 a. m. April 1 for \$500,000 4% road bonds. Date April 1 1927. Denom. \$1,000. Due April 1 as follows: \$100,000, 1937 and \$200,000, 1942 and 1947. A certified check for 2% of the bid, payable to the County Treasurer is required.

WESTOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT, Baylor County, Tex.—BOND OFFERING.—C. P. Garrett, Superintendent School Board, will receive sealed bids until 7:30 p. m. April 7 for \$18,000 5% coupon school bonds. Dated Feb. 1 1927. Denom. \$500. Due \$500, 1932 to 1967 incl. Prin. and int. (F. & A.) payable in Austin or in New York City. A certified check for 3% of the bid required.

WEYMOUTH, Norfolk County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.—The \$100,000 temporary loan offered on March 11—V. 124, p. 1560—was awarded to the Atlantic National Bank of Boston on a 3.57% discount basis. Due Dec. 22 1927.

WILDWOOD, Cape May County, N. J.—BOND OFFERING.—C. A. Hall Jr., City Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 2:30 p. m. March 29 for the following two issues of 5% coupon or registered bonds, aggregating \$200,000: \$150,000 water bonds. Due April 1 as follows: \$4,000, 1928 to 1957, incl., and \$3,000, 1958 to 1967, incl. 50,000 street widening bonds. Due \$2,000, April 1 1928 to 1952, incl. Date April 1 1927. Denom. \$1,000. Prin. and int. (A. & O.) payable in gold at the Marine National Bank, Wildwood. No more bonds to be

awarded than will produce a premium of \$1,000 over each of the above issues. Legality will be approved by Caldwell & Raymond, New York City. A certified check for 2% of the amount of bonds bid for, payable to the City Treasurer, is required.

**WILDWOOD CREST (P. O. Wildwood), Cape May County, N. J.—BOND SALE.**—The following two issues of coupon or registered bonds offered on March 7—V. 124, p. 1254—were awarded to the Marine National Bank of Wildwood as 5½%:

- \$49,500 (\$50,000 offered) sewer bonds at a premium of \$1,395, equal to 102.81, a basis of about 5.28%. Due Feb. 15 as follows: \$1,000, 1928 to 1946 incl.; \$2,000, 1947, and \$1,500, 1948 to 1967 incl.
- 14,000 fire apparatus bonds at a premium of \$95, equal to 100.67, a basis of about 5.37%. Due Feb. 15 as follows: \$1,000, 1928 and 1929, and \$1,500, 1930 to 1937 incl.

**WILLIAMSPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT, Lycoming County, Pa.—BOND OFFERING.**—H. A. Sterner, Secretary Board of Directors, will receive sealed bids until 11:30 a. m. March 29 for \$300,000 4.10% coupon school bonds. Dated April 15 1927. Denom. \$1,000. Due April 15 as follows: \$29,000, 1931; \$25,000, 1934; \$29,000, 1937; \$33,000, 1940; \$38,000, 1943; \$42,000, 1946; \$49,000, 1949, and \$55,000, 1952. Legality will be approved by Townsend, Elliott & Munson of Philadelphia. A certified check for 2% of the amount of bonds bid for, payable to the District Treasurer, is required.

**WILLISTON, Williams County, No. Dak.—BOND OFFERING.**—Jessie M. Hart, City Auditor, will receive sealed bids until 8 p. m. March 28 for \$50,000 5½% coupon sewer bonds. Dated March 1 1927. Denom. \$1,000. Due March 1 as follows: \$2,000, 1932; \$1,000, 1933; \$3,000, 1934; \$2,000, 1935; \$3,000, 1936 to 1938 incl.; \$4,000, 1939; \$3,000, 1940; \$4,000, 1941 to 1944 incl.; \$5,000, 1945; \$4,000, 1946, and \$1,000, 1947. Prin. and int. (M. & S.) payable at a place designated by the successful bidder. A certified check for 2% of the bid required. Legality approved by Lancaster, Simpson, Junell & Dorsey of Minneapolis.

**WILMINGTON, New Castle County, Del.—BOND SALE.**—The following two issues of 4½% bonds, aggregating \$385,000, offered on Sept. 20—V. 123, p. 1538—were awarded on that date to Laird, Bissell & Meeds of Wilmington and Harris, Forbes & Co. of N. Y. City, jointly: \$185,000 street and sewer bonds. Due Oct. 1 1963. 200,000 water bonds. Due Oct. 1 1958. Date Oct. 1 1926.

**WINCHESTER, Middlesex County, Mass.—NOTES OFFERED.**—Harrie Y. Nutter, Town Treasurer, received sealed bids until March 18 for \$200,000 revenue notes. Date March 24 1927. Due Nov. 10 1927.

**WINSTON-SALEM, Forsyth County, No. Caro.—BOND OFFERING.**—W. H. Holcomb, Commissioner of Public Accounts and Finance, will receive sealed bids until 12 m. March 25 for \$550,000 4½% coupon city hall bonds. Due March 1 as follows: \$40,000 1928 to 1932, incl.; \$18,000 1933 to 1947, incl., and \$16,000 1948 to 1952, incl. The bonds will be prepared under the supervision of the United States Mortgage & Trust Co., N. Y. City, which will certify as to the genuineness of the signatures of the officials, and the seal impressed thereon. Principal and interest (M. & S.) payable at the office of the above-mentioned Trust company. A certified check, payable to the city, for 2% of the bid, required. Legality to be approved by Reed, Dougherty, Hoyt & Washburn of N. Y. City.

**WOBURN, Middlesex County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.**—The Old Colony Corp. of Boston has purchased a \$300,000 temporary loan on a 3.76% discount basis.

**WORCESTER, Worcester County, Mass.—ADDITIONAL BOND SALES FOR 1926.**—Curtis & Sanger of Boston purchased on June 1 the following two issues of 4% bonds, aggregating \$175,000, at 100.91: \$100,000 water supply bonds. Due serially, Jan. 1 1927 to 1946 incl. 75,000 water mains bonds. Due serially, Jan. 1 1927 to 1931 incl. Date June 8 1926.

**WYANDOTTE COUNTY (P. O. Kansas City), Kan.—BOND OFFERING.**—William Beggs, County Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 2 p. m. March 28 for \$14,292.96 4½% special improvement bonds (series Gibbs Road Final). Date Jan. 1 1927. Denom. \$1,000 except one for \$292.96. Due Jan. 1 as follows: \$292.96, 1928, and \$1,000, 1929 to 1942, incl. Prin. and int. (J. & J.) payable at the office of the State Treasurer at Topeka. A certified check, payable to the Chairman of Board of County Commissioners, for 2% of the bid required. Legality approved by Wood & Oakley of Chicago.

**YORKVILLE, Oneida County, N. Y.—BONDS VOTED.**—At the election held March 15 the voters authorized the issuance of \$36,000 improvement bonds.

**YOUNGSTOWN, Mahoning County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.**—The following ten issues of 5% bonds, aggregating \$341,000, offered on March 7—V. 124, p. 958—were awarded to Stephens & Co. of New York City, and Seasongood & Mayer, of Cincinnati, at 104.39, a basis of about 4.24%: \$100,000 Andrews Ave. opening bonds. Date Feb. 1 1927. Due \$5,000 Oct. 1 1928 to 1947, incl. 61,000 street opening and widening bonds. Date Feb. 1 1927. Due Oct. 1 as follows: \$7,000 1928 and \$6,000 1929 to 1937, incl.

- 50,000 improvement, city's portion, bonds. Date Feb. 1 1927. Due \$5,000 Oct. 1 1928 to 1937, incl.
- 50,000 parks and playgrounds bonds. Date Feb. 1 1927. Due \$5,000 Oct. 1 1928 to 1937, incl.
- 30,000 West Ave. bridge bonds. Dste Feb. 1 1927. Due \$3,000 Oct. 1 1928 to 1937, incl.
- 15,000 comfort station bonds. Date Feb. 1 1927. Due \$3,000 Oct. 1 1928 to 1937, incl.
- 10,000 storm emergency bonds. Date Feb. 1 1927. Due \$2,000 Oct. 1 1928 to 1932, incl.
- 10,000 West Side library bonds. Date Feb. 1 1927. Due \$1,000 Oct. 1 1928 to 1937, incl.
- 10,000 Brownlee Wood library bonds. Date Feb. 1 1927. Due \$1,000 Oct. 1 1928 to 1937, incl.
- 5,000 East Side library site bonds. Date Dec. 15 1926. Due \$1,000 Oct. 1 1928 to 1932, incl.

**CANADA, its Provinces and Municipalities.**

**BURNABY DISTRICT (P. O. Edmonds), B. C.—BOND SALE.**—The following four issues of 5% bonds, aggregating \$286,500, offered on March 14—V. 124, p. 1407—were awarded to R. P. Clark & Co. and the Royal Financial Corp., both of Vancouver, jointly, at 99.04, a basis of about 5.09%: \$148,000 district improvement bonds. Due in 15 years. 100,000 road bonds. Due in 15 years. 7,500 sidewalk bonds. Due in 15 years. 31,000 school bonds. Due in 20 years.

**CARLETON COUNTY (P. O. Ottawa), Ont.—BIDS.**—Following is a complete list of the bids for the three issues of 5% bonds aggregating \$147,500 awarded on March 3 to the Bank of Toronto at 100.16, a basis of about 4.96% (V. 124, p. 1560):

Bidder	Rate Bid.
R. A. Daly & Co.	100.11
J. L. Graham & Co.	100.032
Fry, Mills, Spence & Co.	99.89
Wood, Gundy & Co.	99.85
McLeod, Young, Weir & Co.	99.76
Dyment, Anderson & Co.	99.62
Bell, Gouinlock & Co.	99.60
Royal Securities Corporation	99.60

**CORONACH SCHOOL DISTRICT, Sask.—BOND SALE.**—H. M. Turner & Co. of Regina purchased during February an issue of \$300,000 5½% school bonds. Due in 15 years.

**ETOBICOKE TOWNSHIP, Ont.—BONDS APPROVED.**—The Council passed a \$125,000 road by-law.

**LA TUQUE, Que.—BOND OFFERING.**—A. Roy, Secretary-Treasurer of School Commission, will receive sealed bids until 7 p. m. March 22 for \$69,700 school bonds. Alternative bids are asked for 5% bonds maturing serially 1928 to 1952 incl. and 5½% bonds maturing serially 1928 to 1938 inclusive.

**NEW TORONTO, Ont.—BOND OFFERING.**—W. B. Curtis, Town Treasurer, will receive sealed bids until 12 m. March 21 for the following two issues of 5% bonds aggregating \$78,400: \$70,750 paving bonds. 7,650 street extension bonds. Prin. and int. payable in equal annual installments.

**NORTH YORK TOWNSHIP (P. O. Willowdale), Ont.—BOND SALE.**—The \$261,267 5½% local improvement bonds offered on March 7 (V. 124, p. 1560) were awarded to McDonagh, Somers & Co. of Toronto at 104.383. Other bidders were:

Bidder	Rate Bid.
A. E. Ames & Co., Toronto	104.03
C. H. Burgess & Co., Toronto	104.251
Dominion Securities Corp., Toronto	102.070
Wood, Gundy & Co., Toronto	102.80

**REGINA, Sask.—BOND SALE.**—The following five issues of 5% coupon bonds, aggregating \$227,675, offered on March 15—V. 124, p. 1407—were awarded to the Dominion Securities Corp. of Toronto at 99.64, a basis of about 5.03%: \$175,000 pavement bonds. Due in 15 years. 5,600 domestic sewers bonds. Due in 30 years. 11,775 water mains bonds. Due in 30 years. 10,300 boulevard bonds. Due in 15 years. 25,000 concrete walks bonds. Due in 15 years. Date Jan. 1 1927.

**SASKATCHEWAN, Sask.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—The following is a list of authorizations granted by the Local Government Board from Feb. 19 to 26, inclusive: Schools—Rosedale, \$4,500; Fartown, \$2,200; Wild Rose Valley, \$1,600; Tweedyside, \$4,000; Ameroid, \$1,200; Canyon, \$1,300; Durban, \$1,000; Stapleton, \$3,000; Paragon, R. T. Co., \$1,800.

**WALKERVILLE, Ont.—BOND SALE.**—Wood, Gundy & Co. recently purchased an issue of \$222,672 5% local improvement bonds at 99.47, a basis of about 5.06%. Due serially in 5, 10 and 15 years. The only other bid was C. H. Burgess & Co., offering 98.51.

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