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The Financial Situation.

Governor Smith's acceptance speech on Wednesday night, on the formal tender to him of the nomination for President of the United States by the Democratic Party, makes the liquor question the paramount issue of the campaign—in fact, virtually the only issue, since on the Farm question and other leading points of controversy, his expression of views accords so closely with the views of Mr. Hoover, his Republican opponent, as to make it difficult to find any essential points of difference between the two, as we show in a separate article on a subsequent page. On the other hand, on the liquor question the views of the two men are as wide apart as the poles, and Mr. Smith is to be congratulated for having brought out the distinction so clearly and with such great candor.

After what he says in his speech, there cannot be the slightest doubt as to his attitude and position with reference to that issue, any more than there can be any doubt of the attitude and position of Mr. Hoover. The latter in his acceptance speech said, without qualification, "I do not favor the repeal of the 18th amendment," meaning the Federal Prohibition amendment, which by its first paragraph declares that "the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States, and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof, for beverage purposes, is hereby prohibited." Governor Smith in defining his position on this prohibition amendment, also speaks without reserve or equivocation. He says: "I personally believe in an amendment to the 18th amendment which would give to each individual State itself, only after approval by a referendum of popular vote of its peo-

ple, the right wholly within its borders to import, manufacture, or cause to be manufactured, and sell alcoholic beverages, the sale to be made only by the State itself and not for consumption in any public place." There can be no mistaking the meaning of such a declaration.

With this sharp cleavage in the views of the two candidates on the only point of real consequence on which there is any great difference between them, it happens, however, that the liquor question, rightly considered, has absolutely no place in a Presidential campaign, unless, indeed, it is intended to go a step further and carry the contest into the Congressional elections, and likewise into the different elections to the State legislatures throughout the country. If the contest is to be made State-wide and nation-wide, in the way indicated, and Governor Smith is to be the leader in the crusade, then possibly something can be accomplished towards changing the Prohibition amendment, or at least establishing whether such a change is possible. But, judging from appearances, there is no intention of doing anything of the kind.

In these circumstances, the issue is a wholly extraneous one, since the President, in and by himself, can do nothing to bring about a change. Under the Federal Constitution the matter of instituting changes, or altering in any way the fabric of that instrument, is made the sole duty of Congress and of the State Legislatures. The President is endowed with no authority or function in connection with the matter. In making this statement we do not wish our own position on the question to be misunderstood. We agree entirely with what Governor Smith has to say, and we think the solution proposed by him is wise and sensible. We believe he is entirely right when he asserts that "disregard of the Prohibition laws is insidiously sapping the respect for all law" and we are not at all prepared to deny his claim that the plan proposed would have certain distinct merits and advantages: "It would preserve for the dry States a Federal enforcement of Prohibition within their own borders. It would permit to citizens of other States a carefully limited and controlled method of effectuating the popular will, wholly within the borders of those States without the old evil of the saloon. Such a method would re-establish respect for law." Perhaps most important of all, it would "assure to each State its complete right of local self-government."

All this, however, does not change the fact that under the United States Constitution, amending that instrument is made the duty alone of Congress and the State legislatures, and the President is given no function or power in connection with it. What are the provisions respecting amendments contained in the Constitution itself? Article V., which specifies

the ways in which the Constitution can be amended, says: "The Congress, whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three-fourths thereof, as one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress."

It will be seen that two alternative methods of making amendments exist. Congress on its own initiative may propose amendments, but only by a two-thirds vote of both the Senate and the House of Representatives, or the Legislatures of two-thirds of the States may force Congress to call a convention for proposing amendments, but in either case the amendments must be ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States or by conventions in those States. The number of States in the Union is now so large as to render impracticable united action by two-thirds of the whole number in an application for calling a convention for proposing amendments. This leaves as the only feasible method of amending the Constitution, that of action by Congress itself, and then only by the required two-thirds vote of both Houses. But that does not end the process. After the proposed amendment has been agreed upon it must be referred back to the Legislatures of the different States, and be ratified by three-fourths of them. At no step in the proceeding is any part assigned to the President. He can have no hand in it. He is not even given the right of approval or disapproval, such as he possesses with reference to ordinary measures or bills passed by Congress. In other words, he does not possess any veto powers over Constitutional amendments, and such amendments do not require his signature either before they are referred to the State Legislatures or after they have been ratified by the requisite three-fourths of them.

The situation of Governor Smith, therefore, in thrusting the Prohibition question so prominently to the front is an anomalous one. He is a candidate for President and seeking support for a policy which as President he can have no part in carrying out. In his speech he does not refer anywhere to the Constitutional requirements respecting amendments but leaves the citizen wholly in the dark on that point. He does, however, refer to the duty imposed upon the President to "recommend to the consideration of Congress such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." Having that duty in mind, he goes on to say: "I personally believe that there should be change (meaning in the Prohibition law) and I shall advise the Congress in accordance with my constitutional duty of whatever changes I deem 'necessary and expedient.' *It will then be for the people and the representatives in the National and State Legislatures to determine whether these changes shall be made.*"

Evidently Governor Smith did not see the implications of the foregoing statement by him. It is not necessary to wait until he can succeed in having himself elected President and make the recommendation to Congress referred to, in order to get the judgment of "the people and the representatives in the National and State Legislature." The time to get

an expression of opinion is right here and now. Representatives of Congress will be elected next November from every Congressional district in the country at the same time that the President is chosen, and many States will also elect U. S. Senators. Not only that, but most of the States will have elections, too, for the State Legislatures. Accordingly, an opportunity will then exist, which will not be repeated until two years later (when another Congressional election comes around), for testing the question in the broadest and most comprehensive way. The Federal requirements, respecting Constitutional amendments, which we have quoted above, make it plain that the Prohibition amendment can be changed only by Congress, with the aid of the State Legislatures, and, therefore, no effort should be spared to elect members who shall be in full accord with the views advocated by Mr. Smith. In order to attain the object sought, the important thing is not the election of Mr. Smith, but of the right members of Congress and of the State Legislatures. Mr. Smith says "the people themselves should, after this eight years of trial, be permitted to say whether existing conditions should be rectified." Nothing truer was ever said. Why not then let the people render their verdict the coming November?

Governor Smith tells us he is raising "what I (he) profoundly believe to be a great moral issue, involving the righteousness of our national conduct and the protection of our children's morals." John J. Raskob, the Chairman of the Democratic Committee, it is known, also looks upon the question as a moral issue. This being so, why should not both insist that the test be applied everywhere throughout the land to candidates for members of Congress and to members of the different State Legislatures. They should all be required to declare whether they are for or against the Prohibition amendment. If the issue is a moral one, as most assuredly it is, then no means should be left unemployed for electing candidates of the right kind—that is, candidates pledged to secure a modification of the Prohibition Amendment. As already stated, to secure modification of the Prohibition Amendment, the really essential thing is the election of a Congress and of the several State Legislatures in full accord with the proposal, for decision will rest entirely with them. On the other hand, as far as that issue alone is concerned, it is of no consequence whatever, whether Mr. Hoover or Mr. Smith shall be the successful candidate for President, since, as we have shown above, the President can have no hand in the matter in any event.

Inasmuch as Mr. Smith is pleading so earnestly for modification, and since he is the proper person to lead in the crusade, he might follow up what he has already said and done with the further assurance that in the event of his election to the Presidency, he will promptly call Congress together, as soon after the 4th of March as possible, in order that that body may immediately draft and adopt the necessary modification of the Prohibition amendment for submission to the different State Legislatures and for the purpose of having these latter act with equal expedition in ratifying the amendment. In that way Mr. Smith could be really helpful. The duty of action rests entirely with Congress, but Congress cannot act until it is in session, and the President does have the power to convene that body ahead of the customary time. The simple election of Mr. Smith would get the country nowhere as far as determin-

ing this particular issue is concerned. A remedy would be as far off as ever. If, after making the contest with zeal and energy, Messrs. Smith and Raskob failed in securing Congressmen and Legislatures responsive to their views, at least they would have the satisfaction of knowing that they had done their full duty in the premises and that fault for the failure did not rest with them.

Of course, in making these suggestions, we do so with no idea that they will find acceptance and adoption. We merely undertake to indicate what ought to be done if the campaign for modification of the Prohibition amendment is conducted in good faith. The state of things, as it now exists, is that while Mr. Smith is making the Prohibition question his leading issue, many dry Democrats will vote for him notwithstanding they do not agree with him, on the express ground that as President he would be powerless in any event towards doing anything for modifying or repealing the amendment. On the other hand, the wets would be for him anyway, since their views accord with his own and in addition, he would get the votes of many Republicans of the same persuasion of mind. In such a state of things, the raising of the Prohibition question in the canvass for the Presidency, with no intention of carrying the issue into the Congressional and the State elections, takes on the aspect of introducing an entirely false issue—a mere vote getting device for obtaining popular support in the wet States. We imagine that Governor Smith would not care to rest under any such imputation, and that neither would Mr. Raskob. Perhaps the Republicans can be induced to accept the challenge offered by Mr. Smith and Mr. Raskob and bring the question of prohibition up as a real issue before the different constituencies throughout the country, now that Mr. Smith has made it such a live matter. It would be a great point gained if they did, though we very much fear that they will be no more inclined to tackle the problem in its full and all embracing sense than the Democrats appear to be.

The Federal Reserve statements this week do not wear quite so favorable an aspect as did those of last week. As far as brokers' loans are concerned, there is a further decrease in the total the present week, but it is of relatively slight extent and the total still remains exceedingly large, and declines very slowly. Last week the amount was reduced from \$4,273,884,000 to \$4,223,230,000 and this week there is a further reduction to \$4,201,131,000. At the latter figure, however, comparison is with only \$3,168,074,000 at the corresponding date a year ago when the amount was far from small. The week's changes under the different headings are relatively small, the same as the change in the grand total. The loans to brokers and dealers (secured by stocks and bonds), made by the 45 reporting member banks for their own account increased during the week from \$783,437,000 to \$808,873,000, while the loans made by these reporting member banks for account of out-of-town banks decreased from \$1,579,742,000 to \$1,535,448,000 and those "for account of others" from \$1,860,051,000 to \$1,856,810,000.

What attracts most attention, however, is the renewed increase in the borrowings of the member banks at the Reserve banks. As measured by the holdings of discounted bills, this borrowing at the 12 Reserve institutions increased during the week

from \$1,002,534,000 to \$1,037,446,000; at the corresponding date a year ago (Aug. 24) these discounts aggregated no more than \$414,157,000. Holdings of acceptances and of U. S. Government securities show relatively slight changes during the week, the first having decreased from \$189,902,000 Aug. 15 to \$183,600,000 Aug. 22, and the latter having increased from \$206,413,000 to \$206,910,000. The result altogether is that total bill and security holdings—measuring the extent of Reserve credit in use—stand at \$1,428,946,000 the present week, as against \$1,399,839,000 a week ago, and comparing with \$1,038,107,000 on Aug. 24 1927. Federal Reserve notes in circulation increased during the week from \$1,638,622,000 to \$1,641,967,000, while aggregate gold reserves increased from \$2,612,592,000 to \$2,613,988,000. Pressure at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York appears to be especially pronounced, the discounts here during the week having risen from \$274,575,000 to \$314,026,000, an increase of \$39,451,000, which is more than the increase for the 12 Reserve banks combined, including that at New York.

The stock market the present week has broadly and steadily advanced, finally developing actual buoyancy on Friday. Money rates have continued to rule high, but this has had no tendency to restrict the speculation for higher prices. In fact, the market seems to be getting accustomed to high rates and to ignore that fact altogether. The renewal rate for call loans on the New York Stock Exchange on Monday was 6%, but in the afternoon the rate on new loans rose to 7½%. On Tuesday the renewal rate was marked up to 7% and it has not been at any lower figure than this on any subsequent day, and, in fact, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday all loans were at that figure. The volume of business, too, has been on an increasing scale, rising on Friday to over 3½ million shares. On Monday the sales aggregated 2,437,496 shares; on Tuesday 3,064,730 shares; on Wednesday 3,175,575 shares; on Thursday 2,965,260 shares, and on Friday 3,527,800 shares. In the Curb Market the dealings reached 317,866 shares on Monday; 270,210 shares on Tuesday; 378,405 shares on Wednesday; 331,565 shares on Thursday, and 383,489 shares on Friday.

Business has been widely distributed throughout the list and many new high records for the year have been established, including, among others, Montgomery Ward & Co., American Smelting & Refining, Allied Chemical & Dye, Anaconda Copper, Kennecott Copper, Granby Copper, American Can, Chrysler Corp., Continental Can, Cushman's Sons, Paramount Famous Lasky Corp., Natl. Cash Register, Purity Bakeries, and Sears-Roebuck & Co.

Among the groups especially distinguished for their upward movement may be mentioned the copper stocks, some of the motor stocks, several of the steel stocks; and in addition, some of the railroad shares have also been prominent in the rise. The continued strength of the steel market has been the agency behind the rise in the steel shares and in like manner the continued demand for the copper metal has been the stimulating agency in the rise of the copper shares. As far as the railroad group is concerned, the impression is gaining ground that with larger crops and continued activity in the steel trade, these rail carriers have the prospect of improving traffic and improving revenues ahead of them. Some of the high-priced specialties have shown more ir-

regularity than the general list, even though their trend has been strongly upward the same as the rest of the list. The remark applies to General Motors, which declined from 185½ on Saturday to 181⅞ on Tuesday and then advanced to 192⅞ on Friday, closing at 191⅞ against 185½ at the close on Friday of last week. U. S. Steel while strong has also shown considerable irregularity; it sold up to 152¾ on Wednesday, but declined to 149⅞ on Thursday, and closed yesterday at 150¾ against 147¾ on Friday of last week. Bethlehem Steel closed yesterday at 61 against 60⅞ the previous Friday and Ludlum Steel at 61½ against 58½. As for the copper group, Kennecott Copper closed yesterday at 97¼ against 95⅞ the previous Friday; Anaconda Copper at 71¼ against 66¾; Cerro de Pasco at 77⅞ against 77; Granby Copper at 59 against 53½, and American Smelting & Refining at 238½ against 213. Among the high priced specialties, Montgomery Ward & Co. closed yesterday at 219 against 194½ the previous Friday; American Tel. & Tel. at 179¼ against 175⅞; General Electric at 157¾ against 155¼; Allied Chemical & Dye 197½ against 184¾; Sears-Roebuck & Co. at 150¾ against 129⅞, and Radio Corporation of America at 191 against 181¾.

In the motor group Chrysler closed at 98¼ against 94⅞ on Friday of last week; Studebaker at 79½ against 72½; Packard at 83½ against 80½; Nash at 88⅞ against 86; Hudson at 81¾ against 80¼; and Hupp at 64⅞ against 61¼. In the rubber group U. S. Rubber common closed yesterday at 34⅞ against 32¼ the previous Friday and the pfd. at 65 against 61⅞; Goodyear Tire & Rubber closed at 64¾ against 55; and B. F. Goodrich at 81¾ against 76. In the oil group Atlantic Refining has again been a strong feature; it closed yesterday at 168½ against 165¾ the previous Friday; Marland closed at 37¾ against 37¼, and Standard Oil of N. J. at 45¼ against 45⅞.

In the railroad list New York Central closed yesterday at 170¾ against 165 the previous Friday; Baltimore & Ohio at 110½ against 106⅞; Chesapeake & Ohio at 184 against 182¾; Atchison at 193 against 190⅞; Canadian Pacific at 212½ against 206½; Great Northern at 97 against 97⅞; Northern Pacific at 98½ against 95½; Wabash at 77 against 75½; Union Pacific at 196¼ against 193¾; Southern Pacific at 123¼ against 120½; New York Chicago & St. Louis at 125½ against 125¾; St. Louis South Western at 103⅞ against 93 bid; and St. Louis-San Francisco at 117½ against 113¾.

European securities markets again evinced a more cheerful tone the past week, with London and Berlin engaging in slight bursts of activity, although Paris remained more subdued. Caution is everywhere manifest, with traders little inclined as yet to forget the furious markets of several months ago and their unfortunate sequels. The activity would seem to be well balanced, with investment issues duly represented in the turnover along with a moderate amount of speculative trading. On the London Stock Exchange, tighter monetary conditions weakened the gilt-edged section early in the week, but some recovery followed the commencement of dealings in the new Treasury 5 per cents of 1933-35 on Thursday. Home rails were firmer as a group with a few small rises apparent on reports of better traffic receipts. Oil issues were somewhat easier after their steady

rise of last week, but the international shares were firm under the influence of improvement at New York. The industrial group found most favor among the speculative element, with gramophone and artificial silk issues prominent in all sessions, although no great movements took place either way. Tobacco and communication issues also were active. In yesterday's market virtually the entire list displayed strength.

The Paris Bourse began the week with a firm undertone which gave way to dull heaviness in the middle of the week, but in the late trading on Thursday some improvement was again apparent. Selling orders were readily absorbed on Monday, and trading increased in volume without greatly affecting quotations. The better tone induced some liquidation by speculators and the market reacted Tuesday. Rumors of a rise in the Bank of France discount rate set prices tumbling Wednesday, with the final figures showing considerable losses. Decided improvement set in Thursday, however, with the market recouping the losses of the previous day. The better tone was prompted by M. Poincare's declaration that there will be no tax increases and by a satisfactory statement of the Bank of France. The Berlin Boerse opened the week with a firm undertone and a degree of confidence was maintained in most sessions, but trading was very restricted. Price changes were small, the tendency toward improvement which set in on better advices from New York being offset by rumors as to the health of Foreign Minister Stresemann. Reichsbank shares advanced steadily, while some of the speculative favorites also did well.

Official arrangements for signing the multilateral treaty renouncing war as an instrument of national policy in Paris next Monday received their final touches in the past week. Secretary of State Frank B. Kellogg, at whose instance the negotiations with France were extended to include thirteen additional Governments, sailed for Paris on the Ile de France early last Saturday to attend the ceremony in the Salle des Horloges of the Quai d'Orsay as the representative of the United States Government. When sailing, he announced that President William T. Cosgrave of the Irish Free State would attend for his Government. Mr. Kellogg announced also that he would proceed to Dublin after signing the treaty, thus returning the recent official visit to this country made by President Cosgrave. While en route to France, Mr. Kellogg dispatched a message to Sir Austen Chamberlain, Foreign Secretary of the British Government, expressing appreciation of a message in which Sir Austen had assured him of his earnest hopes for the success of the treaty. The Secretary regretted Sir Austen's enforced absence from the ceremony at Paris and sent well wishes for his health. Premier Mackenzie King of Canada journeyed to France for the ceremony on the same vessel with Mr. Kellogg, and both dignitaries were heartily greeted at Havre yesterday on their arrival. The City of Havre presented Mr. Kellogg with a gold pen to be used for signing the treaty, while Mr. King was presented with a specially struck medal. Every care is apparently being exercised to make the occasion as felicitous as possible.

Dispatches from Madrid and Moscow again told of some disappointment in Spain and Russia over the lack of invitations to these two Governments to join the list of original signatories. It was reiterated in

Washington early this week that Governments other than those invited to become original signatories can adhere to the new treaty by notifying Washington of their intention. Russian notification, owing to the lack of diplomatic relations between Washington and Moscow, would necessarily have to come through a third Government. It appeared late in the week that Secretary Kellogg had given his approval to a plan for opening the treaty to all Governments on the day following its signature in Paris by the fifteen original participants. Russian adherence also is to be invited, according to the plan, the French Government acting in the matter. The total list of countries that will be invited to adhere the day after the treaty signature in Paris, was given in a wireless dispatch from the Ile de France to the New York "Times," as follows:

Albania,	Denmark,	Lithuania,	Salvador,
Argentina,	Ecuador,	Luxembourg,	Santo Domingo,
Austria,	Egypt,	Mexico,	Siam,
Bolivia,	Estonia,	Nicaragua,	Spain,
Brazil,	Finland,	Norway,	Sweden,
Bulgaria,	Greece,	Panama,	Switzerland,
Chile,	Guatemala,	Paraguay,	The Netherlands,
China,	Haiti,	Peru,	Turkey,
Colombia,	Honduras,	Portugal,	Uruguay,
Costa Rica,	Hungary,	Rumania,	Venezuela,
Cuba,	Latvia,		Yugoslavia.

Veiled discussion of the Anglo-French agreement on the terms of a possible naval compromise, first announced July 30 by the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Austen Chamberlain, was continued in London, Paris, Washington and Tokio the past week. Reports reaching London Monday intimated that President Coolidge was greatly perturbed by his first study of the summary of the agreement transmitted to Washington by the British Foreign Office. These reports, a London dispatch to the New York Times said, led to some elucidating intimations from British officialdom. The surmises current in Paris and Washington indicate "serious misunderstanding" concerning the nature of the tentative agreement, this report declared. "Strictly speaking," the London dispatch said, "there is not any final and definite Anglo-French naval agreement. There is merely a stage that has been reached after much difficulty in the proceedings of the Preparatory Disarmament Commission of the League of Nations. Now that the French and British agree, officials here see no reason for American perturbation. The agreement is only for the purpose of the coming discussion at the Geneva disarmament session, and if the United States representatives there object to it in toto as useless and ineffective in the task of further limiting navies it is sure to be tossed aside. British officials discount entirely the charge made in a portion of the Liberal press that the French agreement with British policy in matters of naval limitation was obtained at too great a cost when Britain consented to abandon her opposition to the French policy toward land disarmament."

This was followed by an equally informed Paris dispatch, dated Tuesday, from Edwin L. James, special correspondent of the New York Times in the French capital. President Coolidge's insistence on knowing more about the naval agreement constitutes proof of his political sagacity, Mr. James said. "He has probably been told everything there is in the naval agreement," the correspondent added. "In all likelihood, when Paris and London say they have told the Americans all about the accord over cruisers and submarines they are absolutely correct. But it might be suggested that the President try to find out if there are other agreements between London and

Paris. Are there other accords technically quite independent of the naval program, but forming with it the bases of a new policy of cooperation between England and France? In other words, what should be asked, perhaps, is whether or not the entente cordiale has been remade and whether Paris and London have not agreed to look with a common eye on a great many European and world problems which interest them both. The existence of a hard and fast alliance between Britain and France was denied by the Times correspondent, but, he added, "would it be too much to say that France and England have considered how their fleets might be used conjointly in a war—or effort to preserve peace—in which both nations might find themselves involved? That is a much more accurate way to state the situation than to say they have pooled their fleets for better or for worse."

In London on the following day a semi-official statement was circulated by British news agencies which branded as "gross misstatements of the facts," any reports that the agreement contains secret clauses which may be interpreted as leading to the pooling of the two navies. The statement, a London dispatch to the New York Herald-Tribune indicated, declares that the real facts are that "a compromise has been reached which eventually will be submitted to the preliminary committee of the disarmament conference" and adds that "at present efforts are being made to get unanimity in regard to a formula among the principal naval powers which are holding what is described as a round-table conference by means of post and telegraph." Despite all assurances, the Liberal English journals, notably the Manchester Guardian, continued to attack the agreement. A Tokio dispatch of Wednesday to the United Press indicated that the Japanese Government found itself "highly in accord" with the agreement, and would soon advise both Paris and London of her satisfaction with it.

Great significance is attached in the larger European capitals to the forthcoming visit to Paris of the German Foreign Minister, Dr. Gustav Stresemann. The German Minister's acceptance of the French Government's invitation to come to Paris for the signing of the Kellogg multilateral treaty renouncing war as an instrument of national policy aroused some opposition in Germany, chiefly because of the continued French insistence on Allied occupation of the Rhineland. The French action is entirely in accord with the Treaty of Versailles, but it has nevertheless proved increasingly irksome to all elements in Germany. The German plea has been that signature of the Locarno treaties and German cooperation in the work of the League of Nations has rendered such occupation superfluous and a broad propaganda has been conducted to promote withdrawal of the French, British and Belgian troops. Intimations from London have seemed to indicate a British desire to end the occupation as rapidly as possible, but French spokesmen have insisted that it is a necessary guaranty. Press dispatches from the French capital, however, have long insisted that the occupation is continued largely as a bargaining point in the eventual definite settlement of the reparations question. As a preliminary to his visit to Paris for the signing of the Kellogg pact, Dr. Stresemann attended a Cabinet meeting in Berlin at which international affairs were admittedly under discussion. Similarly, a

Cabinet meeting was held in Paris Thursday, at which Dr. Stresemann's visit was the chief subject of discussion, according to an Associated Press report. A meeting between Foreign Minister Stresemann and Premier Poincare has already been arranged, a Paris dispatch of Tuesday to the New York Herald-Tribune indicated. "Officials at the Quai d'Orsay do not conceal the importance which they attach to the meeting," the dispatch added. "In their opinion it would be folly to expect any immediate settlement of the French and German difficulties in the space of an exchange of ideas between the Reich Minister and France's Premier. But they feel that a cordial discussion by the spokesmen of the two governments should sow encouraging seeds for the future. It is realized here that M. Poincare is the only man fully qualified to discuss Franco-German finances and reparations with Herr Stresemann, and the signing of the Kellogg treaty will afford this opportunity, which otherwise might never have presented itself."

Trade and industrial reports from Great Britain continue to furnish cause for disquietude, with the unemployment situation growing steadily worse, while trade and transportation returns are not so happy as might be hoped. The latest unemployment index of the Ministry of Labor shows 11.7 per cent of unemployed among the 11,800,000 registered work people, as against 10.8 per cent. a month earlier and 9.2 per cent. a year ago. Every effort is being made by the Conservative Government to minimize this admittedly alarming trend. In a debate before the House of Commons late in July, Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin made it plain that he fully realized the gravity of the situation which he believed would be remedied chiefly by stimulating emigration. The actual number of unemployed, after adjustments are made, is believed to be between 1,250,000 and 1,300,000, but these figures by themselves are apt to be somewhat misleading. All industrial countries are faced with this problem in greater or lesser degree, with seasonal activities and numerous other influences contributing to variations in the demand for labor. On the basis of pre-war experience, the normal number of unemployed in Great Britain, according to authoritative estimates, would at present be about 400,000 to 500,000. Even with this circumstance borne in mind, however, the continued unemployment constitutes a serious problem.

The review of Great Britain's overseas trade for the first six months of this year, as issued August 10, by the Board of Trade, brings out some interesting facts, the most significant of which is the failure of exports to increase in proportion to the rise in imports. Total imports in the first 6 months of 1928 were £585,750,000, against £378,750,000 in the same period of 1913. Exports in the same period this year totaled £400,250,000, as against £316,000,000 in the first half of 1913. This unfavorable trend is offset to some extent by the fact that the proportion of imports from Empire units is constantly growing larger. Coal production continues to decline, although it is believed that efforts of British exporters to secure a larger share of overseas markets are meeting with a certain degree of success. The iron and steel trade fails to show improvement, while very quiet conditions continue to prevail in the cotton industry. In agriculture, on the other hand, conditions are reported as excellent for all crops.

The railways of Great Britain, taken as a whole, will effect savings estimated at \$15,000,000 a year as the result of a sweeping 2½ per cent. wage reduction agreement between the managers and the unions, which went into effect August 13. Competition with motor buses, however, which is one of the chief reasons for the decline in revenues of British railways, promises to cut further into passenger receipts. The London Northeastern Railway announced last week that it would soon reduce fares throughout the north of England, where new motor bus lines are springing up almost every week. The high development of this mode of transportation was indicated by the inauguration on August 14, of a motorbus service between London and Liverpool with sleeping accommodations for patrons. The drop in coal tonnage is another important factor in the declining revenues of British railways. Taken together, the four largest British railroads—the Great Western; the London, Midland & Scottish; the London & Northeastern and the Southern, were declared by Sir Felix Pole, Managing Director of the first named, to be losing approximately \$5,000,000 a month at the present time. Sir Felix, in an interview in the "Daily Mail," summarized in a London dispatch of Aug. 21 to the New York "Times," ascribed this unsatisfactory state of affairs to three main causes, namely, stagnation of industry, wage burdens imposed by the Government and motor transport competition.

The French budget for 1929 was outlined by Premier and Finance Minister Raymond Poincare Tuesday, in a formal statement. The chief endeavor of M. Poincare, a Paris dispatch to the New York "Times" said, has been to save the French taxpayer from any increase in taxes, while enabling the Government to proceed with the program of economic and social reconstruction demanded by the public at the last election. This was achieved by the Premier, the dispatch indicated, only by severe cutting of the demands of various administrative departments which, if granted, would have augmented the budget by 6,000,000,000 francs. "In framing this budget," M. Poincare said, "the present total of collected revenues has been made the base which I refuse to exceed and intend to balance by energetic compression of expenditures." In considering the Departmental budgets, preference was given by the French Premier to that of the Ministry of War, to assure successful reorganization of the army system in accordance with the new army bill which provides for a reduction in the military service to one year.

No reduction whatever was made in the navy building program, the Premier remarking that "on the one hand, we intend to assure the completion of all ships now in the yards and already authorized by Parliament, and on the other hand, we have included necessary credits for carrying out the year's allotments in building ships and submarines under our naval program, as well as the modernization of present cruisers, which should be completed in 1929; reconstruction of our coastal batteries, improvement of coast defenses and the construction of reservoirs for liquid fuel. In addition, there has been provided an increase of about 110,000,000 francs in the credits assigned to naval aviation." One of the most notable changes in the proposed budget was an increase in the base of income taxable from 7,000 to

10,000 francs. The outline is preceded by the warning that "the economic recovery effected during the last two years, although relatively important, remains precarious and might even be virtually undone without constant vigilance to preserve what has been accomplished."

Parliamentary elections were held in Greece last Sunday, the results constituting a complete and sweeping victory for Premier Eleutherios Venizelos, who resumed his leadership of the Liberal Party in May after several years of voluntary retirement. The election was looked upon as a contest between the Royalists and the Government of the Republic. In his campaign speeches, according to Athens dispatches, M. Venizelos tried to galvanize his countrymen into some semblance of energetic, constructive republicanism. He tried apparently to stem the drift of the tide back to the Government of Greece by the Royalists. In this effort, the veteran leader was more successful than was anywhere expected. Of a total of 250 seats in the Chamber of Deputies, the Liberal Party won 228 as a result of Sunday's balloting, thus settling quite definitely the question of control of the next Parliament. The ultimate and far more important question of whether Greece shall retain the present Republican form of Government, or return to a monarchy, appears also to be definitely settled. The Royalists received only 15 seats in the elections, while the Pangalos Party, grouped with the Royalists, got only 1 seat. The Progressive and Independent Parties each gained three seats. Premier Venizelos, commenting on the outcome of the voting Monday, expressed regret for the misfortunes which have visited Greece in the past eight years. He declared, however, an Athens dispatch to the Associated Press said, that the nation still had sufficient territory, vigor and capacity for work to carve out a fine future for itself.

A proposal made by Secretary of State Frank B. Kellogg for a treaty of arbitration between the United States and Egyptian Governments aroused a good deal of conjecture the past week in Cairo, London and Washington. London was particularly interested, since the foreign relations of Egypt constitute one of the four "reserved points" specified in the unilateral declaration of 1922. Britain, however, a London dispatch to the New York "Times" said, "has placed herself on record unequivocally as favoring the principle of arbitration, and if the United States wishes to provide such means of settlement of possible disputes with Egypt, Britain sees no reason for questioning her action. In view of the extreme unlikelihood of such disputes arising, however, Downing Street is puzzled why Secretary Kellogg should take such action at all." Diplomatic circles in Washington were reported at the same time to be speculating as to how the move would be received in London and how it would affect Great Britain's special status. It was indicated in Washington reports that ever since 1922, when Great Britain formally abolished its protectorate over Egypt and granted the country "theoretical" independence, the State Department has proceeded in its relations with Cairo on the assumption that Egypt is in fact an independent sovereign State. "It is on this assumed basis," a Washington dispatch to the New York "Times" said, "that the new treaty is being negotiated." In Cairo it was openly declared that

the benefit of such a treaty for Egypt was doubtful. "There is a general impression," a Cairo dispatch of Sunday to the New York "Times" said, "that the British Government will object to the treaty or interfere in some manner in order to secure the inclusion of reservations safeguarding British interests."

Winds of hurricane force, accompanied by torrential rains, swept over the southern peninsula of Haiti Aug. 17 and 18, causing the deaths of about 200 persons and rendering 10,000 homeless. Incalculable damage was done to crops by the tropical storm, while the more readily estimated damage to roads, wire communications and public services, was placed in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000. Most of the damage was done in the outlying sections, few of the larger towns and cities being injured to any great extent. Shipping, however, suffered greatly, many of the small coastwise craft being sunk, while others were cast on the shore. The United States naval tug Woodcock made several relief trips to the stricken area, the officers of the vessel reporting that the crops, particularly the all-important coffee crop, were badly damaged in the storm area. Communication with the affected area remained interrupted for a number of days. President Louis Borno visited a part of the devastated district last Saturday and promised the speedy aid of the Haitian Government. The Government decided Monday to appropriate \$100,000 toward relief of the stricken people.

The Swedish Riksbank on Thursday advanced its discount rate from 4% (the figure in effect from May 1) to 4½%. Otherwise no changes have been reported this week in discount rates by any of the central banks of Europe. Rates continue at 7% in Germany; 6½% in Austria; 5½% in Italy and Norway; 5% in Denmark and Madrid; 4½% in London and Holland; 4% in Belgium, and 3½% in France and Switzerland. In London open market discounts remain at 4¼% for short and 4¼@4 5-16% for long bills, the same as on Friday of last week. Money on call in London was 4½% on Wednesday, but down to 3½% yesterday. At Paris open market discounts remain at 3¼% and in Switzerland at 3 7-16%.

A gain of £675,632 in gold is reported by the Bank of England in its latest weekly statement published on Wednesday; moreover, as there was a contraction in note circulation of £874,000, the reserve of gold and notes in the banking department increased £1,549,000. The ratio of reserve to liabilities which is now 52.10% is said to be at its highest percentage since the 52.36% of July 22 1914. In the corresponding period of last year this ratio was 28.97% and two years ago (1926), 26.75%. Public deposits gained £3,532,000 but "other" deposits fell off £4,732,000. Loans on Government securities declined £703,000 and loans on other securities, £1,988,000. The total of gold held by the bank now amounts to £174,823,209 in comparison with £151,492,223 last year and £154,805,514 in 1926. Notes in circulation aggregate £134,919,000 against £136,429,755 in the corresponding week last year. The Bank's official remains unchanged at 4½%. Below we furnish comparisons of the various items of the Bank of England return for five years.

BANK OF ENGLAND'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	1928. Aug. 23.	1927. Aug. 24.	1926. Aug. 25.	1925. Aug. 26.	1924. Aug. 27.
	£	£	£	£	£
Circulation.....	b134,919,000	136,429,755	140,271,005	144,266,870	125,372,030
Public deposits.....	16,611,000	17,424,169	26,116,116	21,812,962	17,041,827
Other deposits.....	97,893,000	102,737,468	102,057,104	104,218,070	105,392,435
Gov't securities.....	27,969,000	55,421,999	38,773,589	35,414,033	40,998,443
Other securities.....	45,093,000	48,140,304	73,313,855	70,114,076	76,903,827
Reserve notes & coin	59,653,000	34,812,468	34,284,509	38,677,352	22,693,356
Coin and bullion a.....	174,823,209	151,492,223	154,805,514	163,194,222	128,315,380
Proportion of reserve to liabilities.....	52.10%	28.97%	26.75%	30 3/4%	18 1/2%
Bank rate.....	4 1/2%	4 1/2%	5%	4 1/2%	4%

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

In its weekly statement of Aug. 18, the Bank of France reports a decrease in note circulation of 371,000,000 francs which reduces the total to 60,552,323,585 francs. Note circulation last week aggregated 60,923,323,585 francs and 61,345,323,585 francs the week before. On the other hand creditor current accounts rose 85,000,000 francs and current accounts and deposits gained 1,578,000,000 francs. Gold holdings which gained 18,132,587 francs during the week now amount to 30,269,449,483 francs, but credit balances abroad dropped 927,825,158 francs. French commercial bills discounted rose 759,000,000 francs, bills bought abroad 872,000,000 francs and advances against securities 4,000,000 francs. Below we furnish a comparison of the various items of the bank's return for 3 weeks past:

BANK OF FRANCE'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

Changes for Week.	Status as of—			
	Aug. 18 1928.	Aug. 11 1928.	Aug. 4 1928.	
Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	
Gold holdings.....Inc.	18,132,587	30,269,449,483	30,251,316,896	30,093,385,798
Credit bals. abr'd.....Dec.	927,825,158	13,567,864,069	14,495,689,227	16,810,425,734
French commercial bills discounted.....Inc.	759,000,000	5,527,656,357	4,768,656,357	2,686,565,347
Bills bought abr'd.....Inc.	872,000,000	16,916,797,986	16,044,797,986	13,604,797,986
Advances agst. sec.....Inc.	4,000,000	2,005,112,396	2,001,112,396	2,032,112,396
Note circulation.....Dec.	371,000,000	60,552,323,585	60,923,323,585	61,345,323,585
Creditor curr.accts.....Inc.	85,000,000	15,166,578,417	15,081,578,417	14,690,578,417
Curr.accts.&dep.....Inc.	1,578,000,000	7,528,284,279	5,950,284,279	5,342,284,279

In its statement for the second week of August, the Bank of Germany reports a decrease in note circulation of 214,070,000 marks. Total circulation now aggregates 4,134,369,000 marks. For the corresponding week last year circulation was 3,592,437,000 marks and the year before 2,861,525,000 marks. Other daily maturing obligations dropped 47,750,000 marks while other liabilities rose 1,838,000 marks. On the asset side of the account gold and bullion rose 8,916,000 marks, reserve in foreign currency 2,449,000 marks, silver and other coin 12,373,000 marks, notes on other German banks 5,036,000 marks and advances 32,022,000 marks, while bills of exchange and checks decreased 305,496,000 marks and other assets dropped 15,182,000 marks. Deposits abroad and investments remained unchanged at 85,626,000 marks and 93,820,000 marks respectively. A comparison of the various items of the bank's return for the past 3 years is furnished below:

REICHSBANK'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

Assets—	Changes for Week.			
	Retichsmarks.	Aug. 15 1928.	Aug. 15 1927.	Aug. 14 1926.
	Retichsmarks.	Retichsmarks.	Retichsmarks.	Retichsmarks.
Gold and bullion.....Inc.	8 916,000	2,240,915,000	1,831,232,000	1,492,575,000
Of which depos.abr'd.....	Unchanged	85,626,000	66,543,000	260,435,000
Res'v in for'n curr.....Inc.	2,449 000	217 003 000	168,590,000	405,858,000
Bills of exch.& checks.....Dec.	305,496,000	2,004,318,000	2,193,928,000	1,108,513,000
Silver and other coin.....Inc.	12,373,000	103,180,000	89,642,000	116,830,000
Notes on oth.Ger.bks.....Inc.	5,036,000	23,693,000	22,658,000	20,127,000
Advances.....Inc.	32,022,000	61,702,000	46,355,000	10,651,000
Investments.....	Unchanged	93,820,000	92,261,000	89,494,000
Other assets.....Dec.	15,182,000	572,286,000	505,434,000	813,038,000
Liabilities—				
Notes in circulation.....Dec.	214,070,000	4,134,369,000	3,592,437,000	2,861,515,000
Oth. daily matur.obllg.....Dec.	47,750,000	560,718,000	596,951,000	703,000,000
Other liabilities.....Inc.	1,838,000	236,492,000	394,431,000	132,681,000

The New York money market remained tight the present week, with only minor fluctuations in rates. Demand loans renewed Monday at 6%, but the rate rose to 7 1/2% in the course of the day. The rate fluctuated narrowly in the subsequent trading, the range Tuesday being 7 to 7 1/2%, while on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday an undeviating figure of 7% prevailed. Withdrawals by the banks were heavy on all days, partly to meet large requisitions for Government account and partly to meet the heavier commercial and agricultural demands that are now becoming pronounced. The sums withdrawn amounted to \$35,000,000 Monday, \$30,000,000 Tuesday, \$25,000,000 Wednesday, and \$25,000,000 Thursday. Time money was in fair demand at the high figure of 6 1/2% for all maturities recently established. A few deals were made at 6 1/4% for the shorter maturities, but not much money was available at this figure. Brokers' loans against stock and bond collateral, as reported by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for the 45 reporting member banks, furnished somewhat of a surprise for the financial community when the weekly statement was issued Thursday evening. A rise in the total was generally expected owing to increased dealings in securities, but instead the total showed a drop for the week of \$22,099,000. Gold imports for the week ended Wednesday night were \$330,000, while exports amounted to \$104,000. This is the third successive week in which no important outflow of gold has taken place.

Dealing in detail with the rates from day to day, the renewal rate on Monday was 6%, but as the day advanced the charge on new loans gradually moved up to 7 1/2%. Tuesday the renewal rate was marked up to 7% and 7 1/2% was again reached on new loans. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday all loans were at 7%, including renewals. For time loans the rate the early part of the week was 6 1/4@ 6 1/2%, but on Thursday and Friday only the single figure of 6 1/2% was quoted. Rates for commercial paper have further advanced. Names of choice character maturing in four to six months are now quoted at 5 1/2@5 3/4%, with an occasional transaction at 5 1/4%. For names less well known the quotation is 5 3/4%. The rate for New England mill paper is 5 1/2%.

Rates for banks' and bankers' acceptances have remained unchanged during the week, the posted rates of the American Acceptance Council for prime bankers' acceptances eligible for purchase by the Federal Reserve banks continuing at 4 3/4% bid and 4 5/8% asked for bills running 30 days and also for bills running 60 and 90 days, 4 7/8% bid and 4 3/4% asked for 120 days, and 5 1/4% bid and 5 1/8% asked for 150 and 180 days. The posted rate of the Acceptance Council for call loans against acceptances was advanced on Monday from 4 1/2% to 5 1/2%, on Tuesday to 6% and on Thursday to 6 1/2%. Open market rates for acceptances are as follows:

SPOT DELIVERY.

	180 Days		150 Days		120 Days	
	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.
Prime eligible bills.....	5 1/4	5 1/2	5 1/4	5 1/2	5	4 3/4
	90 Days		60 Days		30 Days	
	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.
Prime eligible bills.....	4 3/4	4 1/2	4 3/4	4 1/2	4 3/4	4 1/2

FOR DELIVERY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS.

Eligible member banks.....	5 bid
Eligible non-member banks.....	5 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 ON ALL CLASS AND MATURITIES OF ELIGIBLE PAPER.

Federal Reserve Bank.	Rate in Effect on Aug. 24.	Date Established.	Previous Rate.
Boston	5	July 19 1928	4½
New York	5	July 13 1928	4½
Philadelphia	5	July 26 1928	4½
Cleveland	5	Aug. 1 1928	4½
Richmond	5	July 13 1928	4½
Atlanta	5	July 14 1928	4½
Chicago	5	July 11 1928	4½
St. Louis	5	July 19 1928	4½
Minneapolis	4½	Apr. 25 1928	4
Kansas City	4½	June 7 1928	4
Dallas	4½	May 7 1928	4
San Francisco	4½	June 2 1928	4

Sterling exchange continues dull, ruling lower, though steadier than a week ago. The range this week has been from 4.84 $\frac{7}{8}$ to 4.85 $\frac{1}{8}$ for bankers' sight, compared with 4.84 $\frac{7}{8}$ to 4.85 $\frac{1}{4}$ last week. The range for cable transfers has been from 4.85 7-32 to 4.85 7-16 compared with 4.85 7-16 to 4.85 19-32 a week ago. The underlying features of the market have not changed from the past few weeks. The weakness is due partly to seasonal causes which, unless otherwise offset should become more pronounced as autumn approaches. Under normal conditions the seasonal pressure should continue until after the turn of the year. European funds continue to be attracted to this side owing to the high money rates prevailing here and this circumstance, together with the fact that there is less American money seeking investment in Europe, helps to depress the rate. While London and other European funds are strongly attracted to the New York short-term market, the flow is not so great as it was in the early part of July, partly because most of the money which the London banks had to loan in this category have already been put to employment; again, the tendency of brokers' loans in the New York market is to decline, as a number of large pool operators, trustees, and investment trusts seem to have come into the security market again, buying for cash, so that less money is called for by the New York brokerage houses. However, bankers acceptance rates are sufficiently high in New York to be attractive to European banks, although for the most part it is central bank funds which are employed in this manner.

Banking circles both in New York and London continue to speculate on the prospect of gold imports from London. As London is working with a comparatively narrow margin of gold, small losses would tend to have a pronounced effect on the money market there, so that it is quite probable that were there the prospect of a drain of gold in favor of New York the Bank of England would take measures to halt the efflux before it had gone too far. As it is, there is considerable agitation among London bankers and the press whenever large amounts of gold are taken from the bank, and even when gold from the open market is taken abroad instead of being sold to the bank the buyers are often subject to open or disguised criticism. There continues to be a division of opinion in London as to the prospect that the Bank of England will increase its rediscount rate. Money rates in London have shown a tendency to sag, so much so that only recently the Bank of England authorities felt obliged to meet with a committee of the discount houses and exerted pressure

on them to maintain the rate for 3-months bills at 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 4 5-16%. The intimation was received from the bank that a decline in the rates was considered undesirable. Bankers say that London is strongly averse to any increase in the British bank rate as it would be detrimental to the British export business. British exports rose in July 8.4%.

This week the Bank of England shows an increase in gold holdings of £675,632. On Friday last the Bank of England received £81,000 in sovereigns from Arabia. On Monday the Bank received £600,000 in sovereigns from South Africa and £12,000 in gold bars. On Tuesday the Bank reported the sale of £13,000 in gold bars. On Wednesday the Bank reported the sale of £8,000 in gold bars. British customs returns for Aug. 13-Aug. 16 showed gold imports of £1,146,673 and exports of £693,849, of which £666,200 was taken by Germany. Germany took £1,258,825 the week before. At the Port of New York the gold movement for the week Aug. 16-22, as reported by the Federal Bank of New York, consisted of imports of \$330,000 of which all but \$17,000 came from Latin America. Gold exports totaled \$104,000, of which \$54,000 was shipped to Germany and \$50,000 to Mexico. There was no Canadian movement of gold either to or from New York. Canadian exchange has been firm. The premium on Montreal funds was 3-64 of 1% on Saturday last and on Monday and Tuesday; 1-32 of 1% on Wednesday, 1-64 of 1% on Thursday, and 1-32 to 1-16 of 1% Friday.

Referring to day-to-day rates, sterling on Saturday last was steady in a dull half-holiday market. Bankers' sight was 4.85@4.85 $\frac{1}{8}$, cable transfers 4.85 $\frac{3}{8}$ @4.85 7-16. On Monday sterling was under pressure. Bankers' sight was 4.84 15-16@4.85 1-32. cable transfers 4.85 5-16@4.85 11-32. On Tuesday the market continued adverse to sterling. The range was 4.84 $\frac{7}{8}$ @4.85 for bankers' sight and 4.8522@4.85 $\frac{1}{4}$ for cable transfers. On Wednesday the market was quiet and steady. The range was 4.84 $\frac{7}{8}$ @4.85 for bankers' sight and 4.85 7-32@4.85 5-16 for cable transfers. On Thursday sterling was steady. The range was 4.84 $\frac{7}{8}$ @4.85 1-32 for bankers' sight and 4.85 $\frac{1}{4}$ @4.85 11-32 for cable transfers. Yesterday the market was somewhat firmer. The range was 4.84 15-16 @4.85 3-32 for bankers' sight and 4.85 9-32@4.85 13-32 for cable transfers. Closing quotations yesterday were 4.84 15-16 for demand and 4.85 5-16 for cable transfers. Commercial sight bills finished at 4.84 15-16, 60-day bills at 4.81 $\frac{1}{8}$, 90-day bills at 4.79 $\frac{3}{8}$, documents for payment (60 days) at 4.81 $\frac{1}{8}$, and seven-day grain bills at 4.84 $\frac{1}{4}$. Cotton and grain for payment closed at 4.84 15-16.

The Continental exchanges have been inclined to fractional ease owing to a sympathetic movement with sterling. French francs ruled fractionally easier than last week, due in part to a considerable flow of French funds to London and Berlin and in a less degree to New York. While money rates are still easy in Paris, there has been a tendency for money to harden. There are even hints of a prospect of an increase in the Bank of France rate of rediscount. The rate has been at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ % since Jan. 19. Premier Poincare recently stated that there can hardly be any appreciable tax reduction in France before 1931, although in 1929 the exemption may

be increased from 7,000 francs to 10,000 francs, with the annulment of some minor indirect taxes. Prices are tending upward in France and nearly every foreign exchange is now at a premium against the franc. The depreciation of the franc as compared with the other currencies is believed to be due principally to the export of funds, chiefly to Germany. French banks are discounting German bills at rates substantially lower than those current in Berlin.

German marks are appreciably easier than they were last week and the cable transfer rate ruled for the greater part of the week at 23.82½, which compares with dollar parity of 23.80. As already noted in the discussion of sterling exchange, Germany has taken considerable gold from London and small amounts have been shipped from New York during the past three weeks. The gold shipments from London to Berlin are subject to constant criticism by the London money market. The argument is advanced that a measure of discrimination should be employed, as it is considered that Berlin is hardly on full gold standard, since were exchange to go against Berlin there would be opposition to a corresponding outgo of gold.

It is pointed out that although the Reichsbank did not take the initiative and, in fact, intimated to the German banks that the transactions were viewed with disfavor, the Reichsbank is subject to criticism for having allowed this one-sided gold movement to take place. London opinion states that so long as Germany itself is not on a gold basis (ready to convert notes into gold) shipments to the Reichsbank, even on an arbitrage basis, cannot be considered wholly justified, and financial authorities in London say that the rule of reciprocity, like that of the abstention of central banks from buying from an unwilling seller, should be recognized by all central banks which participate in the movement towards co-operation. Berlin dispatches in replying to such suggestions state that the Reichsbank has no intention of introducing irksome measures to restrict the influx of gold. The German financial press endorses these statements, remarking that the time has not yet come for the application of Clause 31 of the Reichsbank statute concerning the convertibility of notes into gold. The Reichsbank's gold reserves stand at 2,240,915,000 reichsmarks, an increase over the previous week's reports of 8,916,000 reichsmarks. Italian lire have shown fractional firmness throughout the week in contrast to most of the Europeans.

The London check rate on Paris closed at 124.23 on Friday of this week, against 124.21 on Friday of last week. In New York sight bills on the French centre finished at 3.90 5-16, against 3.90 9-16 a week ago; cable transfers at 3.90 9-16, against 3.90 13-16, and commercial sight bills at 3.90 1/8, against 3.90 1/4. Antwerp belgas finished at 13.90 for checks and at 13.91 for cable transfers, as against 13.90 1/4 and 13.91 on Friday of last week. Final quotations for Berlin marks were 23.83 for checks and 23.84 for cable transfers, in comparison with 23.83 1/2 and 23.84 1/2 a week earlier. Italian lire closed at 5.23 5/8 for bankers' sight bills and at 5.23 7/8 for cable transfers, as against 5.22 15-16 and 5.23 3-16. Austrian schillings have not changed from 14 1/8. Exchange on Czechoslovakia finished at 2.9615, against 2.9615; on Bucharest at 0.61, against 0.60 3/4; on Poland at 11.25, against 11.20, and on Finland at 2.52, against 2.52. Greek exchange closed at 1.29 1/4

for checks and at 1.29 1/2 for cable transfers, against 1.29 3/8 and 1.29 5/8.

In the exchanges on the countries neutral during the war the outstanding features this week have been the weakness in Holland guilders and the fluctuations in the Spanish peseta. The guilder rate, while moving partly in sympathy with lower sterling, is also under seasonal influences in connection with the increasing volume of import payments against cotton and grain. There is a considerable flow of Amsterdam funds to London and the German markets and to some extent to New York. This outward movement of funds from the Dutch centres militates, of course, against the guilder rate. Swiss francs continue remarkably stable. The price barely varies from 19.25 1/2 at any time. In view of the 3 1/2% Swiss bank rate it is thought extraordinary that the Swiss franc rate should be so stable with money rates so high in New York and Berlin. The Swiss bank has neither lost gold nor liquidated foreign balances to maintain exchange. Spanish pesetas have fluctuated rather widely several days this week, largely as the result of transactions in London and the Continental centres. Market opinions are divided as to the intentions of the Foreign Exchange Committee in Madrid. Nevertheless, considerable funds are being transferred once more to Spain with the intention of keeping them there until pre-war parity is restored. The greater part of the transactions in pesetas, it seems, represent mere gambling upon the immediate intentions of the Foreign Exchange Committee. In possession of large resources, the Committee is undoubtedly the master of the situation and the odds are against the speculators. The Scandinavian exchanges have been steady, with the Swedish unit inclined to fractional firmness. On Thursday the Swedish Riksbank increased its rediscount rate from 4% to 4 1/2%. The Swedish rate had been at 4% since April 30 1928.

Bankers' sight on Amsterdam finished on Friday at 40.07, against 40.08 3/4 on Friday of last week; cable transfers at 40.09, against 40.10 3/4, and commercial sight bills at 40.04, against 40.06. Swiss francs closed at 19.25 for bankers' sight bills and at 19.25 3/4 for cable transfers, in comparison with 19.25 1/8 and 19.25 7/8 a week earlier. Copenhagen checks finished at 26.68 and cable transfers at 26.69, against 26.68 1/2 and 26.69 1/2. Checks on Sweden closed at 26.76 and cable transfers at 26.77, against 26.75 1/2 and 26.76 1/2, while checks on Norway finished at 26.68 and cable transfers at 26.69, against 26.68 1/2 and 26.69 1/2. Spanish pesetas closed at 16.63 for checks and at 16.64 for cable transfers, which compares with 16.65 1/2 and 16.66 1/2 a week earlier.

The South American exchanges, with the exception of Argentine paper pesos, have been steady, although extremely dull. During the past few weeks Argentine exchange has been ruling at prices which indicate a gold flow from Buenos Aires to New York and also to London. It is reported that in Buenos Aires there is a feeling in financial circles that Argentina imported gold to excess, although the expansion of currency and credit was partly checked by banking authorities. Argentina paper pesos closed yesterday at 42.19 for checks, as compared with 42.19 on Friday of last week, and at 42.24 for cable transfers,

against 42.25. Brazilian milreis finished at 11.93 for checks and at 11.96 for cable transfers, against 11.90 and 11.96. Chilean exchange closed at 12.07 for checks and at 12.12 for cable transfers, against 12.06 and 12.12, and Peru at 3.98 for checks and at 3.99 for cable transfers, against 3.98 and 3.99.

The Far Eastern exchanges have been steady, and somewhat more active than in several weeks. Japanese yen seem not to have suffered any increased pressure this week, owing doubtless to the fact that no further aggressive measures have been taken in the China-Japan imbroglio over Manchuria. Thursday and Friday the yen rate enjoyed a sharp rally on active buying for both the long and the short account. Much of the weakness in yen has arisen from the Chinese trade boycott against Japanese goods; on the other hand money has recently become plentiful in Tokio and there have been considerable transfers to foreign markets, especially to New York and London for investment in securities. Chinese units have been in relatively increased demand, with rates steady on the whole, owing to increasing prospects of better business and more peaceful conditions. Closing quotations for yen checks yesterday were 45.20@45³/₈, against 44³/₄ on Friday of last week; Hong Kong closed at 49.95@50 3-16, against 50.10@50¹/₄; Shanghai at 65@65¹/₈, against 65¹/₄@65¹/₂; Manila at 49³/₄, against 49³/₄; Singapore at 56¹/₈@56¹/₂, against 56¹/₈@56¹/₂; Bombay at 36¹/₂, against 36¹/₂, and Calcutta at 36¹/₂, against 36¹/₂.

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

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES CERTIFIED BY FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS TO TREASURY UNDER TARIFF ACT OF 1922, AUG. 18 1927 TO AUG. 24 1928, INCLUSIVE.

Country and Monetary Unit.	Noon Buying Rate for Cable Transfers to New York, Value in United States Money.					
	Aug. 18.	Aug. 20.	Aug. 21.	Aug. 22.	Aug. 23.	Aug. 24.
EUROPE—						
Austria, schilling	1.40907	1.40796	1.40815	1.40814	1.40872	1.40879
Belgium, belga	1.139062	1.139053	1.139058	1.139055	1.139066	1.139076
Bulgaria, lev	.007211	.007172	.007168	.007171	.007214	.007197
Czechoslovakia, krone	.029624	.029618	.029620	.029622	.029622	.029620
Denmark, krone	.266852	.266848	.266841	.266817	.266808	.266841
England, pound sterling	4.853593	4.853011	4.852752	4.852357	4.852372	4.853014
Finland, markka	.025167	.025166	.025169	.025169	.025170	.025170
France, franc	.039079	.039083	.039081	.039058	.039045	.039060
Germany, reichsmark	2.38350	2.38264	2.38219	2.38195	2.38226	2.38361
Greece, drachma	.012947	.012946	.012941	.012952	.012945	.012948
Holland, guilder	.009020	.008864	.008853	.008837	.008841	.008896
Hungary, pengo	1.74288	1.74212	1.74207	1.74242	1.74209	1.74210
Italy, lira	.052309	.052307	.052325	.052346	.052344	.052368
Norway, krone	.266846	.266856	.266835	.266820	.266796	.266838
Poland, zloty	1.12015	1.12015	1.11980	1.11980	1.12022	1.11977
Portugal, escudo	.045289	.045167	.045067	.045085	.045420	.045105
Rumania, leu	.006102	.006102	.006110	.006108	.006109	.006112
Spain, peseta	1.66600	1.66340	1.66275	1.66210	1.66271	1.66343
Sweden, krona	.267626	.267618	.267619	.267615	.267643	.267683
Switzerland, franc	1.92523	1.92545	1.92539	1.92535	1.92529	1.92555
Yugoslavia, dinar	.017594	.017596	.017594	.017590	.017594	.017596
ASIA—						
China—						
Chefoo tael	.669166	.668750	.669166	.668958	.669583	.666250
Hankow tael	.664583	.664583	.663333	.664791	.664166	.661666
Shanghai tael	.651250	.651250	.649732	.650803	.650178	.648839
Tientsin tael	.685416	.682083	.680833	.681041	.681666	.679583
Hong Kong dollar	.499553	.499553	.499089	.499285	.499285	.498392
Mexican dollar	.470500	.471400	.471250	.472250	.471000	.468000
Tientsin or Pelyang dollar	.470833	.470833	.472291	.473333	.472083	.470000
Yuan dollar	.467500	.470833	.473750	.470000	.468750	.466666
India, rupee	.363231	.362965	.363053	.362725	.362793	.362806
Japan, yen	.447069	.447838	.449027	.448083	.448355	.451277
Singapore (S.S.) dollar	.560416	.560000	.560000	.559583	.559791	.559375
NORTH AMER.—						
Canada, dollar	1.009364	1.000381	1.000407	1.000138	1.000130	1.000203
Cuba, peso	.999625	.999875	.999812	.999656	.999687	.999718
Mexico, peso	.477500	.477500	.477250	.477250	.476750	.476500
Newfoundland, dollar	.997843	.997968	.997812	.997656	.997687	.997812
SOUTH AMER.—						
Argentina, peso (gold)	.959040	.958728	.958513	.958652	.958132	.958336
Brazil, milreis	1.19383	1.19381	1.19416	1.19425	1.19372	1.19400
Chile, peso	1.20742	1.20737	1.20735	1.20731	1.20731	1.20745
Uruguay, peso	1.026418	1.025790	1.025190	1.025118	1.024385	1.024949
Colombia, peso	.970900	.970900	.970900	.970900	.970900	.970900

Owing to a marked disinclination on the part of two or three leading institutions among the New York Clearing House banks to keep up compiling the figures for us, we find ourselves obliged to discontinue the publication of the table we have been giving for so many years showing the shipments and receipts of currency to and from the interior.

As the Sub-Treasury was taken over by the Federal Reserve Bank on Dec. 6 1920, it is also no longer possible to show the effect of Government operations in 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, Aug. 18.	Monday, Aug. 20.	Tuesday, Aug. 21.	Wednesday, Aug. 22.	Thursday, Aug. 23.	Friday, Aug. 24.	Aggregate for Week.
\$ 89,000,000	\$ 94,000,000	\$ 74,000,000	\$ 82,000,000	\$ 69,000,000	\$ 80,000,000	Cr. 488,000,000

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	Aug. 23 1928.			Aug. 25 1927.		
	Gold.	Silver.	Total.	Gold.	Silver.	Total.
England	£ 174,823,209	---	£ 174,823,209	£ 151,492,223	---	£ 151,492,223
France	a242,155,596	d	242,155,596	147,260,559	13,680,000	160,940,559
Germany	b107,318,650	c994,600	108,313,250	88,234,600	994,600	89,229,200
Spain	104,337,000	28,099,000	132,436,000	103,902,000	27,050,000	130,952,000
Italy	53,261,000	---	53,261,000	46,774,000	3,842,000	50,616,000
Netherl'ds.	36,243,000	1,947,000	38,190,000	32,200,000	2,361,000	34,561,000
Nat. Belg.	22,950,000	1,249,000	24,199,000	18,445,000	1,175,000	19,620,000
Switz'land.	17,983,000	2,179,000	20,162,000	17,353,000	2,698,000	20,051,000
Sweden	12,776,000	---	12,776,000	12,290,000	---	12,290,000
Denmark	10,100,000	606,000	10,706,000	10,121,000	718,000	10,839,000
Norway	8,166,000	---	8,166,000	8,180,000	---	8,180,000
Total week	791,113,455	35,074,600	825,188,055	636,252,382	52,518,600	688,770,982
Prev. week	789,122,762	35,129,600	824,352,362	636,792,995	52,504,600	689,297,595

a These are the gold holdings of the Bank of France as reported in the new form of statement. b Gold holdings of the Bank of Germany are exclusive of gold held abroad, the amount of which the present year is £2,281,300. c As of Oct. 7 1924. d Silver is now reported at only a trifling sum.

Governor Smith's Speech of Acceptance.

Those who expected that Governor Smith's speech at Albany on Wednesday night, accepting formally the Democratic nomination for the Presidency, would in general show sharp contrasts between the positions of the Democratic and Republican candidates on important national issues, will probably have to confess to some disappointment. With the exception of prohibition, in regard to which Governor Smith declares himself with precision as well as with emphasis, and the implication that the tariff, if the Democrats have a chance to revise it, will be revised downward where Mr. Hoover apparently contemplates revision upward, there is little in the speech to indicate any fundamental difference in the programs of the two party leaders, or, for that matter, in the programs of the parties themselves. In this respect the speech affords another convincing illustration of the extent to which the two great parties have lost the distinctive characters which they once possessed, and on most questions of national policy have come to think and act very much alike. It is apt to be so in any country in which, as in the United States, sectional or class divergences are not strongly marked, racial or religious groups with tenacious solidarity or fundamental animosities are practically non-existent, and economic issues predominate over issues mainly political.

On the question of farm relief, for example, Governor Smith does not seem to differ essentially from

Mr. Hoover. He does not, to be sure, go as far as Mr. Hoover in committing himself definitely to a Federal appropriation of some hundreds of millions of dollars as a capital loan to aid in the handling of surplus crops, and he of course does not look to the tariff as a means of extricating the farmers from their difficulties. He recognizes, however, the need of developing co-operative marketing as a means of dealing with crop surpluses, and pledges himself, if he is elected, to call into conference "farmers and farm leaders," "sound economists and fair-minded leaders of finance and business," to aid in working out a constructive plan of farm relief to be presented to Congress as soon as that body convenes. There is some force in his pointed criticism of the Republican Administration for its failure to offer an "adequate substitute" for the McNary-Haugen bill twice passed by a Republican Congress and twice vetoed by President Coolidge, but he nevertheless concedes that "the question for agriculture is complex," and that "any plan devised must also be co-ordinated with the other phases of our business institutions." We cannot see that the Federal Reserve system, whose accomplishment of alleged "financial stability" is cited as apparently an illustration of what may be hoped for from co-ordinated effort with Federal aid, offers any guidance in the solution of the agricultural problem, but there will be no dissent from Governor Smith's general contention, which is also Mr. Hoover's, that the plight of the farmer has become a matter of national concern, and that the economic interests of the country as a whole, and not merely those of agriculture, must be taken into account in the search for a remedy. It is entirely probable that both Governor Smith and Mr. Hoover, in confining themselves to generalities on the farm issue, have gone about as far as it was wise for them to go at this stage, and that the one candidate is quite as anxious as the other to be shown precisely how the difficulty of extending Federal financial aid to agriculture may best be met without "putting the Government into business" on the one hand or encouraging excessive crop production on the other.

What Governor Smith has to say about the tariff is, of course, to be interpreted in the light of the Democratic tradition. "The Democratic party does not, and under my leadership will not," he declares, "advocate any sudden or drastic revolution in our economic system which would cause business upheaval and popular distress. . . . The Democratic party stands squarely for the maintenance of legitimate business and a high standard of wages for American labor. Both can be maintained and at the same time the tariff can be taken out of the realm of politics and treated on a strictly business basis. . . . Democratic tariff legislation will be honest. It will play no favorites. It will do justice to every element in the nation." To this end he endorses President Wilson's idea of "a non-political, quasi-judicial, fact-finding commission which could investigate and advise the President and Congress as to the tariff duties really required to protect American industry and safeguard the high standard of American wages," and he proposes to restore the Tariff Commission, which under Republican administration, he asserts, "has ceased to function," to "the high level upon which President Wilson placed it." If these statements seem to commit Governor Smith and his party, as they clearly do, to the main-

tenance of protection in some form or degree, they go no farther than to register a change which has carried the Democratic party a long distance from the stalwart repudiation of protection which President Cleveland embodied in his ringing message of 1887.

When it comes to prohibition, on the other hand, Governor Smith is definite and outspoken. He pledges himself to execute "to the very limit" the promise of the Democratic platform to make an honest effort to enforce the Eighteenth Amendment and all other provisions of the Constitution, and ruthlessly to stamp out the corruption which has characterized the enforcement activities of the Government. He will "never advocate nor approve any law which directly or indirectly permits the return of the saloon." He urges, however, the propriety of so amending the Volstead act as to give "a scientific definition of an intoxicating beverage," leaving each State to "fix its own standard of alcoholic content, subject always to the proviso that that standard could not exceed the maximum fixed by the Congress;" and he accords his personal approval, as pointed out in the opening paragraphs of our article on the financial situation, on a previous page, to "an amendment to the Eighteenth Amendment which would give to each individual State itself, only after approval by a referendum popular vote of its people, the right wholly within its borders to import, manufacture or cause to be manufactured, and sell alcoholic beverages, the sale to be made only by the State itself and not for consumption in any public place." Such an amendment would preserve Federal prohibition for "dry" States, while permitting "to citizens of other States a carefully limited and controlled method of effectuating the popular will wholly within the borders of those States without the old evil of the saloon," and at the same time "re-establish respect for law and terminate the agitation which has injected discord into the ranks of the great political parties which should be standing for the accomplishment of fundamental programs for the nation."

For the rest, Governor Smith declares his intention to effect, with the aid of Congress, "a real re-organization and consolidation of governmental activities upon a business basis, and institute a real economy which comes from prudent expenditure." He is against the policy of American intervention in the electoral dispute in Nicaragua, and is at one with the Democratic platform in demanding the abolition of "the practice of the President of entering into agreements for the settlement of internal disputes in Latin-American countries unless the agreements have been consented to by the Senate as provided for in the Constitution." He will continue to work for the outlawry of war and the reduction of armaments, "aid programs for the relief of unemployment," and give his full support to measures looking to the abolition of "the unwarranted issuance of injunctions" in labor disputes and the preservation of the constitutional guarantees of "individual liberty, free assemblage and speech, and the rights of peaceful persuasion." He is for public ownership and control of water power, the development, under proper engineering advice, of inland waterways, the conservation of natural resources, adequate appropriations for flood control on the Mississippi and its tributaries, and the further development of national parks. The Boulder Canyon Dam controversy he thinks would best be settled by the creation of a

Colorado River Authority, representing equally all of the States concerned, and acting under authority of Congress through a treaty which Congress should ratify. He would modify the immigration laws by removing the harsh provision which separates families, and would find some other basis for the restriction of immigration than "a census thirty-eight years old."

Taken as a whole, the speech is frank and, in the main, direct and explicit. One misses the high sentiments and well-phrased generalizations which distinguished the acceptance speech of Mr. Hoover; and the sharp arraignment of the Coolidge Administration with which the speech opens, while unhappily characteristic of most campaign utterances when a candidate represents a party that is out of power, might well have been tempered. It is natural that Governor Smith, with an unprecedentedly long and notable career as Governor of New York, should make frequent references to his own political experiences, and his aggressive personality stands out again and again in declarations of what he himself thinks or what he proposes to do.

With the delivery of the speech the preliminary phase of the campaign ends and its final period begins. Save for prohibition, it is obviously far more a contest between candidates than a struggle over divergent political principles. Mr. Hoover has already made it clear that he does not propose to indulge in personalities or mudslinging, but that the campaign, as far as he is concerned, will be conducted on a high plane as befits a great national decision. It is sincerely to be hoped that Governor Smith's recital of Republican shortcomings does not mean that his own campaign is to move upon a plane any lower than that desired by his Republican opponent.

Further Features of the Williamstown Institute.

The attendants at the Institute are seeing how much more there is in every question before them as the discussion advances, and the contacts are helping the leaders to know and appreciate each other. Dr. Graham Wallas furnishes a conspicuous illustration in both respects. His powerful personality, his English habit of direct approach and clear incisive thought backed by long experience in public affairs and wide acquaintance with important men, sustained by unflagging devotion to serious study, command and reward attention. The universal need, he holds, is continuous, purposeful thought. Reading, however constant and wide, without "intense mental friction," as he puts it, has "slain its thousands." Wit, cleverness, and the comic picture do not strike the spark that excites thought. That may come from any chance suggestion. When it is felt it must be caught and nourished as opportunity may be found. Fertileminds like Hobbes, the Stotchman of a century ago, and Ralph Waldo Emerson, caught every such transient mental excitement and fixed it on paper, hundreds of them, afterwards to be studied, classified and used. It is well to study faces. Look hard at people. Get an idea. Ask then what is its relation to the public. Anyone who will take the trouble to think hard will find interest everywhere. A bit of psychology now and then freshens one, if he is looking for light. The simian world seems remote, but it suggests queer human limitations. Try to see things sympathetically, not for rebuff or attack.

The significance of all this lies in the present confusion of minds. New lines of growth open on all sides out of the experiences and upheavals of the past. The memorial service at Ypres the other day moved England to the heart, and finds a response in all Europe, drawing people together sympathetically. The questions requiring close thought now are as to how democratic ideals widely prevalent can be applied in countries where great social changes have taken place. Countries like Britain, Germany, France and the United States when once largely rural communities required little active government. In early American democracy there is little suggestion of means for securing social ends, little of constructive politics. Great changes have taken place. These countries have become largely urban. City people live by highly organized systems of manufacture and business. The farmer has to be in good part a financier. Government is important, and has become a matter of controversy. It must be responsible for health, means of communication, education, police duty and external relations. All highly civilized states, large or small, must arrange for what have become common needs. Once science was not thought necessary. Now if democracy is to prevail there must be specialized scientific knowledge. Democracy must know how to choose experts. And, what is more important, the public habit of mind must change. The theory of natural rights has already changed, as evidenced in our own case. A ship on the open ocean cannot be sailed by the public opinion of the passengers or a conference of the crew. To protect a democracy from anarchy on the one hand or autocracy on the other there must be a thinking citizenship and responsible administration. Government by consent will always be preferable to any mere expedient, but to secure that consent definite responsibility is necessary.

Professor Harry T. Collings, of the University of Pennsylvania, one of the first authorities on economics in the country, and having large experience in Latin American relations and international trade, is contributing much to the meetings. Of our nine billion dollars of foreign trade, two billions are with Latin America, and we have five billions privately invested there, one billion of which is in the Caribbean rim. Because of long established restrictive habits and the very limited circulation of money, it has been difficult to establish new conditions, but business is rapidly growing. And for us competition there with European traders is active. We have growing exportable production, and when we look for markets, Europe is restricted and sharply competitive; the Orient is potentially tremendous, but actually small, while Latin America to-day is the best. Socially there is no color line. There are only two classes: the wealthy, owning large estates, and their servants, the peons, who are closely attached to the soil and have been little advanced by the centuries of Spanish possession; so that there is in reality no middle class. The population is as yet like their vast store of raw materials, mainly undeveloped, and while several of the States, like Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, have a high state of independence and self-sufficiency, the field as a whole awaits a new development which must be necessarily slow and carefully constructive. Trade is rapidly settling into definite lines based on the varying productions of the different States, from coffee, rubber, and manganese from Brazil, hides and wool

from Argentina, to nitrate and copper from Chile, sisal from Mexico, sugar and cocoa from the Caribbean. We now provide Latin America with 38% of all their imports. Our leading position is in the Caribbean, and there is no one of the twenty-one republics to which we are not the chief suppliers; while our imports from them are heavy, especially in necessary raw materials.

In discussing Imperialism, Professor Collings had the aid of Dr. William B. Dunn and Mr. Butler Sherwell, both of whom have had many years of intimate acquaintance with our relations with these countries, coupled with protracted residence there and constructive employment both by them and our Government. Both spoke with conviction and deep feeling about the situation and the really essential part which our Government has had to play, in which, if there have been some mistakes, there is not a trace of selfish desire to possess their land or to oppress the inhabitants. The artistic and cultural temperament of the influential people of Latin America, with a suspicious attitude toward other nations as the result of past relations makes necessary a sympathetic attitude and good understanding on our part the basis for business and enduring friendship if this is to be established. "Economic penetration" by debarring competition by means of control of state finances, occupation of custom houses and collection of revenue in the weaker country, has been in the past a method by which strong nations have pushed their own interests. It has produced sharp competition among their representatives for control of the chief native resources of the Latin American States. Many instances are familiar to all. Taking Haiti and San Domingo as an illustration, the story of our interference there was told at length. Foreign creditors were exerting pressure to collect payments on account of standing debts and loans, which could not possibly be met because of the helpless demoralization of the two islands. To save the situation and help the carrying out of the policy started at the close of the war in Cuba with Spain, the United States placed financial advisers in Haiti, took over the customs and paid the overdue interest. American bankers paid the European creditors and established banking facilities. The immediate result was so beneficial that San Domingo sought the same aid and guidance with the result as seen to-day. Prosperity and peace for the islands are established and the way opened for early withdrawal of the protective force and the development of self-government in such form as shall be required. In Cuba this has been accomplished satisfactorily, and in the one case as in the other, the United States has no other desire than to render the aid necessary to the permanent well being of neighbors, an aid rendered without thought of compensation or possession of territory.

Mr. Dunn and Mr. Sherwell, having accurate knowledge, testified to the great benefits already brought to these various peoples by the entry of American capital, which far more than compensated for any exploitation practiced by unscrupulous interests which were rare. Working capital is everywhere needed and could not be had under existing conditions. Our bankers are now offering loans to some of the smaller countries on terms much more favorable on the whole than those that have been obtained in the past by the larger Latin nations. Moreover, these countries have made considerable

progress in mastering the essential details of sound finance and are establishing banking connections, honorable to both parties and essential to permanent prosperity. Such abuses as have existed in some foreign loan transactions are not likely to reappear; better ethical principles are coming into recognition in domestic banking and also in other lines of business.

Professor C. W. Hackett, of the University of Texas, took up the subject in a succeeding conference in special relation to Mexico, and in a rapid historical review of recent events showed that in the face of some misunderstandings and occasional friction, relations especially under Mr. Dwight Morrow's guidance have so advanced that the great complexity of the situation is clearing up, and the establishing of confidence in the action and responsibility of the Mexican Supreme Court, and the mutual good-will and confidence now shown on both sides, make possible friendly and satisfactory settlement of all outstanding problems. Adverse criticism of the policy and action of our Government in various individual details broke out in the discussion but was effectively and completely disposed of by a detailed statement of the facts of the situation made by Mr. Paul Harvey, who had gathered them in a careful study on the spot.

Dr. Otto E. G. Hoetzsch of Berlin is the latest arrival. He is Professor of History in the University and has held important positions in Germany, rising through various public offices until in 1918 in the Reichstag he served on the Committee that drafted the German Constitution which was promptly adopted in 1919 and now charts the policy of her Parliamentary Representative Government which was shaped upon a careful study of the American Constitution. He is obviously simple, earnest and sincere, eager to be welcomed, and has a message. He was here 21 years ago as a lecturer and student of history. He speaks English perfectly and is full of feeling. He will confine himself, through his six lectures, to Germany and her problems. He is oppressed by the contrast between her situation to-day and hers when he was here before. The European nations to-day are beggars. The word is severe, but we know what he means. They are humiliated. They want security. They want restored prosperity and freedom from debt. They fear one another and distrust even their own population as revolutionary ideas are everywhere.

Meanwhile, a new world is opening with unlimited opportunity and inevitable possibility of danger. Dr. Hoetzsch has come with intense desire to cherish for Germany and for Europe America's understanding and the continuance of the United States in her great historical road of good-will, of which he recognized the Dawes Plan and the Kellogg Pact as expressions.

Campaign Chatter.

To "an inhabitant of Mars," as the saying so often runs, the way we conduct our political campaigns must be a wonder and a delight. For nothing less than wonder attaches to the minute records we keep in advance of the changes in political preference occurring throughout the country. If Mr. Nobody of the town of Unknown in the State of Nowhere announces that though a life-long Republican he has decided to vote for "Al Smith" for President, the fact is heralded forth as a certain indication that

Smith is sure to be elected. On the other hand, the faith awakened in the far-off sphere by the meticulous care with which the dollar campaign contributions of Tom, Dick and Harry, over three thousand miles of territory, are published to the universe, must soothe the virtuous minds of the Martians, though in secret they shake their sides with laughter. No Republic, in these modern days of political theory and the fantastic fan-like spread of Federal power, can ever perish under such open conditions.

It matters not that the parties in trumpeting forth the high resolve to limit expenditures, set the "necessary" amount for the year 1928 at the modest sum of four billions of dollars; we are assured that no dollar can slip into or out of the war chest unnoted or unheralded. If on election day some enthusiastic worker hires and pays for an auto to bring voters to the polls, and forgets about it, that is a contingent expense to saving the country no one has a sane right to inquire into. But let us not boast too much of our honest elections lest protesting too much we convict ourselves. However, there are other weightier matters to consider. When Mr. Unheardof from the town of Don't-know-where in the State of the Undiscovered Country by the vast Pacific announces that though a life-long democrat he intends to vote for Mr. Hoover as the only means of keeping his conscience, there is great rejoicing in the camp of the faithful.

And so, day by day, in the alert, up-to-date, and early-morning columns of the mighty Press, that Eye of the World, under which no sparrow falls unnoted and no crumb of the changes of time escapes, we are told that all the news that is "fit to print" becomes of huge importance in election time. If, in a moment of aberration, we escape from the thrall of seasoning our breakfast food with accounts of what Smith or Hoover said or did on any given day of the year preceding November, we are compelled to recount the string of fish Mr. Coolidge caught on the preceding day in or out of the waters of the now famous river Brule. Caesar may have crossed the Rubicon and made history, but no modern statesman dares to keep away from the Brule, or fails to confer with the "candidates," either by accident, intention or special invitation.

It is said, quite frequently, that we live in a "mechanistic age" or an "age of machinery." Take your choice; they are equally forceful and meaningless phrases, and it behooves us, therefore, to make the "wheels go round" in a campaign, and we do. Nor do we disdain to ride in the "Great American Band Wagon" (political), and ballyhoo, three months in advance, the States we are going to carry in the election. If one day the Republicans are sure of Texas, the next day the Democrats are just as certain to carry Pennsylvania. On such food as this are we fed daily, throughout the months intervening, and when election day does come there is no principle of political economy, no knowledge of Statecraft, no vital need of the country, with which we are not thoroughly familiar, if only we listen to this familiar chatter. And, like the schoolboy with his "shining morning face," we can each go to the polls ready for the "rescue" from all the ills, real or imaginary, that may be charged to the "other side."

It is all a delectable and enlightening experience. Once in every four years, like good patriots, we come to the relief of the country. We ride in the political machine of a machine age. We revive our devotion and oil our memories. We study our statistical tables as the fan studies the baseball scores of past performances and present glories. We call from the occult deep of hidden forces of nature the radio and the movie-tone that no mystic handshake of the "leaders" may escape our enraptured ears and eyes, for are not we ourselves of the elect, those who name the electors, who name in turn the President? Men of learning may talk of times and things "Hamiltonian" or "Jeffersonian," but what are these ancient screeds to our own potent and precious duty of deciding whether Hoover really said the Volstead Act must stand or Smith really meant to nullify the Prohibition amendment?

And then—the farmer! Is he indeed at last in his distress the ward of the nation? It is no easy task for the voter to decide whether he is to be put in charge of Hoover or Smith. Each has special qualifications. Hoover hunted rabbits on the old home place in his early boyhood and gained the rest of his dirt-farmer experience in the mines of Australia, China, Russia and others. Smith gained his first knowledge on the sidewalks of New York and later studied "agriculture" supposedly in the wigwam at Fourteenth Street. No such difficulty as making a selection from this material ever confronted the Midwest before. And on a rightful choice hinges all the law and the prophets. And, true to our mechanistic character, we must seize upon the right plan as expressed in acceptance speeches and elsewhere. It is a difficult task. The lone farmer traveling down his long furrow has abundant food for thought. A mistake in choice would not harm next year's crop but it might make a difference in price—and there's the rub!

And while "each and all" of us decide whether we are "dripping wet" or "bone dry" the majestic Ship of State will "sail on, sail on," and the Washington machine will function as of yore, and the melancholy days will come, the saddest of the year—until November! And then Mr. Hoover or Mr. Smith will take up the task of appeasing the farmer and padlocking the country. For however the election turns, of the Eighteenth Amendment it must be said: "There she stands! And who from the White House dare lay an impious hand upon that sacred citadel of Constitutional Liberty"—though that charter prohibits, and knows no distinction between whiskey and light wines and beer.

To this, O my Country, have we come after one hundred and fifty years of republican representative government in the land of the free, the home of the brave! With this momentous, all-embracing, politico-economic question before us, on which hangs the life or death of a government, exemplar to all the world, we may not wander far in Midwest farming, we may not decide on the extent to which we will forbid injunctions in the interest of "labor," but though the heavens fall and freedom perish, we must once and forever decide whether or not we will permit ourselves to put one foot on the rail and blow the foam from the brimming glass!

War Made an Outlaw.

[By Charles W. Stevenson.]

And the Voice of the Infinite spoke: "Go thou to yon faint, far star and bring back the story of Man on Earth!" And it was done.

Once more the Messenger stood before the Lord of Lords and King of Kings and in accents meek of sorrow and joy told the tale of one to whom was given Dominion, the story of a civilization that conquered itself, the Saga of the rise and fall and rise again of a servant of the Most High, who toiled immeasurably, wrought and achieved immemorially, and at last builded out of the unseen spiritual an enduring habitation of love and peace.

And the messenger of the Almighty said: "I bring Thee, O my Master, tidings of the little star, that, in Thy sacred Book, it may be written that all Thy works are good and all Thy plans are perfect; for that Thou hast vested in all Thy creatures the power of overcoming; and that through travail there is triumph, and through suffering there is salvation. Know that man, whom Thou created in Thine own image, has been the victim of his own aspirings, the buffet of his own ascendancy, and the redeemer of his own revoltings. It is the story of light and darkness I bring Thee, the history of the good and evil, without which the free will Thou gavest to man, Thy servant, could not lift Life into the realms of the Everlasting and the Soul into the joys of Immortality.

"The Children of Men, in this little star, grew slowly into the stature of the spiritual, not knowing that only the good liveth and the evil perisheth, even as the things that are not. With the beasts of the field and the forces of the physical about them, they struggled upward through long ages of savagery, and, losing their way in the terrors of superstition, builded false gods out of their fears and forsook the paths of peace for the ways of force. They gathered their flocks upon the hills and became the good shepherds of golden days and starry nights. They lingered in the valleys and turned down the grasses that they might sprout again into fields of grain. They left their cave dwellings and builded them lowly homes by lake and stream. Tribe followed tribe and possessed the lands. Villages grew into cities. Tribes became clans, and clans became principalities. And ever knowledge increased and power grew selfish. In the heart, generosity gave way to greed. Might became right. Love turned into hate. And as the people multiplied and migrations increased, conflict and contest arose. The chiefs became mighty men of arms. Kings and Princes assumed to rule by divine right, and though letters and art and science had their lowly beginnings, the fatal institution of war guided the destinies of nations and delivered the races into the arms of the Moloch of Slaughter. The black horse of Death trampled on the innocent. Famine and Pestilence followed in the wake of battle. Millions perished that a few might rule the many. And that which was fair and of good repute was swept down by the torrents of hate and the winds of destruction.

"But always and ever out of the ashes of spoliation and the frenzies of reprisal the divine spark of good-will and helpfulness burst again into flame to light the way onward and upward. Even the idolatrous worship of the heroes of conflict was not without a measure of good. For it led to emula-

tion in courage, constancy and chivalry in all the affairs of life. Alexander, weeping for more worlds to conquer; Caesar laying an Empire at the feet of a wanton Queen; Constantine bearing the sword and cross; Napoleon, retreating amid the snows of Russia; pointed to an appraisal of Washington and Foch; and, in contrast, set forth the virtues of Aristotle, Abelard and Aggasiz. The very appeal to force by the Captains and Kings taught the oppressed to deliver themselves by the same weapons that enslaved them; and through Revolutions to secure the rights of man and the liberty that lives best under law. Still, under the free governments thus secured and erected it was given unto the powers that rule to declare and prosecute war. As the ages swept by, and in the intervals of fighting, knowledge arose to bless the toilers and wisdom came to analyze the mission and true majesty of man. It was found that might never made right, nor power brought peace, nor conquering the material released the soul. The rivers of blood that flowed down the corridors of time, drowning the impulses of kindness, the sacrifices that save and the love that endures and is patient, left only hate, envy and bitterness in their wake, and sowed the seeds of future fratricidal conflicts. The weapon of War had turned in the hand, and the fell Destroyer, in one last and terrible orgy of death and destruction, had written in the hearts of men its own doom!

"The story of the little star, circling yonder in the illimitable spaces of Thy kingdom, O my Master, is an epic of trial and error and victory at the last. For on a day that henceforth in its annals shall be historic, the principal nations of earth, representing the peoples most advanced in learning, accomplishment and aspiration, met together in solemn conclave and with a sublime consecration, never before approached, denounced war as an agency for the settlement of disputes, renounced its use as unworthy of civilized governments, and declared it forever an outlaw in the thought and uses of mankind. It is told in the lore of these Thy servants that amid all the great leaders who from time to time taught the humility of love and the majesty of worship, there came one, born in a manger, visited by wise men bearing gifts, while the heavens proclaimed "peace on earth, good will to men," who in himself taught best Thine own Most Holy Truths, as he passed through life, doing good, to his glorified death at the hands of those who did not understand. Last among the prophets, philosophers and saviors of men, he now stands first, and it is the glorious heritage of his work in the world of this unforgotten star that he taught, as none other, that in Thine own Omnipotence there is no cruelty, or hate, or malice, or eternal condemnation to sorrow, suffering or death, and in thine own Omniscience no wisdom of science or discovery or control of material forces that transcends the simple Brotherhood that brings all men together; and the divine unity which draws all times and places, and peoples and philosophies, all temporal achievements and immortal accomplishments, to accept, forever and forever in the everlasting advance, Thy holy and altogether righteous Judgments of Love and Mercy and Peace—in that all Thy law is perfect and all Thy work is worthy.

"As it were but yesterday," continued the Messenger, after a pause, "this new light shone in the

hearts of men, and now the rivalry of armaments is no more. No more the frowning battleships sweep the seas, no more the serried bayonets of marching armies give back in terror the lances of the life-giving sun. All is quiet, contentment, victory of hope and assurance of peace. For right at last has become might, reason has become rule, and faith and trust are universal. Thy people of the little star, though they are not convinced, every one, that the way is found, feel that the Dawn is come and the to-morrows will grow increasingly secure; that man, emancipated from the selfishness of State, the greed of the Material and the egotism of the unbridled will, will now turn to the spiritual for guidance, solace, and recompense. Long has been the climb upward, heavy the burdens borne, confusing the clash of ideas and ideals, but they know that the divine purpose has always been present, and out of the lowly toil of the many and the aspirations of the untiring has come the joy that is eternal!

"My task is finished. I bring back these tidings of great joy. Governments shall be purified and, as a consequence of this new alliance and treaty, shorn of the power to declare war. The last convulsion, fearful in its havoc and destructive in its cost, has brought in its revulsion a consecration to new thought of destiny and desire. Everywhere minds are stirring to a study of life and love. Men would know God as never before. There are constant calls for a new religion, a new appraisal of the worth of things, a new transformation of the material achievements of discoverers, statesmen, savants and workers into the spiritual, which finds sufficiency in the frugal, honor in the humble, heroism in the acceptance of the sacredness of things as they are, and aspiration in the physical accomplishments that endure only in the immaterial. Life, love, liberty, law, are watchwords of the New Day. Strife will flee from mart as from the mind. And in the new insight into cause and effect, evil will evolve into good, and error into perfectness, and at last Death, the Transformer, will become the harbinger of happiness undying."

The Messenger of the Divine ceased. And through the infinite reaches of systems and suns there breathed the holy music of Hosannahs to the Most High. For another wandering world had been brought into the ineffable harmony and another of the works of the Infinite One had justified the will that is over and in all other wills. And as the matchless melodies of the unseen spiritual rose and fell and rose again, through all the silent spaces of universes that are vaster than thought and deeper than love, the light of a new glory lifted everywhere, and that light was the smile of God!

Great Rail Line Now Finished—St. Louis-San Francisco Obtains an Outlet to Pensacola, Fla.—Other New Lines.

[From the New York "Times," Sunday, Aug. 19.]

When the St. Louis-San Francisco Railroad recently began the operation of trains into Pensacola, Fla., a railroad building project described as the largest in the United States since the World War was completed and another Western railroad system acquired an outlet at an East Gulf port. The city held a celebration in which 20,000 of its people participated, and more than 300 of its business men traversed 150 miles of territory which had never before been directly served by a railroad. Pensacola, which has one of the deepest harbors on the Gulf, found itself an important port on two railroad systems instead of one as formerly.

The project, which had been in the course of construction for two years and involved an expenditure running into the millions, included the building of a line 155 miles long from Aberdeen, in Northeastern Mississippi, to Kimbrough, in Southwest Alabama. Aberdeen was already upon a spur of the main 'Frisco line between Kansas City and Birmingham, and Kimbrough was the northern terminus of a short line from Pensacola intended ultimately to reach Muscle Shoals.

In reaching Kimbrough the 'Frisco crossed the line of the Alabama, Tennessee & Northern Railroad at Aliceville, Ala., which ran south to a point within thirty miles of Mobile. Concurrently, the Alabama, Tennessee & Northern Railroad completed its tracks into the Alabama city and entered into a traffic agreement with the 'Frisco by which the latter finds an outlet at Mobile as well as at Pensacola.

Completion of the 'Frisco line into Pensacola and the connecting line into Mobile is the climax of a considerable railroad activity involving seaports in Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. New lines have been built and older ones acquired by large railway systems. Not only has the 'Frisco reached the East Gulf at Mobile and Pensacola, but recently the Illinois Central has found an additional port at Gulfport, Miss., by the purchase of the Gulf & Ship Island Railroad, and the Burlington has made a reciprocal agreement with the Gulf, Mobile & Northern Railroad by which it comes to the Gulf.

The Gulf, Mobile & Northern Railroad has expanded rapidly during the past two years. Twenty years ago it was only a short line with a standard gauge road from Mobile to Pontotoc, a small town in Northeast Mississippi, and a narrow track from Pontotoc to the Tennessee line. The entire length was subsequently made standard, and, soon after the war extended to Jackson, Tenn., where it connected with the Illinois Central, the Mobile & Ohio and the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway. The extension to Jackson was the beginning of the railroad's recent rapid growth.

Two years ago it leased traffic rights over the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway which enable it to operate its trains between Mobile and Paducah, Ky., where it connects with the Burlington. Meantime, having acquired a short line connection running from Union, in Southern Mississippi, toward Jackson, Miss., it began an extension into the Mississippi capital, which has been only recently completed. By a reciprocal traffic agreement with the New Orleans & Great Northern Railroad, the Gulf, Mobile & Northern Railroad now enters New Orleans as well as Mobile.

Prior to the construction of the new 'Frisco line, Pensacola, the chief city of West Florida, had been served by only one large railway system, the Louisville & Nashville. With a deep-water harbor, Pensacola has important ocean commerce and its business men predict a rapid development as the result of the 'Frisco's entry. In comment upon the recent celebration particular stress has been laid upon the fact that more and more Western railroads are building into or otherwise entering the Southeast at a time when railroad construction is not going on conspicuously in the country as a whole.

Real Achievement of Late George B. Harvey.*

Editorial from Boston News Bureau of Aug. 23.

The great accomplishment of the late George Harvey is to-day almost without record in the popular press; perhaps because it was in London and there were no American newspaper reporters to ferret out the details of the situation.

When Ambassador Harvey arrived in England he was met by Stanley Baldwin, who had negotiated the American-English war debt settlement at Washington, and was told that the case was hopeless in England.

Baldwin declared that the cabinet was entirely opposed to the settlement he had arranged, and he did not see any way to get the British endorsement. Harvey said: "Please do one thing for me; have the matter laid over for a week."

This was done, and Harvey set at work. He said to representative people and to the British prime minister: "How do you expect to maintain the peace of the world if after the war you begin by dividing the English-speaking people? Do you want America to turn her back on Europe and go it alone? What is the hope for the future except in a closer union of the English-speaking people, that their united

(Concluded on Page 1020.)

The New Capital Flotations During the Month of July.

In our article last week dealing with the new financing done in this country during the month of July, some errors crept into the table showing the foreign Government loans brought out. We therefore reprint this table, with the errors eliminated, as follows:

FOREIGN GOVERNMENT LOANS.

Amount.	Issue and Purpose.	Prtce	To Yield About.	Offered by
\$			%	
23,000,000	State of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil) Ext. 6s, 1968 (refund internal & external debt; provide for subscription to cap. stk. of Rural Cred. & Mtge. Bk.; municipal improvements)	94½	6.40-7.53	White Weld & Co.; Nat'l City Co.; Equitable Tr. Co. of New York; Illinois Merchants Tr. Co.; Cassatt & Co. and Anglo London Paris Co.
15,000,000	State of San Paulo (Brazil) 40-Yr. Ext. 6s, 1968 (additions, betterments, & extensions to water supply & sewerage systems of City of San Paulo; railway extension)	94½	6%	Speyer & Co.; Blair & Co., Inc.; J. Henry Schroder Banking Corp.; Ladenburg, Thalmann & Co.; E. H. Rollins & Sons; Equitable Tr. Co., of N. Y.; Blyth, Witter & Co.
3,396,000	City of Tucuman (Argentine) Ext. 7s, 1951 (provide for paying; for discharge & consolidation of floating debt; municipal improvem'ts)	96½	7.30	E. H. Rollins & Sons and H. M. Byllesby & Co., Inc.
41,396,000				

Gross and Net Earnings of United States Railroads for the Six Months Ending June 30

The half year ending June 30 was a poor one throughout for the railroads of the United States and that fact is naturally reflected in the revenue results, both gross and net, though only slightly in the latter, owing to the policy pursued of adjusting expenses to the lowered level of gross earnings. Every month of the half year showed reduced gross receipts, in larger or smaller amount, and every month also recorded some falling off in net earnings, save only February and May when there were nominal increases. In both of the months mentioned, the railroads had the advantage of an extra working day the present year. In February the extra day came by reason of the fact that 1928 is a leap year and in consequence the month had 29 days, as against only 28 days in ordinary years. In May the extra working day grew out of the circumstance that there were only four Sundays in May 1928, leaving 27 business days, whereas in May 1927 there were five Sundays, leaving therefore only 26 ordinary days.

In none of the six months was the falling off of very striking magnitude and yet for the six months combined the shrinkage reaches no less than \$116,628,506. Yet in ratio even this very considerable falling off is relatively moderate, it being only 3.86%, because of the magnitude of the totals with which we are dealing, the aggregate of the gross earnings for the six months of 1927 having been over three billion dollars, or, to be precise, \$3,018,008,234, from which there has now been a drop to \$2,901,379,728 in the first six months of 1928. The circumstance that the falling off, while considerable in amount, is yet proportionately quite light, portrays accurately the character of the conditions prevailing during the half year. It was a poor period, while not being actually a bad one—this reflecting industrial conditions generally throughout the United States if we except two or three leading industries which were favored beyond others, and enjoyed better conditions the present year than fell to their lot during the first half of 1927. In other words, there was nothing to boast of in the state of trade outside the excepted industries, the volume of this trade being in many instances moderately smaller than in 1927 when it was by no means of more than ordinary proportions. Another distinctive feature of the year's results is found in the reduction in expenses. With gross revenues smaller by \$116,628,506, expenses were reduced in amount of \$103,569,

057, leaving therefore a decrease in net (before the deduction of the taxes) in amount of only \$13,059,449, or but 1.83%. Doubtless the curtailment of expenses was due in part to greater efficiency of operations, but in part also it must be ascribed to less liberal outlays on maintenance account and a general policy of retrenchment made necessary by the falling off in traffic and in revenue. The following table shows the comparative totals for the two years:

Jan. 1 to June 30—	1928.	1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—)
Miles of road.....	239,833	238,870	+963 0.40
	\$	\$	%
Gross earnings.....	2,901,379,728	3,018,008,234	-116,628,506 3.86
Operating expenses.....	2,200,532,949	2,304,102,006	-103,569,057 4.50
Ratio of expenses to earnings.....	75.84%	76.34%	-0.50
Net earnings.....	700,846,779	713,906,228	-13,059,449 1.83

There was in 1928 a revival of the automobile trade after the severe slump which that trade experienced during the previous year, which slump, however, was due mainly to the fact that the Ford plants were out of commission being engaged in devising a new model of car. Then also the agricultural implement makers found a wider market for their machinery owing to the improved agricultural situation in the Spring wheat sections of the Northwest and the two together stimulated a revival of activity in the steel trade. But outside these favored lines there were adverse developments of larger or smaller consequence, which played their part in pulling railroad revenues down. As far as the different geographical divisions of the country are concerned, there was really only one section of the country, namely, the spring wheat section of the Northwest, where the situation was generally and widely better than in the year preceding. Here a great economic improvement was wrought by the abundant spring wheat harvest of 1927, after several years of poor or indifferent harvests in that part of the country.

Trade statistics reveal both the favorable and the unfavorable features of the half year. For the first six months of 1928 the output (factory sales) of motor vehicles in the United States aggregated 2,201,880 vehicles against 2,068,974 in the first half of 1927, but comparing with 2,305,877 vehicles in the first six months of 1926. The Ford plants were again actively at work, but did not attain the expected capacity or come anywhere near the maximum which is ultimately to be their goal. The steel trade enjoyed what was tantamount to a genuine revival and the statistics of production make that fact very plain. For the first six months of 1928

the production of steel ingots is estimated at 24,792,883 tons, as against 23,807,387 tons in the first half of 1927 and 24,153,809 tons in the first half of 1926. Iron production, however, in the first half of 1928 aggregated only 18,520,921 tons, as against 19,430,678 tons in the first six months of 1927 and 19,848,461 tons in the first half of 1926.

Statistics regarding coal production afford perhaps a clearer idea of the general trade situation than anything else. Last year conditions in the coal trade were unusual, especially in the soft coal regions. For the first three months the soft coal mines were worked to capacity, owing to the knowledge that on the 1st of April there was to be a strike at all the union-controlled mines in the United States and the output of coal accordingly reached maximum figures. During the last three months of the half year, after the strike was actually in effect, there was a pretty general suspension of mining at the different unionized mines throughout the country, about the only exceptions being a few in Pennsylvania, which continued operations on the old scale of pay as a result of temporary agreements between miners and operators, but even these stopped work at the end of June when the operators refused to continue the old scale any longer. As far as the country as a whole was concerned, the strike proved of little consequence, the non-union mines heavily increasing their output, thereby making up in part at least for the stoppage of production in the unionized field. Nevertheless, the roads serving the union mines lost the coal traffic they would otherwise have had except for the strike. The result altogether was that owing to the prodigious amount of coal then mined in the early months, the production of soft coal for the half year, notwithstanding the strike beginning with April, was actually somewhat larger than in the first half of the previous year (1926).

These explanations with reference to the coal situation last year (1927) seem necessary in order to understand the situation in the coal trade the present year. The most important single item of traffic carried by the railroads is the coal tonnage. Therefore in any study of railroad revenue the coal situation demands attention above everything else. During 1928 the demand for coal was poor throughout. This was so for a three-fold reason, namely, the mild weather, the inactive state of general trade and the fact that large stocks of coal were carried over from the previous year, the stocks accumulated early in that year, when everyone (the railroads, public utilities, as well as ordinary consumers, and also dealers) stocked up with coal in preparation for the strike, not yet having been worked off. It was a foregone conclusion of course that during the first three months of 1928 there would be a big decrease in the soft coal output as compared with the same period of 1927, when the output was of such huge dimensions, and that railroad revenues would be reduced as a consequence. As it happened, however, the output during the three months from April 1 to June 30 also fell below that of the corresponding months in 1927, when mining was so heavily reduced because of the strike. This last served to illustrate the slackness of trade and business more clearly than anything else, since it showed that the general trade demand for coal had become so contracted that current output sufficed to meet it notwithstanding it had been so severely curtailed. Bear-

ing that in mind, it is only necessary to say that for the first six months of 1928 the production of bituminous coal in the United States reached no more than 234,289,000 tons against 276,629,000 tons in the same six months of 1927 and 265,229,000 tons in 1926, there having hence been a falling off the present year of over 42,000,000 tons. In the hard coal region the slump in output the present year has been no less pronounced and only 37,103,000 tons of anthracite were mined the first half of 1928, as against 40,897,000 tons the first half of 1927. This great shrinkage in anthracite production followed in part as a consequence of the mild winter weather, which reduced the consumption of hard coal, but in part it followed also from the further fact that hard coal is being to some extent supplanted by other fuels and more particularly by oil.

The statistics regarding the loading of revenue freight by the railroads of the United States tell the same story of a diminished volume of tonnage and of dull trade which accordingly accounts for the falling off of \$116,628,506 in the gross earnings of Class 1 railroads in this country. From the figures furnished by the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association, it appears that the loading of revenue freight by the railroads of the United States aggregated no more than 24,457,105 cars in the 26 weeks of 1928 against 25,521,040 cars in the same period of 1927 and 25,333,232 in the same period of 1926. The falling off from last year, it will be seen, has been over 1,000,000 cars, which speaks eloquently of the diminished volume of traffic the railroad carriers have had to transport the present year. The shrinkage in the coal traffic was of course one element in the falling off, but it should also be remembered that this falling off occurred notwithstanding the great increase in the grain traffic, in part as the result of the large spring wheat harvest of last season, and in part as the result of the large corn crop raised in Kansas and Nebraska (which two States produced 468,356,000 bushels of corn in 1927 against only 200,600,000 bushels in 1926). As is shown further below, grain receipts at the Western primary markets the first half of 1928 were 91 million bushels in excess of those for the first half of 1927. Many of the Southwestern roads on the other hand had to contend with a diminished movement of grain on account of the reduced yield of both wheat and corn in that part of the country. Moreover, many of these roads had to contend at the same time with a shortage of the cotton crop, the production of which last season was heavily reduced, particularly in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas.

In addition to all this, the South experienced no relief from the intense business depression under which it has been laboring for about two years now. This business depression in the South, it may be recalled, had its origin in the first instance in the collapse of the speculative boom in real estate and the havoc caused by the Florida hurricane in September 1926. The situation was made acute by the big drop in the price of cotton which came with such suddenness in the autumn of 1926, when the cotton consuming world began to realize that the crop which was then being gathered was to be of immense size. The depression persisted all through 1927, even though the price of cotton fully recovered, and came back to the level prevailing before the break and even moved higher than this previ-

ous level. During 1928 the depression has continued, besides which the reduction in the size of the crop itself meant a considerable reduction in railroad tonnage, the 1927 yield of cotton in the United States having been only 12,956,043 bales against 17,977,374 bales in 1926. As a consequence, we find heavy losses in earnings shown by all the leading Southern railway systems—in addition, too, in most cases to equally heavy losses sustained by the same roads the previous year. As was the case in 1927 the heaviest losses in earnings in 1928 come from railroad systems connecting with or running through Florida and its winter resorts, such as the Atlantic Coast Line and the Florida East Coast. As a measure of the intensity of the business depression in that part of the country, it is worth noting, that bank clearings at Miami the first six months of 1928 aggregated no more than \$90,044,000, against \$168,702,415 in the same six months of 1927 and \$441,472,095 in the first six months of 1926; those at Tampa only \$103,602,772 against \$136,417,696 in 1927 and \$255,456,969 in 1926, and the clearings at Jacksonville \$456,180,633 against \$564,700,947 and \$896,788,324, respectively, in the two years preceding.

Nor should we omit mention of the fact that the ore-carrying roads to the Great Lakes which in 1927 had an advantage in the much earlier opening of lake navigation, the present year on the contrary suffered from the late opening of navigation. This will explain the relatively heavy losses in earnings sustained by such roads as the Duluth Missabe & Northern and the Duluth & Iron Range. It must have been a drawback also on the ore-carrying lines of the Great Northern Railway, offsetting to that extent the advantage which the latter system derived from the large spring wheat harvest in its territory and the economic revival which this brought with it, as already mentioned.

As against all these various drawbacks there was one single distinct advantage the present year, in the absence of any extensive overflow of the Mississippi River. In April, May and June last year immense damage was done by the floods in the Mississippi Valley, with the inundation of large areas in important sections of the Southwest. These overflows not only interrupted traffic movements in the afflicted areas, but rendered business wholly out of the question in many of these areas and thus did two-fold injury, first in the damage and destruction caused to the roads themselves and secondly in reducing the traffic to be handled by the roads in the movement of passengers and freight. Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana were the worst sufferers, but several other States also suffered in greater or smaller degree. The overflow of the Mississippi River was the worst in history. In the upper reaches of the Mississippi and its tributaries, the overflow reached an acute stage as early as April, and then the water passed slowly off, making it possible in great numbers of cases to resume farming work the latter part of May on many of the submerged areas, but unfortunately, in June spring freshets caused a second overflow which did new damage, and though this second overflow did not cover anywhere near so wide an area as the first, it covered a substantial portion of it, and much of this twice submerged land was still under water the middle of June. Down in Louisiana the worst stages of the inundation did not occur until June and important

areas were still under water at the beginning of July. The damage to the railroads in some parts of the Southwest was enormous and the Missouri Pacific system apparently suffered beyond all others. All this, Southern and Southwestern roads escaped in 1928.

We referred above to the fact that Western roads as a whole the present year had the advantage of a heavier grain movement than in the corresponding period of 1927. The increase extended to all the cereals with the single exception of rye. The receipts of wheat at the Western primary markets for the 26 weeks ending June 30 1928 aggregated 131,901,000 bushels, as against 116,963,000 bushels in the corresponding period of 1927; the receipts of corn 182,852,000 bushels, as compared with but 117,532,000 bushels in 1927; of oats 69,984,000 bushels, as against 64,100,000 bushels; of barley 22,185,000 bushels, against 14,013,000, but of rye 7,602,000 bushels as compared with 10,815,000 bushels. For the five items combined, the receipts reached 414,524,000 bushels in 1928, against 323,459,000 bushels in 1927. The details of the Western grain movement, in our usual form, are set out in the subjoined table:

		WESTERN FLOUR AND GRAIN RECEIPTS.				
Jan. 1 to June 30.	Flour (bbls.).	Wheat (bush.).	Corn (bush.).	Oats (bush.).	Barley (bush.).	Rye (bush.).
<i>Chicago</i> —						
1928	5,927,000	11,612,000	60,241,000	26,929,000	3,751,000	1,090,000
1927	6,019,000	9,260,000	40,159,000	22,568,000	3,156,000	943,000
<i>Minneapolis</i> —						
1928	1,099,000	618,000	9,458,000	3,375,000	4,732,000	305,000
1927	999,000	1,435,000	5,832,000	5,991,000	3,976,000	713,000
<i>St. Louis</i> —						
1928	3,083,000	12,626,000	21,549,000	9,511,000	536,000	35,000
1927	3,087,000	9,393,000	10,508,000	10,287,000	222,000	423,000
<i>Toledo</i> —						
1928	-----	3,855,000	890,000	1,440,000	18,000	31,000
1927	-----	5,981,000	2,227,000	5,192,000	17,000	107,000
<i>Detroit</i> —						
1928	-----	797,000	576,000	620,000	17,000	159,000
1927	-----	1,031,000	738,000	456,000	17,000	318,000
<i>Peoria</i> —						
1928	1,726,000	506,000	13,424,000	5,073,000	1,479,000	47,000
1927	1,613,000	419,000	13,254,000	4,494,000	708,000	21,000
<i>Duluth</i> —						
1928	-----	24,252,000	424,000	520,000	2,193,000	3,969,000
1927	-----	15,811,000	213,000	262,000	1,411,000	6,889,000
<i>Minneapolis</i> —						
1928	-----	42,551,000	5,740,000	9,946,000	9,399,000	1,925,000
1927	-----	29,578,000	6,928,000	5,147,000	4,501,000	1,437,000
<i>Kansas City</i> —						
1928	-----	16,902,000	26,993,000	1,734,000	-----	-----
1927	-----	23,957,000	7,740,000	1,464,000	-----	-----
<i>Omaha & Indianapolis</i> —						
1928	-----	7,132,000	29,785,000	8,226,000	30,000	31,000
1927	-----	7,018,000	22,558,000	6,840,000	3,000	-----
<i>Stour City</i> —						
1928	-----	720,000	5,471,000	1,809,000	25,000	9,000
1927	-----	494,000	2,028,000	530,000	2,000	-----
<i>St. Joseph</i> —						
1928	-----	2,979,000	6,557,000	631,000	5,000	1,000
1927	-----	3,727,000	4,948,000	660,000	-----	-----
<i>Wichita</i> —						
1928	-----	7,351,000	1,744,000	170,000	-----	-----
1927	-----	8,809,000	399,000	269,000	-----	-----
<i>Total All</i> —						
1928	11,835,000	131,901,000	182,852,000	69,984,000	22,185,000	7,602,000
1927	11,718,000	116,963,000	117,532,000	64,100,000	14,013,000	10,861,000

On the other hand, the Western livestock movement was considerably reduced. At Chicago the receipts for the six months of 1928 comprised 119,146 carloads, against 123,096 in 1927, and 129,282 carloads in 1925; at Omaha, 46,833 carloads, as compared with 46,264 carloads in 1927, and 52,533 cars in 1926, and at Kansas City 46,611 carloads, against 48,741 cars and 48,515 cars, respectively, in 1927 and 1926.

Southern roads, as already indicated, suffered a heavy falling off in their cotton movement, owing to the smallness of the crop in 1927, as compared to the banner crop of the staple in 1926. This was of course in addition to the loss which followed directly as the result of trade prostration in the South. Gross shipments overland aggregated only 379,522 bales in the six months of 1928, as against 625,348 bales in 1927, and 598,596 bales in the six months of 1926. At the Southern outports the receipts of the staple reached only 1,811,414 bales, as compared with 3,815,138 bales in the corresponding period of 1927, and 2,757,939 bales in 1926. Details of the latter are given in the following table:

RECEIPTS OF COTTON AT SOUTHERN PORTS FROM JAN. 1 TO JUNE 30.

Since Jan. 1—	1928.	1927.	1926.	1925.	1924.	1923.
Galveston.....	387,746	921,851	740,597	923,578	595,274	487,598
Texas City, &c.....	435,908	1,002,201	638,872	816,971	261,659	196,421
New Orleans.....	542,108	935,427	768,087	613,103	543,512	485,482
Mobile.....	80,363	110,697	62,146	46,372	44,616	19,783
Pensacola, &c.....	1,658	2,878	4,224	2,374	4,778	3,683
Savannah.....	176,035	405,479	303,984	182,091	179,275	168,834
Brunswick.....	-----	-----	-----	350	64	3,447
Charleston.....	77,963	212,726	129,488	126,407	46,128	72,080
Wilmington.....	53,734	84,803	35,195	49,063	32,687	26,062
Norfolk.....	54,875	139,076	115,382	143,026	101,726	81,484
Lake Charles.....	1,024	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total.....	1,811,414	3,815,138	2,757,939	2,903,655	1,809,719	1,544,874

As a final summary of the conditions which prevailed during the half year and their effects upon railroad traffic and revenue, certain statistics which have been given out the present week by the Bureau of Railway Economics are very pertinent, and highly important, too, because they deal directly with the volume of traffic moved during the half year and establish beyond controversy the fact that the volume of such traffic was substantially smaller than in the first half of last year notwithstanding the revival of the steel trade and the increased activity in the automobile industry. The volume of freight traffic handled by the Class 1 railroads during the first six months of this year amounted to 223,845,340,000 net ton miles, according to the Bureau of Railway Economics. This was a decrease, it is stated, of 10,158,687,000 net ton miles, or 4.3%, from the corresponding period in 1927, and a decrease of 3,289,873,000 net ton miles, or 1.4%, from the same period in 1926. The Eastern district showed a decrease of 8.1% and the Southern district a decrease of 8.5%, while the Western districts reported an increase of 3.1%.

As far as the weather is an influence on the traffic and earnings of the roads, the winter of 1928 will rank as one of the mildest on record, complaints of obstruction to railroad operations from snow or ice or extreme cold having been entirely absent in all parts of the country. In 1927, too, the winter was not severe in any part of the country, if we except a limited area in the Rocky Mountain regions, where unusually heavy falls of snow were encountered during January, February and March. In fact, it may be said that in some of the Rocky Mountain States, particularly Colorado and Wyoming, repeated heavy snowstorms occurred all through the winter of 1927, making railroad operations difficult; even towards the middle of April an unusually severe spring blizzard was reported, seriously interrupting traffic, the latter extending also into South Dakota. Barring this, however, the winter of 1927 did not impose drawbacks of any great consequence anywhere. In 1926, likewise, the winter, on the whole, was not much of a disturbing influence. The situation in that respect was not so extremely good as it had been in 1925 and yet was on the whole quite favorable. In January weather conditions in 1926 did not impose much of an obstacle to railroad operations over any large sections of the country. On the other hand, in February the New England roads suffered, presumably by reason of heavy falls of snow. The winter of 1926, taking the country as a whole, was, as stated, quite mild, but in February there were some big snowstorms in the East, with, however, nothing approaching a blizzard. In other words, there were no big drifts to tie up traffic and interfere seriously with the running of trains. In this city there was in 1926 no snowfall of any consequence during the winter until February, but in this last mentioned month there were two very heavy snowstorms, namely, one on Feb. 3-4, when 10.3

inches of snow fell, and another on Feb. 9-10, when the snowfall was 11.6 inches. For the whole month of February the snowfall in this city in 1926 aggregated 25.7 inches, being the heaviest on record for any February since 1899, when the fall was 27.5 inches, and comparing with only 0.8 inch in February 1925 (when, however, the fall was extremely heavy in January), and with 11.5 inches in February 1924 and 17.9 inches in February 1923. The February snowstorms in 1926 seem to have extended all over New England and through New York State. New England roads virtually all reported for that month large losses in gross, as well as in net, and no doubt the circumstance mentioned was in part responsible for this, in addition to which, however, these roads must have had their coal traffic reduced by the anthracite miners' strike.

In both 1925 and 1924 the railroads enjoyed quite remarkable exemption from bad weather and from the often extreme rigors of the winter. In January 1925 bad weather was somewhat of a drawback on certain lines here in the East, though not to any great extent for the country as a whole. There were repeated snowstorms in these parts in the month in 1925, and in New York City the fall of snow was the heaviest of any January in the history of the local weather bureau, reaching 26.2 inches. This compared with only 2.6 inches in January 1924, but with 21.9 inches in January 1923, this latter having also been a month of very heavy snowfalls. A storm which came toward the end of the month in 1925—that is, Thursday, Jan. 29, and extended into Friday, Jan. 30—proved particularly mischievous in New York State. The New York Central Railroad reported it as the worst in its history, especially between Albany and Rochester, causing considerable delay in the running of trains. The Twentieth Century train from Chicago was 16 hours late in reaching the Grand Central Terminal in New York City. It was due at 9.40 a. m., but did not arrive until 1.18 and 1.33 the following morning (Saturday), coming in two sections. The area of disturbance, however, in this way was very much circumscribed, being confined largely to New York and New England, while elsewhere in the northern part of the country the winter was comparatively mild, and little complaint was heard of obstruction because of snow and ice or because of extreme cold.

After this heavy snowstorm in New York State the latter part of January (1925), from which, as noted, other parts of the country were exempt, mild weather developed in February, and this may be said to have been a condition common to the whole United States and even Canada, the winter nearly everywhere having been an open one and spring having come unusually early virtually everywhere. Nor, as already stated, was there much severe winter weather in 1924, but in 1923, on the other hand, the winter was of unusual severity in many parts of the northern half of the United States, especially in New England and in northern New York, where the roads suffered from repeated snowstorms, and from the depth of the accumulated snowfalls, with resulting large increases in operating expenses.

What gives additional significance to the present year's falling off in earnings, amounting to \$116,628,506 in gross and to \$13,059,449 in net, is that it follows a decrease last year, too, though only a very slight decrease. The statistics of the Bureau of Railway Economics at that time showed a small

increase in the tonnage movement one mile, but that the roads then encountered many drawbacks and adverse conditions has already been made plain. The Mississippi River floods, the coal miners' strike, the slump in the automobile trade, the depression in the South, the impaired status of the agricultural classes, especially in the Northwest, by reason of successive poor crops of spring wheat, all imposed a state of quietude on general trade and left their mark on railroad revenues. However, the decrease was very slight—only \$9,132,430 in the gross, or less than one-third of 1%, and \$16,035,003 in the net, or 2.20%. In the two years preceding, on the other hand—1926 and 1925—the situation was different. Then the returns were distinguished for quite considerable improvement. Especially was this the case in 1926, when our compilations recorded no less than \$131,448,135 increase in gross and \$71,056,875 increase in net. There were increases also in 1925 over 1924, but they were much more moderate, at least in the gross, having been only \$23,096,456 in that item, but \$58,807,728 in the net. However, these increases came after a big falling off in both gross and net in 1924. This latter year was the year of a Presidential election, when, pending the outcome, a tremendous slump in business occurred, which involved a corresponding contraction in the traffic and the revenues of the railroads. The falling off in the gross in 1924 amounted to no less than \$225,987,341; in the net it was \$54,000,364.

But in noting the 1924 shrinkage in gross and net it is important not to overlook the fact that this followed prodigious gains in gross and net alike in the year preceding, that is 1923, the addition to the gross that year having been no less than \$480,926,565 and to the net \$117,564,651. Moreover, this improvement, at least in the net, came after large increases in 1922 and the year before, too, the improvement, however, in those two years following entirely as a result of savings in expenses, gross earnings in both 1922 and 1921 having recorded losses. In 1922, as against \$63,399,701 decrease in gross, the saving in expenses was \$281,731,725, affording, therefore, a gain in net earnings of \$218,332,024. In 1921, in like manner, though there was \$67,476,090 loss in gross, this was turned into a gain of \$141,808,030 in net by a reduction of \$209,284,120 in expenses. The 1921 reduction in expenses would have been very much greater than actually recorded except that the railroads were operating under much higher wage scales, the United States Labor Board having in July 1920 awarded an increase of 20%. On the other hand, the decrease of 12% made by the Labor Board, effective July 1 1921, was a factor in lowering expenses in the first half of 1922.

It must be particularly remembered, however, that previous to 1921 expenses had been mounting up in a frightful way, until in 1920 a point was reached where even the strongest and best managed properties were barely able to meet ordinary running expenses, not to mention taxes and fixed charges. And it is these prodigiously inflated expense accounts that furnished the basis for the savings and economies that were effected in 1921 and 1922 and in the years since then. As compared with 1920, the roads in both 1921 and 1922 also had the advantage of much more favorable weather conditions. In 1921 the winter was exceptionally mild, and much the same was true of the winter of 1922, though this last is declared to have been a hard one

in certain special sections—in Wyoming and Montana, for instance, and contiguous territory. In 1920, on the other hand, not only was the winter unusually severe, but many other adverse influences and conditions existed at the time, all combining to cut down the net, and in our review of the earnings for this half-year period we were prompted to say that it was not likely that we would ever be called upon to record a poorer statement of net earnings of United States railroads for any period of six months than that for the first half of 1920. Rising costs of operation—induced by wage increases, advancing prices for material, fuel, supplies and everything else entering into the operating accounts of the railroads, and by heavy extra expenses arising out of special unfavorable circumstances of one kind or another—had been a feature of railroad affairs for many years, we then pointed out, but in 1920 the movement, unquestionably, might be said to have reached its climax and its apex, many of the roads failing to earn bare operating expenses. Altogether, the result of this array of unfavorable influences on earnings in the first half of 1920 was that as against a gain in gross earnings of \$358,015,357, our compilations showed an addition to expenses of no less than \$425,461,941, leaving the net diminished in amount of \$67,446,584.

It should be noted, furthermore, that the falling off in net in 1920 was merely one of a long series of losses in net. In the first six months of 1919 the higher rates then in force (as compared with 1918) for the transportation of passengers and freight barely sufficed to meet the great rise in expenses; our compilations then showed \$265,635,870 addition to gross earnings with a coincident increase in expenses of \$265,952,855, leaving net slightly smaller, namely by \$316,985. In the preceding two years the results were equally bad, huge increases in expenses acting to cause heavy losses in the net. For instance, in 1918 the addition to expenses (over 1917) reached the prodigious sum of \$457,054,265, or about 34%, with the result that a gain of \$181,848,682 in gross was turned into a loss of no less than \$275,205,583 in the net, or over 50%. Not only that, but in 1917 a gain of \$205,066,407 in gross was concurrent with an addition of \$212,222,155 to expenses, leaving a loss of \$7,155,748 in net. In the following we furnish the half yearly comparisons back to 1906:

Year.	Gross Earnings.			Net Earnings.		
	Year Given.	Year Preceding.	Increase or Decrease.	Year Given.	Year Preceding.	Increase or Decrease.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Jan. 1 to June 30.						
1906.	923,554,268	815,486,025	+108,068,243	272,101,047	226,345,855	+45,755,192
1907.	999,082,691	884,426,163	+114,656,528	280,697,496	261,423,946	+19,273,550
1908.	863,860,965	1036,729,560	-172,868,595	231,254,071	1294,738,973	-63,484,902
1909.	1172,185,463	1051,853,195	+120,332,208	371,591,341	294,051,102	+76,640,239
1910.	1351,570,837	1172,481,315	+179,089,522	408,380,483	371,562,668	+36,817,815
1911.	1310,580,765	1339,539,563	-28,958,798	378,852,053	404,669,430	-26,717,377
1912.	1365,355,859	1309,006,353	+56,349,506	373,370,171	375,407,648	-2,037,477
1913.	1502,472,942	1366,304,199	+136,168,743	400,242,544	373,442,875	+26,788,669
1914.	1401,010,280	1486,043,706	-85,033,426	343,835,677	394,495,885	-50,660,208
1915.	1407,465,982	1447,464,542	-39,998,560	394,683,548	347,068,207	+47,615,343
1916.	1731,460,912	1403,448,334	+328,012,578	559,476,894	393,225,507	+166,151,381
1917.	1946,395,684	1741,329,277	+205,066,407	555,683,025	562,838,773	-7,155,747
1918.	2071,337,977	1839,489,295	+231,848,688	265,705,922	540,911,505	-275,205,583
1919.	2339,750,126	2074,114,256	+265,635,870	265,007,159	265,325,144	-316,985
1920.	2684,672,507	2328,637,150	+356,035,357	195,582,649	263,029,233	-67,446,584
1921.	2671,369,048	2738,845,138	-67,476,086	310,890,365	169,082,335	+141,808,030
1922.	2602,347,511	2665,747,212	-63,399,701	530,420,651	312,088,627	+218,332,024
1923.	3088,129,793	2605,203,228	+482,926,565	649,131,565	531,566,924	+117,564,641
1924.	2865,947,474	3091,934,815	-225,987,341	597,828,199	651,828,563	-54,000,364
1925.	2887,608,623	2864,512,167	+23,096,456	656,663,561	597,855,833	+58,807,728
1926.	3022,413,801	2890,965,666	+131,448,135	727,905,072	656,848,197	+71,056,875
1927.	3011,796,048	3020,928,478	-9,132,430	711,888,565	727,923,568	-16,035,003
1928.	2901,379,728	3018,008,234	-116,628,506	700,846,779	713,906,228	-13,059,449

As far as the separate months of the year are concerned, it has already been indicated further above that the gross earnings recorded a falling off from last year in each and every month, and that the

statement is true also with reference to the net earnings, except that a very small gain in net was shown in February and also in May, in both of which months however the railroads had the advantage of an extra working day the present year. We therefore add the following monthly comparisons for the two years without further comment:

Month.	Gross Earnings.			Net Earnings.		
	1928.	1927.	Increase or Decrease.	1928.	1927.	Increase or Decrease.
January	\$ 456,520,897	\$ 486,722,646	-30,161,749	\$ 93,990,640	\$ 99,549,436	-5,558,796
February	455,681,258	468,532,117	-12,850,859	108,120,729	107,579,051	+541,678
March	504,233,099	530,643,758	-26,410,659	131,840,275	135,874,542	-4,034,267
April	473,428,231	497,865,380	-24,437,149	110,907,453	113,818,315	-2,910,862
May	509,746,395	518,569,718	-8,823,323	128,780,393	127,940,076	+840,317
June	501,576,771	516,448,211	-14,871,440	127,284,367	129,111,754	-1,827,387

Note.—Percentage of increase or decrease in net for above months has been—Jan., 5.58% dec.; Feb., 0.50% inc.; March, 2.96% dec.; April, 2.56% dec.; May, 0.66% inc.; June, 1.41% dec.

In January the length of road covered was 239,476 miles in 1928, against 238,608 miles in 1927; in Feb., 239,584 miles, against 238,731 miles in 1927; in March, 239,649 miles, against 238,729 miles in 1927; in April, 239,852 miles, against 238,904 miles in 1927; in May, 240,120 miles, against 239,079 miles in 1927; in June, 240,302 miles, against 239,066 miles in 1927.

Dealing now with the exhibits of the separate roads, the roads distinguished for substantial gains, at least as far as the gross earnings are concerned, are as would be expected from the detailed analysis of conditions and influences that were operative during the half year, comparatively few. They embrace almost entirely two classes of roads or systems, namely, (1) those serving the spring wheat sections of the Northwest, where the excellent spring wheat harvest of last season gave the rail carriers not only an increased traffic movement in the transportation of grain but also a larger movement of merchandise and general freight by reason of the great economic changes which the bounteous crop wrought, and (2) a few roads in the Southwest, like the Texas & Pacific, which are deriving important advantages from the oil developments in that part of the country, or which, like the Missouri Pacific, suffered severely from the overflow of the Mississippi River and its tributaries last year, and the present year, in the absence of any such misfortune, were able to make good in part the falling off then sustained. This year's losses in gross, on the other hand, are, as would be expected, very numerous and many of them are for large amounts. They come from all parts of the country and all classes of roads, outside of those already mentioned as forming exceptions to the rule. In the case of the net earnings, the showing, as concerns the different systems, is somewhat different in that the increases are more numerous and pari passu the decreases less numerous. This follows from the fact that not a few roads were able in good part to offset the losses in gross by reductions in expenses, or to overcome such losses entirely in that way.

As instances of roads which were able to enlarge their gross earnings in conspicuous measure in the Northwest, we may mention the Milwaukee & St. Paul, with \$4,747,751 gain in gross and no less than \$8,261,636 gain in net; the Great Northern with \$2,183,254 gain in gross and \$362,401 in net; the Northern Pacific with \$3,237,455 gain in gross and \$1,623,639 in net; the Chicago & North West with \$733,413 gain in gross and \$190,872 increase in net, and the "Soo" road with \$892,585 in gross and \$435,644 in net. On the other hand, the two ore-carrying roads in the same section report a heavy diminution in gross and net alike, owing to the late opening of navigation the present season as against the very early opening of navigation the previous year. The gross of the Duluth, Missabe & Northern fell off

\$1,359,095 and the net \$517,186, while the Duluth & Iron Range falls \$506,828 behind in gross and \$303,366 in net.

Further south in the Western district, immediately below the spring wheat belt, where also crops were good, some other roads are also able to give a good account of themselves. Thus the Union Pacific shows \$8,082,392 improvement in gross and \$3,988,309 improvement in net, and the Burlington & Quincy \$3,505,670 in gross and \$1,225,434 in net. In the Southwest the Texas & Pacific continued its phenomenal record of improvement and reports \$5,822,117 increase in gross and \$3,744,887 increase in net. The Missouri Pacific regained \$1,021,296 of its loss of the previous year and \$2,858,391 of its loss in net. The previous year the road reported \$3,578,291 loss in gross and \$3,289,328 loss in net. The Southern Pacific fell \$1,339,970 behind in gross, but was able to add \$1,999,842 to its net, through reductions in expenses.

In the case of the roads with large losses in gross, the Pennsylvania heads the list with \$24,505,486 decrease for the six months, though, through reduction in expenses there is a gain in the net of \$583,071. The previous year the company managed in the same way to convert a loss of \$3,143,461 in gross into a gain of \$7,325,264 in net. The New York Central shows for the six months of 1928 \$8,454,833 shrinkage in gross and \$2,930,953 in net. This is for the Central itself. Including the various auxiliary and controlled roads, the result is \$10,710,345 loss in gross and \$2,239,881 loss in net. The Baltimore & Ohio reports \$12,164,633 falling off in gross and \$5,569,260 in net. The Erie Railroad manages to give an exceptionally good account of itself; with \$803,336 decrease in gross, it reports \$1,736,241 increase in net. The Lehigh Valley shows \$3,306,278 reduction in gross, but only \$311,131 in net. Among the leading anthracite carriers, the Del. & Hudson has \$1,940,781 loss in gross, with \$140,498 gain in net; the Lackawanna \$2,555,112 loss in gross and \$1,045,048 loss in net, and the Reading \$3,878,659 loss in gross and \$1,856,391 loss in net. The soft coal roads serving the Pocahontas region have a similar record, the Ches. & Ohio having suffered \$7,840,266 loss in gross and \$3,851,170 in net; the Norfolk & Western \$6,492,361 in gross and \$3,512,962 in net, and the Virginian \$2,781,660 in gross and \$2,107,259 in net.

It is the Southern roads that make the poorest showing of all, and that follows of course because of the continued trade prostration under which that section of the country has been laboring. Virtually all the leading systems have suffered heavy decreases in gross and net alike, and even among the minor roads there are few exceptions to the rule. Worst of all, the losses the present year in most cases are in addition to losses last year. The Atlantic Coast Line shows 5,858,137 decrease in gross and \$2,037,692 in net, following \$8,146,543 decrease in gross and \$5,592,148 in net in the first six months of 1927. The Florida East Coast reports \$2,638,049 decrease in gross, but \$110,647 increase in net, after having suffered \$5,970,975 decrease in gross and \$2,407,463 in net in 1927. The Seaboard Air Line adds \$3,493,212 decrease in gross and \$609,579 decrease in net to its decrease of \$2,106,747 in gross and 827,615 in net last year. The Louisville & Nashville sustained \$4,535,836 more loss in gross and \$1,169,702 more in net, following \$655,687 in

Table with columns: Region, 1928, 1927, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec. Rows include Great Lakes, Central Eastern, Southern, and Total (34 roads).

Table with columns: Region, 1928, 1927, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec. Rows include Central Eastern, Southern, and Total (31 roads).

Table with columns: Region, 1928, 1927, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec. Rows include Southern, Southern District, and Total (31 roads).

Table with columns: Region, 1928, 1927, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec. Rows include Pocahontas, Western District, and Total (18 roads).

Table with columns: Region, 1928, 1927, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec. Rows include Central Western, Southern Pacific, and Total (23 roads).

Table with columns: Region, 1928, 1927, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec. Rows include Southern Pacific, Southern, and Total (33 roads).

(Continued from Page 1011.)

forces may be more potential in the peace and progress of the world?"

One who knows George Harvey can well imagine that he was free with his language, his wit, and his imagery. He was a new voice from America. He spoke fearlessly and was regarded as the voice of Washington. He was not only listened to but he was convincing.

The first thing on the calendar for the next cabinet meeting was the American debt settlement. When the prime minister is in doubt in England, he takes a vote of his cabinet for guidance, but when he assumes responsibility, the cabinet does not vote; it loyally supports him.

When the cabinet members arrive at Downing Street at the appointed hour the prime minister stood by the door of the Council Chamber and, greeting each individually, said: "I assume the responsibility and shall accept the American debt settlement."

Harvey was not known as a statesman or a diplomat. He was a free lance journalist with a sharp tongue and a biting pen. His appointment to the Court of St. James was generally regarded as a matter of political expediency and of doubtful diplomatic value.

But the historian will record that the first effort of Ambassador Harvey in England was a diplomatic triumph of

the highest value. He wrung success from defeat and did more in the interest of international peace than has been accomplished by any individual since the war or during this century.

Had he failed there would have been no national debt settlements from any quarter; and it is quite probable that the United States would have gone on piling up interest charges upon the \$10,000,000,000 it loaned the European Allies during the war, still further estranging the nations of Europe in their relations with the United States. The debtor never loves his creditor where there is no hope for more loans.

But for George Harvey all Europe to-day might be regarding the United States as a monster Shylock piling up debts and interest never to be extinguished until the United States became weakened by war or some unforeseen forces and appealed to Europe for help. Then and then only might Europe be able to effect a settlement.

With increasing bitterness between the East and the West the cause of international peace would have been hopeless.

Let us give George Harvey his due and lay a wreath for peace on the tomb of this great political warrior.

*Col. Harvey, formerly Ambassador to Great Britain, and also formerly editor of *The North American Review* in 1899 and later President and Managing Director of Harper & Brothers, died suddenly at his summer home at Dublin, N. H., on Aug. 20. He was born at Peachem, Vt., in 1864.

Indications of Business Activity

STATE OF TRADE—COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

Friday Night, Aug. 24 1928.

There is less retail business, as it is between seasons, but there are signs of a larger jobbing trade, especially at the South and the North. The early crops are being gathered, both of grain and cotton. The crop outlook in this country is in the main favorable. Frost seems to have threatened the corn in Iowa & Nebraska after hot weather, but no harm was done in either case, and the forecast to-day was for favorable temperatures. Even in Canada the wheat crop seemed to be beyond the reach of the frost, further than that the quality might be injured by a hard frost at this time. There were better trade reports from the Central West and the Northwest. There was some increase in steel output; and iron prices are reported quite steady with a good business at the West. It is not denied that new buying of steel has as a rule fallen off. The automobile trade is active, not only as to output, but as to actual sales. July automobile output was smaller than in June, but 45% higher than in July last year, if nearly 9% smaller than in July two years ago. For seven months there is a gain of close to 11% over the same period last year, while there is a decrease of about 4½% as compared with a like period in 1926. The July figures show an increase in truck manufacturing in which there had been a lull. It is believed that a new high level will be reached in the August production in the automotive industry. Such an expectation seems to be warranted by the steady increase in employment at Detroit, which is a matter of weekly record. The figures this week show a gain of some 7,500; that is, the total is 287,603 against 280,099 last week, and 206,000 a year ago and 238,200 in 1926. These are certainly cheerful figures. The increase is 81,500 over a year ago and nearly 50,000 over 1926.

Cotton has declined slightly with at times better weather and many of the trade are by no means convinced that the crop is to be only 14,300,000 bales. Some look for 15,000,000. Meanwhile, spot cotton does not sell so well, either for prompt or forward delivery, as it did a year ago. Cotton goods meet with only a moderate demand, although there has been some increase of late. Tire fabrics are in distinctly better demand and some duck goods have a readier sale. Wool has been rather inclined to weakness than to strength, with Australian sales showing a decline in prices of 5 to 7½ cents and the demand in this country far from urgent. No improvement is reported in the woolen and worsted goods trade.

Fall buying from jobbers has increased noticeable in general merchandise in sections where early crops have been secured and the agricultural community is in funds. The shoe manufacturing business has been more active. Not only the automobile, but the implement industry has been taking

considerable amounts of steel. Railroad buying is not large enough to be a factor. Silk mills are running broad looms at 97.4% against 87% last year, while the narrow looms are operating at about the same capacity as a year ago. Wheat has declined owing to an improvement in the crop outlook, both at home and abroad. Harvesting of spring wheat has proceeded apace in both the American and Canadian Northwest. Alberta, Canada, had light frosts, but they seemed to have done no harm. There were complaints of hot dry weather in the corn belt of Iowa and Nebraska, causing firing, but in the main, the crop outlook is favorable. Corn has as a rule declined slightly under the circumstances, although September corn has shown considerable strength coincidentally with a good cash demand. There has been some export business in both oats and rye. Sugar has declined somewhat. It looks as though Cuba had decided definitely not to adhere to the restriction scheme next year. Coffee has declined as Brazil has sold rather more freely, though at times there have been reports that the Defense Committee was buying in Rio and would also make purchases in Santos evidently for the purpose of sustaining prices. Rubber has declined some ¼ to ½c. with a lessened demand from consumers. A report that the big pool had been liquidated proved to be erroneous. In general, it is plain enough that artificial meddling with industries will not do. The experience in sugar and rubber are cases in point and although in coffee the Defense Committee has made out very well thus far it is merely an exception which proves the rule and the coffee experiment probably will not in the end prove successful. The copper trade has been quiet. Lead has advanced and of late a slight increase in the export demand for copper is reported. There is a resumption of the upward swing in the lumber movement. Production for the week ending Aug. 18 of soft wood and hard wood mills was 359,517,000 feet; shipments 369,514,000 feet and orders 365,848,000 feet.

Stocks on a very active trading advanced to-day 1 to 10 points with Adams Express up 13 points. Noticeable advances occurred in United States Steel, Radio, General Motors, General Electric, Anaconda Copper, Houston Oil, American Smelting, Montgomery Ward, Sears-Roebuck, Wright Aero, Allied Chemicals, Case Threshing and Commercial Solvents, not to mention others. Transactions reached 3,527,800 shares, the largest in some months past. Thirty stocks led in activity and strength. American Smelting advanced 10 points. Money was 7%, but was no deterrent on the trading nor clog on the advance. Over the counter trading was active at strong prices.

Fall River, Mass., wired that the banks would arrange in future for the sale of so-called distressed lots of goods as New York had complained of the dumping of such lots on its market recently. At Lockhart, S. C., the Monarch Mills,

which curtailed last Friday and Saturday on account of damage to some of the electrical equipment in last week's flood on Broad River, resumed full-time operations on the 20th inst.

Here the weather has been cooler and latterly rainy. On the 21st inst. it was 66 to 75 degrees. On the 22d it was rainy with the temperatures 62 to 69 and on the 23d 62 to 66, with more rain; about 1 1/4 inches fell in 2 days, the rainfall dwindling on Thursday. On the 22d inst. it was 64 to 74 at Chicago, 62 to 82 at Cincinnati, 58 to 68 at Cleveland, 74 to 86 at Kansas City, 62 to 78 at St. Paul, 54 to 66 at Seattle, 62 to 72 at Boston and 64 to 76 at Philadelphia. To-day it has been cool and cloudy here with the temperatures 67 to 72. Yesterday Chicago was 60 to 80, Cleveland 70 to 82, Cincinnati 70 to 86, Kansas City 54 to 82, in parts of Texas 52 to 54; there was frost in Wyoming; St. Paul was 46 to 64. The forecast here was for showers to-night and to-morrow, with moderate temperatures, and fair and cooler on Sunday.

Wholesale Prices in July Slightly Above Those for June.

The general level of wholesale prices in July was slightly higher than in June, according to information collected in representative markets by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. The Bureau's weighted index number, computed on prices in 1926 as 100.0 and including 550 commodities or price series, stands at 98.3 for July compared with 97.6 for June, an increase of approximately 3/4 of 1%. Compared with July 1927, with an index number of 94.1, an increase of nearly 4 1/2% is shown. The Bureau on Aug. 18 further states:

Farm products as a group advanced about 1-3 of 1% above the June level, due mainly to price increases for corn, calves, steers, hogs, lambs, cotton, eggs, and onions. Barley, orats, rye, and wheat, on the other hand were cheaper than in June.

An increase of 2% is shown for foods, while smaller increases are shown for hides and leather products, textile products, fuel and lighting, and building materials. Small price decreases took place in the groups of metals and metal products, chemicals and drugs, housefurnishing goods and miscellaneous commodities.

Of the 550 commodities or price series for which comparable information for June and July was collected, increases were shown in 146 instances and decreases in 118 instances. In 286 instances no change in price was reported.

Comparing prices in July with those of a year ago, as measured by changes in the index numbers, it is seen that farm products, foods, and hides and leather products were considerably higher, while textile products, metals and metal products, and building materials were somewhat higher. Small decreases are shown for fuel and lighting materials, chemicals and drugs, and housefurnishing goods, and a larger decrease for the group of miscellaneous commodities.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES BY GROUPS AND SUB-GROUPS OF COMMODITIES (1926=100.0).

Groups and Sub-Groups.	1927 July	1928 June	1928 July	Purchasing Power of the 1926 Dollar July 1928 (Cents).
All commodities.....	94.1	97.6	98.3	101.7
Farm products.....	97.6	106.7	107.1	93.4
Grains.....	107.0	119.9	111.6	89.6
Livestock and poultry.....	95.3	104.7	112.1	89.2
Other farm products.....	95.9	103.4	102.1	97.9
Foods.....	93.9	100.3	102.3	97.8
Butter, cheese, and milk.....	97.9	99.8	103.3	96.8
Meats.....	90.5	104.0	112.7	88.7
Other foods.....	94.7	98.1	95.5	104.7
Hides and leather products.....	111.7	123.7	124.2	80.5
Hides and skins.....	133.5	155.0	155.8	64.2
Leather.....	113.5	127.3	128.5	77.8
Boots and shoes.....	103.0	110.8	110.8	90.3
Other leather products.....	101.6	108.4	108.6	92.1
Textile products.....	94.3	96.3	96.8	103.3
Cotton goods.....	96.1	101.1	101.0	98.0
Silk and rayon.....	87.4	82.6	81.7	122.4
Woolen and worsted goods.....	97.2	101.2	101.5	98.5
Other textile products.....	93.9	85.9	89.6	111.6
Fuel and lighting materials.....	84.2	82.1	82.8	120.8
Anthracite coal.....	95.2	90.3	90.5	110.5
Bituminous coal.....	100.0	91.8	91.4	109.4
Coke.....	93.7	84.7	84.6	118.2
Manufactured gas.....	99.6	95.2	*	---
Petroleum products.....	68.1	71.9	73.5	136.1
Metals and metal products.....	97.7	98.7	98.6	101.4
Iron and steel.....	95.5	94.2	94.0	106.4
Non-ferrous metals.....	89.3	92.8	92.6	108.0
Agricultural implements.....	99.4	98.8	98.8	101.2
Automobiles.....	102.6	105.1	105.1	95.1
Other metal products.....	100.6	96.9	96.9	103.2
Building materials.....	93.7	93.9	94.4	105.9
Lumber.....	93.9	88.7	89.5	111.7
Brick.....	93.3	93.2	93.2	107.3
Cement.....	96.5	96.5	96.5	103.6
Structural steel.....	90.7	94.5	94.5	105.8
Paint materials.....	91.5	87.1	87.6	114.2
Other building materials.....	94.0	104.0	104.1	96.1
Chemicals and drugs.....	95.3	94.9	94.5	105.8
Chemicals.....	100.0	100.4	100.2	99.8
Drugs and pharmaceuticals.....	86.9	70.3	70.4	142.0
Fertilizer materials.....	93.8	94.0	93.0	107.5
Fertilizers.....	86.6	98.1	97.5	102.6
Housefurnishing goods.....	98.0	97.0	96.9	103.2
Furniture.....	97.8	97.7	97.4	102.7
Furnishings.....	99.1	96.5	96.6	103.5
Miscellaneous.....	89.3	82.2	80.8	123.8
Cattle feed.....	115.4	148.8	132.4	75.5
Paper and pulp.....	92.0	89.2	89.2	112.1
Rubber.....	72.0	40.1	39.8	251.3
Automobile tires.....	77.9	62.2	61.6	162.3
Other miscellaneous.....	100.0	98.4	98.4	101.6
Raw materials.....	94.7	99.3	99.5	100.5
Semi-manufactured articles.....	95.7	97.8	97.8	102.2
Finished products.....	93.5	96.7	97.8	102.2
Non-agricultural commodities.....	93.2	95.2	95.9	104.3

* Data not yet available.

Detroit Employment at New High Record.

Detroit industrial employment in the week ended Aug. 21 according to Detroit Employers' Association reports totaled 287,603, a new high record. This is an increase of 7,504 over the previous week and compares with 206,074 in the same week a year ago.

Loading of Railroad Revenue Freight Still Behind a Year Ago.

Loading of revenue freight for the week ended on Aug. 11 totaled 1,044,442 cars, the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association announced on Aug. 21. This was a decrease of 4,180 cars under the preceding week, due principally to a reduction in the loading of miscellaneous freight. Decreases were also reported in the loading of forest products, ore and merchandise less than carload lot freight, while grain and grain products, live stock, coal and coke showed increases. The total for the week of Aug. 11 was a decrease of 5,197 cars below the same week in 1927 and a decrease of 58,218 cars below the corresponding week two years ago. Details are added as follows:

Miscellaneous freight loading for the week totaled 408,453 cars, an increase of 8,106 cars above the corresponding week last year and 6,794 cars above the same week in 1926.

Coal loading totaled 161,224 cars, a decrease of 9,884 cars below the same week in 1927 and 31,644 cars below the same period two years ago.

Grain and grain products loading amounted to 58,022 cars, an increase of 4,411 cars over the same week last year and 853 cars above the same week in 1926. In the western districts alone, grain and grain products loading totaled 41,480 cars, an increase of 6,522 cars above the same week in 1927.

Live stock loading amounted to 23,639 cars, a decrease of 3,755 cars below the same week last year, and 6,840 cars below the same week in 1926. In the western districts alone, live stock loading totaled 17,501 cars, a decrease of 2,552 cars compared with the same week in 1927.

Loading of merchandise less than carload lot freight totaled 256,921 cars, a decrease of 2,500 cars below the same week in 1927 and 928 cars below the corresponding week two years ago.

Forest products loading amounted to 66,295 cars, 2,017 cars below the same week last year and 5,744 cars under the same week in 1926.

Ore loading totaled 60,551 cars, 852 cars above the same week in 1927, but 18,750 cars below the same week two years ago.

Coke loading amounted to 9,337 cars, 410 cars below the same week in 1927, and 1,959 cars below the corresponding week in 1926.

All districts reported decreases in the total loading of all commodities compared with the same week last year except the Allegheny, Central-western and Southwestern, which showed increases, while all reported decreases compared with the same period two years ago.

Loading of revenue freight in 1928 compared with the two previous years as follows:

	1928.	1927.	1926.
Four weeks in January.....	3,447,723	3,756,660	3,686,696
Four weeks in February.....	3,589,694	3,801,918	3,677,352
Five weeks in March.....	4,752,031	4,982,547	4,805,700
Four weeks in April.....	3,738,295	3,875,589	3,862,703
Four weeks in May.....	4,006,058	4,108,472	4,145,820
Five weeks in June.....	4,923,304	4,995,854	5,154,981
Four weeks in July.....	3,942,931	3,913,761	4,148,118
Week ended Aug. 4.....	1,048,622	1,024,038	1,075,392
Week ended Aug. 11.....	1,044,442	1,049,639	1,102,660
Total.....	30,493,100	31,508,478	31,659,402

Trend of Business as Viewed by Continental National Bank & Trust Co. of Chicago—Expects Last Half of Year to Show Improvement Over Same Period Last Year—No Credit Stringency Looked for.

The view that "the last six months of 1928 should set a distinctly better mark than the second half of 1927" is expressed by the Continental National Bank & Trust Co. of Chicago in the circular on "The Trend of Business" made available Aug. 20. We quote as follows therefrom:

Economic forces rather than a Presidential campaign will determine the degree of business activity during the fall. The economic influences that call for particular attention are crops and money. Crop conditions bespeak business activity—as do moderate inventories. And money rates are likely to retard new financing rather than negative the usual expansion of production and trade.

First Half of 1928 Measures Up to Expectations.

"The business record for the first six months of 1928 should equal the average for the entire year 1927. It may be up to the figures for the first half of 1927." This statement is taken from our summary of last December. It can now be checked against facts.

The first half of last year was better than the second half. But even so, the figures for the first six months of 1928 compare very favorably with the corresponding period of 1927. The following summation is offered in evidence.

Domestic trade, as measured by revenue freight, wasn't quite up to the first half of 1927. Total car loadings were off 4% and merchandise shipped in less-than-carload-lots was down 1%.

Bank debits—which usually measure trade payments most satisfactorily, but for some months have also been reflecting speculation—increased 20% for the entire country, compared with the first half of 1927. Bank debits outside of New York City—which have been affected less by speculation—were 7% higher the first half of 1928 than in the corresponding period of 1927.

Industrial production—manufacturing and mining—was practically up to the 1927 half-year average and was above the average for all of last year. Manufacturing output was slightly greater than in the first half of 1927 and was well above the year's average. Mining was reduced somewhat.

Building contracts totaled many more dollars the first half of this year than in the same period of 1927. But permits—which evidence future intent as to new building—were down. In number, permits were some 5% fewer, while the value of these permits was off 2%.

Employment in manufacturing industries was less than during the first half of 1927. But the unemployment hullabaloo of last spring has subsided. Also, part of the slack has been taken up by other industries. And, so far as manufacturing is concerned, the maintenance of output with a smaller number of workers is proof enough of the continued trend toward greater efficiency in manufacture.

Business Off to Good Start Second Half of 1928.

Everybody who plays golf knows that a good score out doesn't necessarily mean as good a score in. But two or three sevens, or eights or nines, early in the game, certainly do play hob with one's disposition and usually with his medal score for the 18. It's mighty comfortable in trying to shoot say 85, to go out in 40. A few sixes can then creep in and one can still be in the money. He can even blow a hole or two.

And so it is with business. The fact that the second half of the year has started very few down to Old Man Par is a good sign. The trip out begets confidence for the trip in. Moreover, the outlook for agriculture is distinctly promising.

No Reason for Fear of Credit Stringency.

The fear that business will be hamstrung either by credit stringency or high rates for money does not seem to be well founded. Before the situation could reach such an acute stage, the Reserve Banks would be obliged to correct it by buying securities and thereby increasing the reserves of member banks. This, in turn, would permit credit expansion several times the increase in reserves.

The purpose of the Reserve Banks is to accommodate business. It was doubtless with this purpose in mind, as well as to protect their own reserve position, that these banks have latterly been following a policy of trying to reduce speculative loans. If they had been able to get these down before the seasonal peak in the commercial demand for funds, they would thereby have released credit for the general money market.

Conclusion as to Money and Business.

It now seems unlikely that the Reserve Bank authorities will adopt a policy of purchasing enough government securities and bankers' acceptances to cause a marked reduction in money rates this fall. They may make purchases in the open market that will offset the fall demand for money in some degree. But our best guess is that the general level of money rates will not be reduced much, if at all, below that now prevailing, at least during the seasonal pressure of commercial demand. Nevertheless, the banking situation is fundamentally sound. Credit is and will be available for the seasonal needs of business and agriculture. The increase in money rates has affected the investment securities market and will probably continue to do so for a time. Firm rates for money might conceivably tend to retard business activity, but money rates will be a minor influence compared with the pressure of reasonably clean shelves of merchandise and an agricultural purchasing power greater than last year.

Real Estate Market Index for July 157.

Real estate market activity for July was measured by an index figure of 157, according to the compilation made monthly by the National Association of Real Estate Boards. The compilation is made from official figures of transfers and conveyances recorded in 41 typical cities. The Association states:

The index is ten points lower than the index for July of 1927.

It is two points lower than the index for June of the present year.

The Association's compilation uses for its base the average number of transfers and conveyances recorded in the 41 cities during the corresponding month of the years 1916-23. Since it does not include in this base the years 1924-27, it is pointed out that in interpreting the index the figure found for any month is comparable with that of the corresponding month of the previous year, but is incomparable with that of the month directly preceding it.

July 1927--167	Oct. 1927--151	Jan. 1928--175	April 1928--154
Aug. 1927--163	Nov. 1927--159	Feb. 1928--189	May 1928--157
Sept. 1927--158	Dec. 1927--163	Mar. 1928--169	June 1928--159
			July 1928--157

Good Business for Remainder of Year Looked for by Union Trust Co., Cleveland.

With the second half of 1928 well under way, indications point definitely toward a continuation of good business for the remainder of the year, according to the Union Trust Co., Cleveland. "In fact it seems evident that 1928 may prove to be a much better year than was expected during the spring," says the bank in its magazine, "Trade Winds," issued Aug. 22. "Larger volumes and better earnings have been witnessed in many lines, including building, automobiles, iron and steel, machine tools, mail orders and chain stores." The company also says:

Furthermore a number of factors point toward a continuance, or even an increase in this volume. Among them may be mentioned good agricultural prospects, increasing car loadings, and satisfactory employment conditions.

It is little wonder that with so many factors pointing toward long term prosperity, buyers of securities should remain optimistic. Although interest rates may remain at levels about as high as at present for a considerable period, business should have no difficulty in securing ample funds for its operation, and somewhat lower interest rates should appear after the current speculation cycle has run its course.

The automobile situation is particularly encouraging. Production for July, according to preliminary figures, showed an increase of about 40% over that of July 1927. The decline from the level of June 1928 was extremely small and may be accounted for largely by shutdowns on the Fourth of July. Production for the first half of this year totaled 2,326,887 units which is about 6% over the first half of 1927.

Increased Sales of Ordinary Life Insurance in United States During July—Record for Year to Date Indicates Favorable Conditions.

The volume of ordinary life insurance sold in the United States during the month of July amounted to \$700,939,000. New business for the year to date is 4% better than during the corresponding period last year. The extent of the

monthly increase is indicated by the fact that 55% of all the reporting companies experienced increased sales over last July. Most sections share the country's gain for the month of July. Every section in the country shares the gain for the year to date. It seems probable that the second half of 1928 will continue the excellent record of the first half-year. The above figures have just been issued by the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau and include the reports of 81 companies having in force 90% of the total life insurance outstanding in United States legal reserve companies and reporting the production of new paid-for ordinary insurance exclusive of revivals, increases, dividend additions, reinsurance from other companies and group insurance. An analysis of geographical groups is furnished as follows by the Bureau under date of Aug. 18:

NEW ENGLAND.

The New England States show a slight loss in July sales as compared to 1927 records. Vermont reports the only monthly gain of 1%. A gain of 5% is recorded during the first seven months of this year, Maine leading with a 15% increase. For the 12 months just ended, the New England section increased 1% over sales in the preceding 12 months.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC.

Sales in the Middle Atlantic section increased 3% over last July's volume. New Jersey continues to lead with a 19% increase. The record for the first seven months of this year is 3% better than the sales over the same period in 1927. New Jersey leads both for the year to date and the 12-month period just ended.

EAST NORTH CENTRAL.

Sales in Ohio are practically identical with last year's record, the other States showing increases for July. An 8% gain is reported by the section as a whole. It is the best monthly gain recorded. The year-to-date gain of 4% is shared by all States except Michigan. A gain of 3% is reported for the 12-month period ending this month, and is shared by most of the States in the section, Michigan again recording a loss.

WEST NORTH CENTRAL.

Nebraska continues to lead this section of the country with an 18% increase for the month. The section as a whole gained 4%. The 6% gain for the first seven months of this year is led by a 16% gain in Nebraska. Sales during the past 12 months are 4% better than sales in the preceding 12 months.

SOUTH ATLANTIC.

This section records a slight loss in sales for the month, its record being 2% under business last July. A 1% increase is reported for the first seven months of this year as compared to the same period in 1927. Sales in the 12-month period are 1% better than last year's record. North Carolina leads for the month and year-to-date.

EAST SOUTH CENTRAL.

The section as a whole gained 1% over last July, Mississippi and Alabama showing the only gains. Sales this year have increased 6% over production in the first seven months of 1927. The record for the 12 months just ended is 3% better than sales in the preceding 12 months.

WEST SOUTH CENTRAL.

This section's record for July is practically identical with 1927 production. Louisiana leads this section with sales this month 14% better than last July. All States gain for the first seven months of this year, a 7% increase being recorded for the section as a whole. A gain of 2% was recorded for the 12 months just ended.

MOUNTAIN.

This section reports a slight loss over sales last July. Arizona leads the section with a 39% gain. The 12-month production is practically identical with that of the corresponding period last year. A gain of 2% for the first seven months of this year is recorded by this section. Nevada leads with a gain of 48%.

PACIFIC.

Sales for the month are 4% better than the record for July 1927. The 12-month production and the sales for the first seven months of this year are 1% better than the corresponding records for 1927. Only slight State gains are recorded for either the year-to-date or 12-months production. Sales in California are practically identical with the year-to-date and 12-months' record for 1927.

Gain in July Sales of Ordinary Life Insurance in Canada—Business for First Seven Months Increased.

A total of \$49,492,000 of ordinary life insurance was purchased in Canada during the month of July. This represents a gain of 24% over sales last July and is the third largest volume ever written in a single month. The fact that 80% of contributing companies share in the above gain indicates the extent of this prosperity. These figures are furnished by the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau and represent the experience of companies having in force 84% of the total legal reserve ordinary life insurance outstanding in the Dominion of Canada. The Bureau also states:

The monthly gain is well distributed throughout the Dominion, all provinces sharing the country's gain with the exception of Nova Scotia. Substantial increases are recorded ranging from 13% in Saskatchewan, 50% in New Brunswick. Newfoundland practically doubled last July's production records with a gain of 92%.

For the first seven months of 1928, production shows a 15% gain over the 1927 record. All provinces share this increase showing substantial gains. Newfoundland gained 37% over the first seven months last year while Alberta gained 27%. Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan increased 18% and 17% respectively. Sales in Canada have continued to increase each month of this year over 1927 records.

The record for the 12 months just ended represents an increase of 12% over the preceding 12 months. Gains for this period are noted in all the provinces. Alberta and Quebec lead with increases of 21% and 14%

respectively while gains in the other provinces range from 1% in Nova Scotia to 13% in Manitoba.

All reporting cities show improved conditions for the month. Hamilton leads with a gain of 82% over last July. For the first seven months of this year, all cities show increased volume. Hamilton leads the reporting cities with a gain of 33% for the year to date.

Corn Crop Prospects Encourage Ohio Farmers, According to Ohio-Pennsylvania Joint Stock Land Bank.

With a good corn crop in sight Ohio farmers are much encouraged, says the Ohio-Pennsylvania Joint Stock Land Bank. The long period of purchasing high-priced feeds is nearing its end, it adds. Lower prices for corn and oats do not meet with objections in the sections of the State where grains are sold in the finished products of fat animals, milk or eggs. Aside from its material benefits there is a certain inspiration in good corn crop prospects which leads to a hopeful and even optimistic attitude on the part of the farmer. Ohio farmers are fortunate in having a fairly large supply of livestock to consume the corn and oats from this year's crops. There is a shortage of feeder cattle but the number of hogs will be fairly adequate and the dairy herds are of almost normal size. The financial condition of Ohio farmers will be decidedly better for the next six months than for the same period a year ago, according to the August Report on Farm Finance of the Ohio-Pennsylvania Joint Stock Land Bank, based on a survey through banks having country business. The bank further states:

Farm land prices are at least holding the levels of last spring and in a few sections there has been some increase in activity of sales and trades. Reports tend to confirm the earlier opinion to the effect that the bottom in farm land prices has been reached taking the State as a whole. In some counties there has been a noticeable increase in prices, while in a few sections some further readjustment in prices is necessary before there can be much activity in the sale of farms.

The decline in wheat prices does not greatly concern the farmers of this State because of the almost entire failure of that crop. Those who have wheat will be able in many instances to sell it for seed at a price above the market.

Oats are selling at a cent a pound at some points of large local production and feeders are taking advantage of this opportunity to fill their bins with a supply of cheap feed.

An estimate of corn prices for this winter is of more than usual interest in view of the high cost of feeder livestock. There will be a resistance in the country against selling corn at a low price after a year of empty corn cribs, but selling will be necessary in many instances to meet obligations. There will be heavy purchases of corn by feeders in the country should prices drop to bargain levels. Altogether it is not safe to depend on the occurrence of unusually low corn prices.

Country's Foreign Trade in July—Imports and Exports.

The Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce at Washington on Aug. 17 issued its statement on the foreign trade of the United States for July and the seven months ending with July. The value of merchandise exported in July 1928 was \$382,000,000, as compared with \$341,809,000 in July 1927. The imports of merchandise are provisionally computed at \$316,000,000 in July 1928, as against \$319,298,000 in July in the previous year, leaving a favorable balance in the merchandise movement for the month of July 1928 of \$66,000,000. Last year in July there was a favorable trade balance on the merchandise movement of \$22,511,000. Imports for the seven months of 1928 have been \$2,401,866,000, as against \$2,442,473,000 for the corresponding seven months of 1927. The merchandise exports for the seven months of 1928 have been \$2,759,533,000, against \$2,708,102,000, giving a favorable trade balance of \$357,667,000 in 1928, against a favorable trade balance of \$265,629,000 in 1927. Gold imports totaled \$11,531,000 in July, against \$10,738,000 in the corresponding month in the previous year, and for the seven months they have been \$94,507,000, as against \$172,110,000. Gold exports in July 1928 were \$74,190,000, against only \$1,803,000 in July 1927. For the seven months of 1928 the exports of the metal foot up \$529,708,000, against \$31,674,000 in the seven months of 1927. Silver imports for the seven months of 1928 have been \$38,013,000, as against \$31,284,000 in 1927, and silver exports \$48,491,000, as against \$44,642,000. Following is the complete official report:

TOTAL VALUES OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF THE UNITED STATES. (Preliminary figures for 1928, corrected to August 1928.) MERCHANDISE.

Table with columns for July (1928, 1927) and 7 Months End. August (1928, 1927). Rows include Exports, Imports, Excess of exports, and Excess of Imports.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE, BY MONTHS.

Table with columns for years 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923. Rows include Exports and Imports for each month, with totals for 7 and 12 months ending July and Dec.

GOLD AND SILVER.

Table with columns for July (1928, 1927) and 7 Months Ending July (1928, 1927). Rows include Gold Exports, Imports, Excess of exports, Excess of Imports, and Silver Exports, Imports, Excess of exports, Excess of Imports.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF GOLD AND SILVER, BY MONTHS.

Table with columns for Gold and Silver, each with sub-columns for 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925. Rows include Exports and Imports for each month, with totals for 7 and 12 months ending July and Dec.

Building Permits in Canada Continue to Show a Large Increase.

The value of the building authorized in Canada during July according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics showed an increase of \$3,268,079 or 14.4% as compared with the preceding month, and of \$9,527,791 or 58.2% as compared with July 1927. The aggregate for the 63 cities was \$25,896,986, as against \$22,628,907 in June, and \$16,369,195 in the same month of last year. The total for July 1928, is the highest for that month since the series was commenced in 1920. Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had issued nearly 1,700 permits for dwellings valued at approximately \$7,000,000, and some 2,800 permits for other buildings estimated at about \$18,000,000. In June, authority was given for the erection of some 1,700 dwellings and 3,600 other buildings, valued at approximately \$9,000,000 and \$12,000,000, respectively. Increases as compared with June 1928, were reported in Nova Scotia, Ontario and Saskatchewan, that of \$4,629,679 or 43.3% in Ontario being especially pronounced. Elsewhere there were reductions, of which that of \$1,925,702 or 32.7% in Quebec was most pronounced. In comparison with July 1927, all provinces registered improvement, the gain in Ontario of \$6,394,357 or 71.7% being especially noteworthy.

Of the larger cities, Toronto reported marked increases as compared with June 1928, and July 1927; Montreal and Winnipeg recorded losses in the former, and increases in the latter comparison, while in Vancouver there was a falling-off in both comparisons. Of the other centres, Halifax, Fredericton, Moncton, Fort William, Kingston, Welland, Windsor, Woodstock, St. Boniface, Moose Jaw, Regina, Medicine Hat, North Vancouver and Victoria showed gains as compared with both June 1928, and July 1927. The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 63 cities during July and in the first seven months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1920 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first seven months of the years since 1920 are also given (1913=100).

Year—	Value of Permits Issued—First Seven Months.		Average Indexes of Wholesale Prices of Building Materials—First Seven Months.
	In July.	Seven Months.	(1913=100)
1928	\$25,896,986	\$127,503,184	168.9
1927	16,369,195	97,211,914	149.1
1926	18,633,415	97,443,834	147.4
1925	12,812,603	78,712,320	150.2
1924	11,681,196	72,355,350	154.1
1923	13,078,547	86,126,043	163.8
1922	15,740,810	87,022,484	166.7
1921	10,965,891	66,737,575	161.5
1920	13,743,045	75,497,755	100.0

The aggregate for the first seven months of this year was greater by 31.2% than in 1927, the previous high level of the record, while the average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials continued to be lower than in any other year since 1920, except 1927.

Recent Changes in Business Outlook Seen by Bank of Nova Scotia—Noteworthy Expansion in Industry—Decline in Purchasing Power of Wheat.

The marked industrial activity in the Canadian Provinces is commented upon by the Bank of Nova Scotia, in its August "Monthly Review", which states that "because of the great expansion that has occurred in business generally, and because of the prospective requirements for crop moving purposes the loanable funds of the banks will be very fully employed." We give the bank's observations herewith, omitting the charts referred to.

There is a paradoxical element in business conditions at the present time, which makes it advisable to watch very closely the developments of the next few months. Two features in the present situation especially call for comment.

In the first place, it is to be noted that business at the moment is in a condition of quite unusual activity. This is vividly shown in the charts reproduced on the fourth page of this "Review," which illustrate the course of employment in Canadian industry during the last six months. The scale upon which these charts were laid out at the New Year was supposed at the time to be wide enough to take care of any favorable developments that might reasonably be expected. Nevertheless, as will be seen at a glance in the case of Quebec, the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia, the curve of employment has moved "right of the map"; in that of the Prairie Provinces, indeed, with such abruptness as to necessitate a special inset diagram to show the remarkable expansion that has occurred. In Ontario, the same persistent improvement continues that has characterized the last three years. The Maritime Provinces, in which the growth of business has been less marked than elsewhere, nevertheless witnessed an amount of industrial activity such as they have experienced only once during the last seven years, in the fall of 1923. Not since the scientific collection and analysis of these statistics was first attempted in Canada has the picture presented by them been so satisfactory. It is doubtful if at present these conditions could be matched in any other large country.

In the second place, there has been a precipitous drop, since April, in the purchasing power of wheat. This is graphically shown in the diagram on page 3 overleaf. During the last three months the bushel has lost approximately one-fifth of its value. The bank's index for July stands at a lower figure than at any time during the last four years, and for the first time in four years is below the level provisionally regarded as "normal."

The causes of this great market adjustment are not far to seek. It is due partly to the very large carryover from last season, partly to the generally good crop conditions in the northern hemisphere this summer, but largely to the fact that within this country sowing and growing conditions have been almost ideal for the wheat farmer, and that within a fortnight the harvesting of what promises to be the largest wheat crop in the country's history will have begun. Quite obviously the size of the prospective supply has created the present situation.

It is with the bearing of this on business in general that we are now chiefly concerned. Two points may here be stressed: (a) The present and prospective supplies of wheat in the Canadian market will create an unusually large demand for credit within the next few months. (b) The fall in the purchasing power of the bushel of wheat has been more than in proportion to the growth in the crop volume, with the result that (unless the price of wheat recovers within the next few months, a factor not to be depended upon) the demand of the western wheat farmer for the products of other Canadian industries, while still large, may be somewhat less this season than last season.

Because of the great expansion that has occurred in business generally, and because of the prospective requirements for crop moving purposes, the loanable funds of the banks will be very fully employed. While there are ample funds for the legitimate needs of business, requests for credits for speculative purposes are being frowned upon. The reaction of this upon the stock market is already visible. In Canada, as in the United States, "tight money" has halted over-confidence, and for some months ahead there is little prospect of change in credit conditions.

For all these reasons, and while recognizing that conditions at present are excellent, it may be that the summer of 1928 will represent, for the time being, a peak in Canadian industrial activity. Until the western

farmer obtains more profitable prices for his grain, and the credit situation is adjusted, it is not unnatural to suppose that a pause will occur, while the ground is prepared for the next move forward.

Agricultural and Financial Conditions in Minneapolis Federal Reserve District—Volume of Business in July Exceeds that of Year Ago.

According to the preliminary summary of agricultural and financial conditions prepared by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, "the July volume of business in its district exceeded the volume in July last year making the eleventh consecutive month of this trend."

The Bank, under date of Aug. 18, also has the following to say:

Debits to individual accounts were 9% larger than a year ago. The value of checks collected by this Federal Reserve Bank from country banks in this district increased 11%. Carloadings of miscellaneous freight, forest products, ore and grains (in the three weeks ending July 21), shipments of linseed products, department store sales and postal receipts were also larger in July than in the corresponding period last year. Smaller totals, as compared with July last year, were reported for flour shipments, and carloadings of livestock, coal and coke. Building permits were larger but building contracts and deeds recorded were smaller in July than in July last year.

The crop is safely past the danger of rust. Good growing weather in July increased the prospective yield. The Government forecasts on August 1, for Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana, indicated production of all important crops well above average except rye and oats. Durum wheat, corn, oats and barley forecasts were above last year's production.

Farm income from cash crops, fluid milk and hogs was 13% smaller in July than in the corresponding month last year. Dairy income made a new high record in June. Prices of livestock, butter, milk, hens, eggs, feed grains and rye were higher in July than a year ago. July prices of wheat, flax and potatoes were lower than a year ago.

Estimated Value of Important Farm Products Marked in the Ninth Federal Reserve District.

	July 1928.	July 1927.	% July 1928 of July 1927.
Bread wheat	\$3,486,000	\$6,958,000	50
Durum wheat	1,577,000	1,948,000	81
Rye	62,000	423,000	15
Flax	431,000	357,000	121
Fluid milk	1,752,000	1,537,000	114
Hogs	8,321,000	6,728,000	124
Dairy products	\$26,342,000	\$25,450,000	104

Automobile Production Keeps Well Ahead of the Previous Year.

July production (factory sales) of motor vehicles in the United States, as reported to the Department of Commerce, was 390,445, of which 337,933 were passenger cars and 52,512 were trucks, against 396,967 passenger cars and trucks in June, but comparing with only 268,485 in July 1927. For the seven months the total is 2,592,592 against 2,337,459 in the same seven months of last year.

The table below is based on figures received from 156 manufacturers in the United States for recent months, 48 making passenger cars and 126 making trucks (18 making both passenger cars and trucks). Figures for passenger cars include taxicabs and those for trucks include ambulances, funeral cars, fire apparatus, street sweepers and busses. Canadian figures supplied by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION.
(Number of Machines.)

	United States.			Canada. a		
	Total.	Passenger Cars.	Trucks.	Total.	Passenger Cars.	Trucks.
1927—January	238,927	199,650	39,277	15,376	11,745	3,631
February	304,768	264,171	40,592	18,655	14,826	3,829
March	394,443	345,911	48,532	22,623	19,089	3,534
April	404,739	357,009	47,730	24,611	20,890	3,721
May	404,115	357,150	46,965	25,708	21,991	3,717
June	321,967	278,729	43,238	19,208	16,470	2,738
July	268,485	236,868	31,617	10,987	8,719	2,268
Total (7 months)	2,337,459	2,039,488	297,971	137,168	113,730	23,438
August	308,826	274,381	34,445	12,526	10,139	2,387
September	260,387	226,443	33,944	11,262	8,681	2,581
October	219,719	183,042	36,677	7,791	6,236	1,555
November	134,416	109,758	24,658	6,617	5,173	1,444
December	133,579	106,080	27,499	3,435	2,277	1,158
Total (year)	3,394,386	2,939,192	455,194	178,799	146,236	32,563
1928—January	231,693	205,576	26,117	8,463	6,705	1,758
February	323,809	291,151	32,658	12,504	10,315	2,189
March	*113,386	371,821	*41,565	*17,469	*15,223	2,246
April	*410,191	364,877	*45,314	24,211	20,517	3,694
May	*426,101	375,863	*50,238	33,942	29,764	4,178
June	*396,967	356,439	*40,528	28,399	25,341	3,058
July	390,445	337,933	52,512	(b)	(b)	(b)
Total (7 months)	2,592,592	2,303,660	288,932			

a Reported by Dominion Bureau of Statistics. * Revised. b Not available.

Industrial Employment Situation in Illinois—Analysis by Cities.

In addition to the survey of industrial employment conditions in Illinois, published in our issue of Aug. 18, page 886, we are giving to-day the analysis of employment conditions by cities, furnished by Sidney W. Wilcox, Chief of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, of the Illinois Department of Labor. As

was indicated in our item of a week ago a slight falling off—0.7%—occurred in employment during July—Mr. Wilcox states that “the present decline in factory employment is due primarily to inventory taking and to the usual slack in business activity during the summer months.” He adds:

Reports from various lines of manufacturing give assurance of a general fall pickup. In the Rock Island and Moline district orders already received insure an increased business for farm implement manufacturers as soon as inventories have been completed. Furniture shows have brought increased orders to Rockford.

The extent of unemployment as indicated by the experience of the thirteen State free employment offices has declined—the ratio dropping from 168 in June to 151 in July. Last year the ratio stood at 170. In all but two of the offices more jobs were available than was the case a month ago.

Aurora.—Heightened activity in metal products and textile establishments and the presence of the harvesting season have reduced the extent of unemployment to a point where a labor shortage seems apparent. The increase in building over a month ago and the heightened activity on the railroad car repair shops have also absorbed workers. The manufacturing fields have experienced no decided upward or downward movement except in the case of metal establishments which almost uniformly report increased working forces. Last year in July a general downward movement was noted. The free employment office ratio reflects the improved conditions in the Aurora district, having declined from 173 in June to 137 in July.

Bloomington.—Harvesting activities and increased working schedules in railroad car repair shops have both helped to absorb workers from the manufacturing industries which have lately been laying off help. As a result of this absorption the actual extent of unemployment as a whole has decreased—the free employment ratio declining from 122 a month ago and 121 in July 1927 to 116 during the present month. The downward movement in factory employment is a customary July occurrence in Bloomington and is not indicative of poorer conditions.

Chicago.—As indicated by the reports of leading Chicago manufacturers, conditions of employment are less favorable than they were a month ago. The present downward movement is seasonal, however, and due to the usual July business decline in metals, meat packing and men's clothing establishment. Printers and manufacturers of women's clothes report increased working forces. According to the free employment office reports, conditions of unemployment have remained unchanged when compared with a month ago, although they are decidedly better than they were in July 1927.

Cicero.—A sharp increase in the working forces of Cicero manufacturers has carried the volume of employment in 8 leading Cicero establishments 3.3% above last month's level. The present upward movement is primarily the result of increased activity in metal establishments and is a direct reversal of the customary downward movement of employment in Cicero during July. The extent of unemployment as indicated by the free employment office ratio has declined slightly due largely to a falling off in the demand for jobs.

Danville.—July has been an unusually active month in Danville with a pickup in all leading lines of industrial activity. The construction of a new State highway has been absorbing the largest number of workers, and brick yards and metal establishments have been able to offer many additional openings. This pickup is even more interesting when it is contrasted with the 13% decline of July 1927 when the extent of unemployment was also greater. Last year, in July, 153 people applied for every 100 jobs offered to the free employment office while this year only 142 requests were received for every 100 jobs.

Decatur.—An upswing in metal products establishments, and the presence of the harvesting season have increased the demand for men in Decatur. One metal firm's records show no less than 100 more names than in June, and in another instance 28 workers have been added to the forces of a manufacturer. Textiles and food products factories experienced decided reductions in the number of workers. This year's upward movement is a reversal of last year's experience, although it is not without precedent. Since 1923 three years have witnessed an upward swing during July and in two the movement was downward. As indicated by the free employment office ratio, the extent of unemployment has declined—the ratio of applicants per 100 jobs falling from 182 to 151. The improvement is primarily due to an increased number of available jobs.

East St. Louis.—A sharp increase in activity of meat packing plants which have added 60 workers to their payrolls with other lesser increases carried the volume of employment in 17 leading East St. Louis establishments 2.5% above the June level. Metal establishments continued on June schedules with very slight changes of working forces. A considerable amount of road construction in this locality has also created a demand for the services of many outdoor workers. The extent of unemployment as indicated by the free employment office ratio has declined both in comparison with last month and with July 1927.

Joliet.—An actual shortage of farm hands has developed in the Joliet district according to recent reports which indicate that fifty orders for farm jobs remained unfilled on Aug. 1. Builders are very active in Joliet according to recent reports which indicate that during the first seven months of 1928, permits have been let for the construction of buildings costing \$2,096,240. Last year's total for the same period was only \$1,635,700. Total factory employment has remained practically unchanged, although some rather large differences appear on the payrolls of individual establishments. Conditions in the metal industry have been especially spotty, some firms within the group showing increase of from 20 to 30 names, and others showing reductions of from 10 to 50 men. The extent of unemployment as indicated by the free employment office ratio is less than either last month or a year ago.

Peoria.—An increased demand for workers on farms and by road builders and heightened activity in automobile products establishments have been helpful in reducing the free employment ratio from 234 in June to 150 in July. According to the records of 32 leading Peoria manufacturers the conditions of employment in the manufacturing industries of that city have changed relatively little in the majority of plants outside the automobile group in which 130 additional workers have been employed.

Quincy.—Exceedingly favorable weather conditions for harvesting combined with improved business have resulted in a better employment situation in this district. As yet, the increase in activity is very slight but the fact that it has been experienced in all leading lines and that it is greater than usually occurs in Quincy during July leads to the opinion that the present movement is part of a cyclical upswing. At the present time the volume of unemployment as indicated by the free employment office ratio is less than either last month or July 1927.

Rockford.—Rockford manufacturers have followed their usual July policy of laying off help. The extent of unemployment, however, has decreased from a month ago according to the free employment office ratio which indicates that it is on the same level as a year ago. The present decline

is due to reductions in two leading lines of industry—furniture and metals. Both of these lines have laid off a considerable number of men, many of whom have been absorbed in road building and agricultural industries. Good weather conditions have been principally responsible for the pickup in these latter activities.

Rock Island—Moline.—Factory employment conditions have been rather dull during the past thirty days because of inventory taking in many of the large metal products establishments. Since two leading industries in this community, the agricultural implement and automobile products industries, both continue to be exceedingly active throughout the country, it seems highly probable that industrial activity will resume in August the pace it had set this year prior to May. According to all available information skilled metals workers will not have a hard time finding work in this community in the near future. Even with the present slowup, the demand for jobs has declined at the Rock Island free employment office, there being 104 fewer requests than in the preceding month.

Springfield.—Although the customary vacation period in a reporting Springfield establishment has carried the volume of employment in reporting factories below last month's level, there are many indications that fundamental business conditions in the Springfield area have improved. With prospects for a revival of the coal mining industry and improved conditions in the metals group, the immediate future is brighter than it has been for some time. The free employment office ratio of 112 is on the same level as last month and as that of July 1917.

Sterling—Rock Falls.—The hiring of 35 workers by a large metal products establishment counterbalanced lesser reductions in other branches of Sterling-Rock Falls industry and carried the volume of employment upward. Payrolls, however, have declined. The present employment pickup comes at the end of a two months' dull period which in turn followed an unusually active season in the Sterling-Rock Falls industry.

The statistics made available by Mr. Wilcox follows:
COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS IN ILLINOIS DURING JULY 1928.

Industry.	Per Cent Change from a Month Ago.	Employment.			Earnings (Payroll):	
		Index of Employment (Average 1922-100).			Total Earnings Per Cent of Chge. from a Month Ago.	"Average" Weekly Earnings for July 1928.
		July 1928.	June 1928.	July 1927.		
All industries.....	-0.7	98.3	99.0	96.4	-4.4	\$28.80
All manufacturing industries.....	-2.0	92.1	94.0	93.1	-6.6	27.45
Stone-clay-glass products.....	-0.3	123.8	124.2	129.0	-7.3	28.07
Miscellaneous stone products.....	-3.9	95.5	99.4	101.9	-4.5	30.23
Lime-cement-plaster.....	+0.3	106.4	106.1	144.6	-4.2	28.59
Brick-tile-pottery.....	+2.1	111.0	108.7	116.6	-7.6	30.98
Glass.....	-1.6	152.2	154.7	150.9	-8.9	24.34
Metals-machy-convayances.....	-4.3	100.1	104.6	96.9	-9.7	28.48
Iron and steel.....	-0.8	121.4	122.4	113.7	-9.3	29.25
Sheet metal work-hardware.....	-2.6	98.1	100.7	97.7	-8.0	24.34
Tools and cutlery.....	-20.4	59.2	74.4	75.2	-23.9	31.14
Cooking-heating apparatus.....	-2.2	101.8	104.1	107.0	-2.4	30.66
Brass-copper-zinc-other metals.....	-1.9	138.3	141.0	131.4	-4.4	28.74
Cars and locomotives.....	+8.5	42.3	39.0	54.7	-7.0	28.67
Auto-accessories.....	-8.6	123.8	135.5	97.4	-19.0	26.91
Machinery.....	-1.6	127.2	129.3	125.9	-7.0	29.11
Electrical apparatus.....	-4.3	95.0	99.3	95.1	-8.4	27.36
Agricultural implements.....	-2.2	142.6	145.8	116.7	-5.9	26.55
Instruments-appliances.....	0.0	51.3	51.3	55.6	-6.6	27.48
Watches and jewelry.....	-35.6	68.6	106.5	70.0	-29.6	27.40
All other.....	-4.4	---	---	---	-35.9	20.53
Saw products.....	-0.4	75.6	75.9	89.3	-6.0	26.48
Saw-planting mills.....	+4.0	102.6	98.7	118.5	-1.5	31.75
Furniture-cabinet work.....	-1.3	88.4	89.6	99.3	-5.4	27.52
Pianos-musical instruments.....	-3.7	51.1	53.1	75.9	-23.9	20.07
Miscellaneous wood products.....	-0.3	54.6	54.8	61.8	-4.3	21.28
Household furnishings.....	+6.0	111.2	104.9	111.0	+11.4	23.18
Furs and leather goods.....	+3.9	114.8	110.5	115.3	+0.9	19.95
Leather.....	+4.5	108.9	104.2	105.2	-1.5	27.27
Furs and fur goods.....	+40.5	68.0	48.4	67.8	+48.9	33.90
Boots and shoes.....	+3.9	117.3	112.9	117.3	+1.1	18.49
Miscellaneous leather goods.....	+1.0	65.2	64.6	74.6	+3.0	20.87
Chemicals-oils-paints.....	+0.3	122.6	122.2	114.1	-3.2	26.26
Drugs-chemicals.....	-0.9	95.5	96.4	84.1	-1.8	23.94
Paints-dyes-colors.....	-0.3	145.5	145.9	137.9	-11.4	26.53
Mineral-vegetable oil.....	-1.7	122.0	124.1	114.3	-0.8	28.89
Miscellaneous chemicals.....	+3.8	140.8	135.6	129.9	-0.4	24.05
Printing-paper goods.....	+4.3	117.1	112.3	116.8	-1.7	33.09
Printed boxes-tubes.....	+0.6	136.0	135.2	139.0	-6.9	24.35
Miscellaneous paper goods.....	-1.7	118.5	120.5	121.4	-3.3	27.44
Job printing.....	+11.4	118.8	106.6	123.3	+6.8	32.82
Newspapers-periodicals.....	-1.4	132.2	134.1	135.8	-7.7	43.34
Edition bookbinding.....	-6.4	---	---	---	-10.6	34.31
Lithographing-engraving.....	+2.4	---	---	---	-8.5	43.30
Textiles.....	-9.8	93.3	103.4	112.4	-17.5	25.48
Cotton and woolen goods.....	+0.9	148.8	147.5	163.3	-3.8	27.24
Knit goods-hosiery.....	-5.7	82.0	87.0	100.3	-29.3	11.50
Thread and twine.....	-5.9	77.4	82.3	66.3	-5.4	19.34
All other.....	-30.6	---	---	---	-29.4	19.51
Clothing-millinery.....	-1.6	63.9	64.9	67.7	-0.3	26.29
Men's clothing.....	-0.6	52.6	52.9	58.1	+2.4	30.59
Men's shirts-furnishings.....	+7.1	92.4	86.3	100.1	+6.6	18.27
Overalls-work clothing.....	+3.6	74.6	72.0	78.9	+3.3	16.50
Men's hats and caps.....	0.0	54.0	54.0	53.6	+28.4	31.03
Women's clothing.....	-7.7	108.6	117.7	107.8	-12.5	20.80
Women's underwear.....	+4.7	127.2	121.5	113.7	+4.5	14.53
Women's hats.....	-39.9	51.4	85.5	65.7	-44.7	24.01
Food, beverages, tobacco.....	-1.2	91.5	92.6	99.4	-4.8	26.26
Flour-feed-other cereals.....	-2.1	94.8	96.8	102.7	-0.2	26.18
Fruit-vegetable canning.....	-25.0	17.9	23.8	41.3	-13.8	15.37
Miscellaneous groceries.....	-4.6	90.8	95.2	105.1	-21.9	23.84
Slaughtering-meat packing.....	-0.3	86.8	87.1	91.4	-1.5	26.83
Dairy products.....	-3.0	106.7	110.0	101.2	-10.9	22.05
Bread-other bakery products.....	-2.5	84.3	86.5	90.4	-4.1	27.28
Confectionery.....	+1.2	72.6	71.7	78.0	-11.7	19.32
Beverages.....	+1.1	70.3	69.5	87.8	+8.7	32.34
Cigars-other tobacco products.....	+10.4	75.8	68.7	84.9	+8.6	23.05
Manufactured ice.....	+7.1	100.7	94.0	117.1	+19.5	44.65
Ice cream.....	+6.2	---	---	---	+12.2	52.91
Trade-wholesale-retail.....	-0.5	70.6	71.0	75.3	+0.7	32.63
Department stores.....	-1.1	121.7	123.1	115.1	-3.4	25.87
Wholesale dry goods.....	-0.6	57.6	57.9	51.6	-0.5	21.44
Wholesale groceries.....	-2.6	89.0	91.4	99.8	-1.7	26.22
Mail order houses.....	-0.4	97.0	97.4	105.8	+0.7	24.45
Milk distributing.....	+0.2	---	---	---	+4.3	52.41
Metal jobbers.....	+0.1	---	---	---	-5.7	29.50
Services.....	+5.3	---	---	---	-0.2	19.35
Hotels and restaurants.....	+7.1	---	---	---	-2.1	18.34
Laundries.....	+2.7	126.4	123.1	127.2	+2.6	20.92
Public utilities.....	+1.7	141.2	138.8	138.1	-1.0	31.14
Water-light-power.....	+2.2	147.6	144.4	132.4	+3.6	37.55
Telephone.....	+1.3	139.6	137.8	133.3	-2.8	26.54
Street railways.....	+0.7	110.7	109.9	112.7	-0.4	34.03
Railway car repair shops.....	+5.0	53.8	51.2	67.5	-7.1	26.99
Coal mining.....	+11.3	37.8	34.0	6.0	+2.6	27.44
Building-contracting.....	+2.0	131.9	129.3	133.9	+1.1	44.39
Building construction.....	+1.0	88.7	87.8	90.1	-4.2	42.95
Road construction.....	-6.3	835.6	891.8	577.4	-8.0	42.28
Miscellaneous contracting.....	+16.8	233.1	199.6	294.7	+53.8	55.81

Report That "Rubber Pool" Has Liquidated Denied.

A report to the effect that the so-called "Rubber Pool"—the National Reserve for Crude Rubber—had liquidated, was denied, according to the daily papers Aug. 23, by Charles B. Seger, Chairman of the United States Rubber Co. The "Wall Street News" quoted Mr. Seger as saying:

There is no truth in the published report that the so-called "pool" has been liquidated. It is a fact that the shrinkage in the value of the crude rubber held by the "pool" has been written down and apportioned to the various participants but its activities will continue.

The "Times" of Aug. 23 stated:

The pool has at its disposal a credit of \$60,000,000 arranged through the International Acceptance Bank and the National Bank of Commerce. This credit was established in March when a previous credit of \$40,000,000 expired. There never has been a credit of \$100,000,000 as was indicated in the report that the pool had liquidated.

The pool was established as a means of insuring American rubber manufacturers an adequate supply of rubber at reasonable prices and as a safeguard against violent fluctuations in the market. At the present time, it is understood, the pool holds only a small amount of rubber, but it stands ready to go into the market again should it become necessary.

A reference to the \$60,000,000 credit appeared in these columns Mar. 24, page 1735.

Rubber Stabilization Conference.

United Press advices from Amsterdam (Holland) to the "Wall Street Journal" Aug. 21 stated:

The Dutch Rubber committee announces British producers are ready to co-operate in a proposed conference with American manufacturers to stabilize the industry.

In a circular to producers, the Committee said the British were not willing to send delegates to the United States, however, and added that negotiations with Belgian and French producers had resulted in no agreement.

The circular added that in response to a request for mediation, the Dutch minister at Washington replied that although the American consumers would not take the responsibility for inviting the Dutch, they are ready to deliberate if the latter formulate definite proposals.

Dutch to Curb Rubber Output Two Months During Winter.

From the "Wall Street News" we take the following Central News advices from Amsterdam, Aug. 22:

The Dutch Rubber committee has issued a circular containing the result of its work and proposes restriction of the output for two months during the winter. British producers, while prepared to co-operate, have not promised definitely to send delegates to America. The Belgian and French interests also have failed to agree to a proposal to communicate with United States rubber consumers.

Rubber Restrictions in Ceylon.

A Central News cablegram to New York News Bureau from Colombo Aug. 22 stated:

In reply to the Legislative Council, resolution claiming a release from rubber restriction not later than Aug. 1, the Government telegraphs: "Cannot meet wishes of council until expiration of August and October quarter."

Lumber Movement on Upward Swing.

Resumption of the upward swing in the lumber movement featured the reports received Aug. 25 by the National Lumber Manufacturers Association from 765 softwood and hardwood mills for the week ended Aug. 18. Production totaled 359,517,000 feet; shipments, 369,514,000 feet, and orders, 365,848,000 feet. In the softwood group, there was a slight falling off in new business, but shipments and production kept pace with the same items for the week before. Reports from 226 West Coast mills for the week under review show production of 193,954,682 feet, 12.6% under their normal three-year operating capacity. This group of mills during 1927 produced more than 9,500,000,000 feet, or about 75% of total production of the Douglas fir region. This is the largest number of mills from which production reports ever have been received by the Association. New business in the hardwood branch of the industry established a new high for the year when 369 units reported orders totaling 64,485,000 feet, a gain of about 9,000,000 feet. Production and shipments also were higher. The Association continues:

Unfilled Orders Increased.

The unfilled orders of 292 Southern Pine and West Coast mills at the end of last week amounted to 762,427,699 feet, as against 705,563,952 feet for 271 mills the previous week. The 147 identical Southern Pine mills in the group showed unfilled orders of 243,839,856 feet last week, as against 247,201,136 feet for the week before. For the 145 West Coast mills the unfilled orders were 518,587,843 feet, as against 458,362,816 feet for 124 mills a week earlier.

Altogether the 475 reporting softwood mills had shipments 101% and orders 98%, of actual production. For the Southern Pine mills these percentages were respectively 110 and 105; and for the West Coast mills 102 and 107.

Of the reporting mills, the 280 with an established normal production for the week of 175,771,000 feet, gave actual production 90%, shipments 89% and orders 82% thereof.

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

	Past Week.		Preceding Week 1928. (Revised).	
	Softwood.	Hardwood.	Softwood.	Hardwood.
Mills (or units*)	475	369	464	366
Production	306,409,000	53,108,000	305,674,000	50,512,000
Shipments	310,698,000	58,816,000	310,843,000	58,533,000
Orders (new business)	301,363,000	64,485,000	308,845,000	55,778,000

* A unit is 35,000 feet of daily production capacity.

West Coast Movement.

The West Coast Lumbermen's Association wires from Seattle that new business for the 145 identical mills reporting for the week ended Aug. 18 amounted to 150,664,743 feet, shipments 144,295,809 and production 141,339,970. Unfilled orders totaled 518,587,843 feet.

Southern Pine Reports.

The Southern Pine Association reports from New Orleans that for 147 mills reporting, shipments were 10.18% above production and orders were 5.41% above production and 4.33% below shipments. New business taken during the week amounted to 74,326,304 feet (previous week 81,763,947); shipments 77,687,584 (previous week 77,553,198); and production 70,509,529 feet (previous week 70,536,811). The normal production (three-year average) of these mills is 79,776,103 feet. Of the 141 mills reporting running time, 68 operated full time, 11 overtime. Four mills were shut down and the rest operated from one to six days.

The Western Pine Manufacturers Association of Portland, Ore., reports production from 33 mills as 34,363,000 feet, as compared with a normal production for the week of 34,879,000, and for the week before 34,303,000. Shipments were larger last week, and new business slightly less.

The California White and Sugar Pine Manufacturers Association of San Francisco, reports production from 17 mills as 25,006,000 (49% of the total cut of the California pine region) as compared with a normal figure for the week of 25,447,000. Fifteen mills the week earlier reported production as 20,849,000 feet. Shipments and orders showed a marked increase last week.

The California Redwood Association of San Francisco, reports production from 15 mills as 6,270,000 feet, compared with a normal figure of 9,401,000, and for the preceding week 6,610,000. Shipments and new business showed some reduction last week.

The North Carolina Pine Association of Norfolk, Va., reports production from 60 mills as 9,224,000 feet, against a normal production for the week of 13,326,000 and for the previous week 9,069,000. Shipments were slightly larger last week, and new business slightly less.

The Northern Pine Manufacturers Association of Minneapolis, Minn., reports production from 8 mills as 12,042,000 feet, as compared with a normal figure for the week of 12,942,000. Seven mills the week before reported production as 12,075,000 feet. Shipments showed some decrease last week, and a good gain in new business.

The Northern Hemlock and Hardwood Manufacturers Association of Oshkosh, Wis. (in its softwood production) reports production from 50 mills as 7,654,000 feet, as compared with a normal production for the week of 22,852,000. Fifty-one mills the week earlier reported production 7,727,000 feet. There was a marked increase in shipments last week and a considerable increase in orders.

Hardwood Reports.

The Northern Hemlock and Hardwood Manufacturers Association of Oshkosh, Wis., reports production from 79 units as 9,282,000 feet, as compared with a normal figure for the week of 16,625,000. Eighty-one units the preceding week reported production as 8,818,000 feet. Shipments were larger last week and orders about the same as the week earlier.

The Hardwood Manufacturers Institute of Memphis, Tenn., reports production from 290 units as 43,826,000 feet, as against a normal production for the week of 60,920,000. Two hundred and eighty-five units the week before reported production as 41,694,000 feet. Shipments were about the same last week, with a marked increase in new business.

West Coast Lumbermen's Association Weekly Report.

Lumber production, orders and shipments for 164 major mills in Washington, Oregon and British Columbia, for the week ended Aug. 11, were reported to the West Coast Lumbermen's Association as follows:

WEEKLY REPORT OF PRODUCTION, ORDERS AND SHIPMENTS.

164 mills report for week ending Aug. 11 1928. (All mills reporting production, orders and shipments for last week.)		
Production.	Orders.	Shipments.
152,400,107 feet.	172,925,733 feet.	157,093,671 feet.
100%.	13.47% over production.	3.08% over production.

Orders were 13.47% in excess of production, and shipments 3.08 over current production. For the past three weeks average mills' orders have been 9% above production. Production per unit reporting has gradually declined, the association states, during this period while orders have shown a slight increase.

Complete production reports from 222 mills received by the Association for the week ended Aug. 11 indicate a continuing substantial reduction in the amount of lumber produced by the plants of the Douglas fir region as compared with their three-year normal operating capacities. These 222 mills, with an aggregate weekly normal capacity of 217,985,757 board feet, reported production for the week ended Aug. 11 as 185,624,638 board feet or 14.84% below the operating normal. This group of mills during the year 1927 produced more than nine and one-half billion board feet of lumber or approximately 75% of the total production of the Douglas fir region.

Reports from 100 identical mills show that during 1928 to date orders have exceeded production by 11.31% and shipments have exceeded production by 6.84%. During the corresponding period of 1927, the orders obtained by these mills exceeded their production 4.76% and their shipments exceeded production by 2.38%.

COMPARISON OF ACTUAL PRODUCTION AND WEEKLY OPERATING CAPACITY (222 IDENTICAL MILLS).

(All Mills reporting production for 1927 and 1928 to date.)
 Actual Production Average Weekly Production Weekly Operating
 Week Ending Average Weekly Production *Weekly Operating
 Aug. 11 1928, Ending Aug. 11 1928, During 1927, Capacity
 185,624,638 feet. 183,301,326 feet. 185,975,630 feet. 217,985,757 feet.

WEEKLY COMPARISON FOR 124 IDENTICAL MILLS—1928.
 (All Mills whose reports of production orders and shipments are complete for the last 4 weeks.)

Week Ending—	Aug. 11.	Aug. 4.	July 28.	July 21.
Production (feet).....	127,779,829	127,198,544	128,729,925	131,279,609
Orders (feet).....	140,791,269	145,678,773	135,042,406	122,345,707
Rail (feet).....	65,355,163	64,467,315	65,793,720	62,099,362
Cargo (feet).....	32,621,358	43,732,408	42,121,989	32,985,153
Export (feet).....	29,534,375	25,864,749	21,383,696	21,896,892
Local (feet).....	13,280,373	11,614,301	5,743,011	5,364,300
Shipments (feet).....	134,383,185	139,495,293	142,425,427	120,219,443
Rail (feet).....	63,601,831	64,909,370	62,512,683	64,551,292
Domestic cargo (feet).....	41,019,374	44,939,150	53,119,409	38,350,493
Export (feet).....	16,481,607	18,032,472	21,050,324	11,953,358
Local (feet).....	13,280,373	11,614,301	5,743,011	5,364,300
Unfilled Orders (feet).....	458,362,816	456,989,685	471,631,752	471,703,298
Rail (feet).....	165,806,891	172,235,084	169,678,193	169,856,015
Domestic cargo (feet).....	143,922,929	155,203,135	170,186,332	170,220,840
Export (feet).....	148,632,996	129,551,466	131,767,227	131,626,443

100 IDENTICAL MILLS.
 (All Mills whose reports of production, orders and shipments are complete for 1927 and 1928 to date.)

	Week Ending Aug. 11 '28.	Average 32 Weeks End'g Aug. 13 '27.	Average 32 Weeks End'g Aug. 13 '27.
Production (feet).....	108,681,049	99,780,130	95,900,556
Orders (feet).....	115,404,053	110,120,776	100,473,097
Shipments (feet).....	110,769,221	106,232,714	98,192,119

* Weekly operating capacity is based on average hourly production reported for the years 1925, 1926, 1927 and 4 months of 1928 and the normal number of operating hours per week.

Value of Canadian Pulp and Paper Exports Declined During July.

Canadian exports of pulp and paper in July were valued at \$15,122,162, according to the report issued by the Canadian Pulp & Paper Association. This was a decline of \$379,905 from the previous month, but the decline was seasonal and the total for the month was \$1,448,485 higher than for the month of July 1927. In stating this the Montreal "Gazette" of Aug. 21 added:

Wood-pulp exports in July were valued at \$3,896,754 and exports of paper at \$11,225,408 as compared with \$3,939,810 and \$11,562,257 respectively in June.

Quantities and values for the various grades of pulp and paper were as follows:

	July 1928.		July 1927.	
	Tons.	\$	Tons.	\$
Pulp—				
Mechanical.....	17,006	478,337	24,655	777,849
Sulphite bleached.....	23,557	1,732,910	20,668	1,592,677
Sulphite unbleached.....	16,719	823,597	15,680	835,137
Sulphate.....	13,934	821,670	13,040	823,875
Screenings.....	1,877	40,440	2,758	50,400
Total.....	73,093	3,896,754	77,401	4,079,938
Paper—				
Newsprint.....	167,456	10,765,033	140,543	9,146,271
Wrapping.....	1,341	147,938	880	94,302
Book (cwts.).....	4,907	45,913	11,465	70,543
Writing (cwts.).....	1,101	10,330	707	5,197
All other.....	-----	256,194	-----	277,426
Total.....	-----	11,225,408	-----	9,593,739

For the first seven months of the current year the total value of exports of wood-pulp and paper from Canada was \$109,226,243 compared with a total of \$98,683,491 in the corresponding months of 1927, an increase for this year of \$10,542,752 or nearly 11%.

Exports of wood-pulp for the seven months amounted to \$26,236,634 and exports of paper to \$82,989,609, as compared with \$26,787,095 and \$71,896,396, respectively in the seven months of 1927.

Details for the seven months are as follows:

	7 Months 1928.		7 Months 1927.	
	Tons.	\$	Tons.	\$
Pulp—				
Mechanical.....	103,927	2,827,380	134,588	4,013,427
Sulphite bleached.....	147,420	11,070,136	139,479	10,872,521
Sulphite unbleached.....	125,396	6,333,246	110,313	6,021,126
Sulphate.....	95,544	5,659,431	95,026	5,750,312
Screenings.....	17,077	346,391	26,707	129,709
Total.....	489,364	26,236,634	486,113	26,787,095
x 4 months only.				
Paper—				
Newsprint.....	1,232,836	79,469,925	1,041,442	68,180,451
Wrapping.....	9,371	1,026,819	8,884	1,005,126
Book (cwts.).....	36,243	302,821	58,405	403,226
Writing (cwts.).....	2,825	26,967	8,670	71,003
All other.....	-----	1,163,077	-----	2,236,590
Total.....	-----	82,989,609	-----	71,896,396

Pulpwood exports in the seven months of this year amounted to 931,357 cords valued at \$8,917,914, which was a decline from the 1,038,988 cords valued at \$10,288,884 exported in the seven months of 1927.

Canadian Newsprint Production.

The following is from the Montreal "Gazette" of Aug. 16: Newsprint production in Canada during July 1928 amounted to 184,199 tons and shipments to 181,834 tons, says the News Print Service Bureau. Production in the United States was 110,313 tons and shipments 109,611 tons, making a total United States and Canadian newsprint production of 294,512 tons and shipments of 291,445 tons. During July, 19,287 tons of newsprint were made in Newfoundland and 1,369 tons in Mexico, so that the total North American production for the month amounted to 315,168 tons.

The Canadian mills produced 182,334 tons more in the first seven months of 1928 than in 1927, which was an increase of 16%. The United States output was 64,859 tons or 7% less than for the first seven months of 1927. Production in Newfoundland was 15,404 tons or 13% more and in Mexico 748 tons more, making a total North American increase of 133,627 tons or 6% over the first seven months of 1927.

During July the Canadian mills operated at 79% of rated capacity and the United States mills at 79.5%. Stocks of newsprint paper at Canadian mills totalled 48,270 tons at the end of July and at United States mills 40,386 tons, making a combined total of 88,656 tons, which was equivalent to 6 days' average production.

Egyptian Cotton Growers Receive Advance from Government.

Central News advices from Alexandria, Aug. 21 to the "Wall Street News" stated:

The Egyptian Government has decided to allocate £4,000,000 (Egyptian) to cotton growers as advances from the reserve fund.

Advances are made on not less than 5 kantar (cwt.) and not more than 500 kantars, at the rate of £5 on Salkellarid and £3½ on Ashmouni grades.

Change in Auction Methods in Cotton Textile Industry Urged by Association of Cotton Textile Merchants of New York.

Auction methods in the cotton textile industry should be replaced by production that is more intelligently directed in line with demand and by an extension of sound and modern merchandising methods, according to the Cotton Textile Bulletin, published on Aug. 17, by The Association of Cotton Textile merchants of New York. "Any one who takes the time to examine present conditions in the cotton textile industry must be impressed by the effect of two major factors," the Bulletin states. "One of these embodies economic influences; the other includes those psychological factors which color the background of the industry and reflect its state of mind." It goes on to say:

On the economic side it is clear that the principal problems in the industry are the familiar problems which have to do with production and distribution. The profitable and orderly sale of merchandise is so closely related to production that the two may be said to constitute a single problem. That problem is continually to determine how mills can meet changing conditions and maintain production in an orderly and profitable manner.

In an industry that is subject to the many fluctuations which affect the making of cotton goods it is necessary for the manufacturer to know as much as possible about the market for his goods and the factors that influence that market. This means that the first essential is to seek the facts. Having found the facts it is equally necessary to use them as a guide just as long as they serve this purpose.

If any one is not convinced of the practical value of facts, let him consider where this industry might be at the present time without its statistics. There is no intrinsic magic in collecting and disseminating statistical information. It is valuable when used and interpreted as a guide that will eliminate guesswork and establish business wherever possible on a basis of fact.

It should be noted that the statistics which have been assembled by the industry during the last three years are being used to a greater extent than ever. This is gratifying evidence of progress, and it is progress in the industry's approach to economic problems.

While the psychological factors are not always tangible they are real and potent. By way of illustration, consider the attitude of individuals in this industry and in others who take the position that because they produce staple goods they should be able to continue indefinitely without regard to present or prospective changes in demand. The fallacy of such a position lies in the failure to understand that progress means change and change means more than physical expansion. Constructive change calls for new processes, new products, and an alert attitude which enables an individual to adapt himself to new conditions.

The mere fact of production is insufficient to account for demand, and the producer who bluntly persists in a policy of piling up goods regardless of demand is creating difficulties for himself as well as for others. In time a distress signal is sighted; then comes weak selling, and prices touch a level where they are unremunerative both to the manufacturer who precipitates such a condition and to others who are bound to be affected by it. It is difficult to understand any reasonable basis for such a policy, for it weakens the position of even the soundest producer and creates a vicious circle of instability for consumer as well as manufacturer and merchant.

Another mental trait that has been characteristic in this industry is the disposition to think in terms of losses instead of in terms of legitimate and necessary profits. It has been pointed out on other occasions that this negative tendency is neither good business psychology nor sound economics. Every business must be able to operate at a reasonable profit in order to continue and to succeed. If the buyer of merchandise is in business to sell at a reasonable profit, it is just as essential for the manufacturer to produce his goods so that he can derive a fair profit. He certainly cannot hope to succeed by continually selling at a loss.

If there is to be real progress and prosperity in this industry it will be accelerated by the promptness with which the individual manufacturers of cotton textiles realize how large an influence they have in creating and affecting the market for their goods. The economics and the psychology of the situation can be solved as successfully in this industry as in any other."

Members of New York Cotton Exchange Authorize Board of Managers to Prepare Amendments to Provide for Trading in Wool Futures and in 50-Bale Cotton Contract.

At a meeting of the members of the New York Cotton Exchange on Aug. 22 the Board of Managers was requested to prepare amendments to the by-laws providing for trading in wool futures and also for trading in a 50-bale cotton contract in addition to the present 100-bale contract. This action was taken as a result of the reports of two special committees of the exchange, both favoring the two proposals. George H. Hutzler was Chairman of the Wool Futures Com-

mittee and T. Lurelle Guild, Chairman of the Odd Lot Committee.

Before either proposal can be officially adopted by the Exchange, however, amendments to the by-laws covering them must be voted upon by the membership. If the vote of the members then favors the adoption of the amendments as submitted, trading in wool futures and in a 50-bale cotton contract will be assured.

Gardiner H. Miller, President of the Exchange, presided at the meeting of the membership. The reports of both committees were read and resolutions offered for the adoption of the reports, which was done. The question of whether it would be necessary for the exchange to obtain a new charter, or whether the present charter could be amended to provide for trading in wool futures on the exchange was referred to the Board of Managers for investigation. The present charter of the exchange provides only for trading in cotton. No amendment to the charter, it is understood, is required to permit trading in a 50-bale contract supplemental to the present contract. The next step, as a result of this week's meeting, will be for the board to have the By-laws and Rules Committee, of which Elwood P. McEnany is Chairman, draw up the necessary amendments for submission to the Board. If favorably acted upon by the Board, a date will be fixed for the members of the exchange to vote upon them. The board will consult with the Secretaries of the U. S. Departments of Commerce and Agriculture in regard to the proposed changes.

Cotton Houses Oppose 50-Bale Unit.

It was stated in the "Journal of Commerce" of Aug. 22 that opposition is crystallizing, especially in the older New York cotton houses, to various proposals before the New York Cotton Exchange to reduce the contract unit from its present 100-bale minimum to a 50-bale unit. As indicated elsewhere in our issue to-day, members of the Exchange on Aug. 22 authorized the Board of Managers to prepare amendments looking to trading in 50-bale cotton contract. The "Journal of Commerce" item says:

Representatives of the older cotton houses show the same unflinching hostility to what they call "odd lot" trading in cotton as at any time in the past 25 years. They have never found any inspiration to change their minimum of 100 bales in the action of the Chicago Board of Trade in halving that unit for its own contract, when it installed its cotton futures department, and are as strongly disposed as ever to look askance at the New Orleans system, which maintains a 100-bale contract unit, but tolerates trade in odd lot of 50 bales.

It was explained yesterday that it was never the purpose or wish of the raw cotton merchants of New York to throw open the doors of their exchange to promiscuous trade in cotton options. On the contrary it was their consistent and recognized policy to discourage the entry of small speculators of limited means in speculative market operations that are of a nature calling for ample cash resources. It is insisted the exchange is far better off with a clientele so limited, than a democratized constituency that might undermine its high standing without creating much more new business than an extra burden of overhead cost incident to a changed cabling system and the installation of odd lot accountancy departments.

Some modicum of benefit, it was believed, would be derived from a 50-bale unit by small cotton growers, who had occasion to hedge the overs of their little crops. There was not, it was claimed, sufficient tangible good in that consideration to induce the exchange to swerve from a fixed policy to which it owes its stability and strength, and it was declared the increasing support the old opponents of "odd lot" trading have been receiving from the wire houses, adds its own peculiar emphasis to their arguments against changing the contract unit.

Members of New York Cotton Exchange Vote to Close Exchange the Saturday Preceding Labor Day.

Members of the New York Cotton Exchange voted on Aug. 22 in favor of closing the exchange on Sept. 1, giving a 3-day holiday over Labor Day

Activity in the Cotton Spinning Industry for July 1928.

The Department of Commerce announced on Aug. 21 that according to preliminary figures compiled by the Bureau of the Census 35,542,122 cotton spinning spindles were in place in the United States on July 31 1928, of which 28,228,024 were operated at some time during the month, compared with 28,624,488 for June, 29,060,360 for May, 30,965,404 or April, 31,412,820 for March, 31,687,012 for February, and 32,324,426 for July 1927. The aggregate number of active spindle hours reported for the month was 6,258,620,372. During July the normal time of operation was 25 days (allowance being made for the observance of Independence Day) compared with 26 for June, 26½ for May, 24 2-3 for April, 27 for March, and 24 2-3 for February. Based on an activity of 8.83 hours per day the average number of spindles operated during July was 28,351,621 or at 79.8% capacity on a single shift basis. This percentage compares with 88.3 for June, 95.0 for May, 94.8 for April, 96.8 for March, 101.2 for February, and 99.1 for July 1927. The

average number of active spindle hours per spindle in place for the month was 176. The total number of cotton spinning spindles in place, the number active, the number of active spindle hours and the average spindle hours per spindle in place, by States, are shown in the following statement.

State.	Spinning Spindles.		Active Spindle Hours for July.	
	In Place July 31.	Active During July.	Total.	Aver. per Spindle in Place.
Cotton growing States..	18,510,488	17,674,582	4,415,032,326	239
New England States....	15,463,054	9,260,192	1,637,831,863	106
All other States.....	1,568,580	1,293,250	205,756,183	131
Alabama.....	1,627,618	1,551,088	353,297,198	217
Connecticut.....	1,121,884	1,033,670	185,856,870	166
Georgia.....	3,080,568	2,937,458	756,993,840	246
Maine.....	1,106,036	814,318	128,350,341	116
Massachusetts.....	9,349,994	4,595,674	793,954,764	85
New Hampshire.....	176,604	129,872	36,978,638	209
New Jersey.....	1,414,518	881,904	170,352,996	120
New York.....	378,936	356,834	47,597,714	126
North Carolina.....	802,304	625,718	107,594,150	134
North Carolina.....	6,191,580	5,861,196	1,458,025,386	235
Rhode Island.....	2,325,814	1,821,878	343,184,581	148
South Carolina.....	5,491,604	5,385,198	1,434,898,771	261
Tennessee.....	602,228	552,338	152,396,475	253
Texas.....	282,196	251,332	49,727,672	176
Virginia.....	711,228	685,758	96,793,581	136
All other States.....	879,010	743,788	142,637,397	162
Total United States..	35,542,122	28,228,024	6,258,620,372	176

Canadian Wheat Pool Has Record Payments—Checks for Interim Dividends Exceed Previous Totals.

A Canadian wheat pool made a record interim payment of \$34,000,000, according to a statement made public at the Department of Agriculture at Washington, Aug. 18. The full text of the statement as given in the "United States Daily" follows:

Checks totaling more than \$34,000,000 were distributed to members of the wheat pools of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, on July 28, as a second interim payment on 1927 wheat. This was the largest interim payment ever turned over to the provincial pools by the sales agency, the Canadian Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., Winnipeg. Checks went to practically every post office in the three provinces. The amounts distributed ranged from 14 to 25 cents a bushel. The first interim payment was made on Mar. 10, and amounted to nearly \$28,000,000.

All grade differentials were adjusted in the second interim payment, and all deductions were made for elevator and commercial reserve, carrying charges, and the like, therefore, the final payment to be made at the end of the marketing season will be a flat payment for all grades.

Progress of Agricultural Co-operatives Reviewed by C. L. Christensen of Department of Agriculture Before Institute of Politics.

Encouragement and support of agricultural co-operation, through active assistance in research and educational activities, is the policy of the Federal Government as outlined by Chris L. Christensen, in charge of the Division of Co-operative Marketing, United States Department of Agriculture, in an address before the Institute of Politics at Williamstown, Mass., Aug. 15. Mr. Christensen said:

The agricultural co-operatives in the United States are engaged in a far-reaching program which is vital to the welfare of agriculture. Co-operation among farmers is not an abstract theory but a practical way of applying better business methods to farming and marketing and an aid to rural development. It aims to go beyond the mere marketing of farm products and the purchase of farm supplies, to eliminate wastes in marketing and distribution, to set up standards by which farm products will be graded and sold, and to aid in adjusting production to market requirements.

Research, educational and service work with farmers' co-operative associations, it was stated, became a specific Government activity through the Co-operative Marketing Act, approved July 2 1926. This Act provided for the establishment of the Division of Co-operative Marketing in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, and for enlargement of the Department's research, educational, and service work relating to co-operative marketing of agricultural products, co-operative purchasing of farm supplies, and other co-operative activities among farmers. Mr. Christensen declared that the majority of people probably under-estimate the co-operative movement in American agriculture. We have to-day, he said, something over 12,000 co-operative associations engaged in the co-operative marketing of farm products and purchasing of farm supplies. These associations have a combined membership of about 2,000,000 farmers and do an annual business of approximately \$2,500,000,000. Among these are hundreds of large-scale farmers' marketing associations, several of which sell annually farm products valued at \$50,000,000 or more. More than 100 associations are in the \$1,000,000 group.

Among the farmers' co-operative purchasing associations, one organization, formed in 1918, was said to have a membership of 24,000 and to have distributed somewhat less than \$8,000,000 worth of commodities in 1927. Another association, distributed in 1926-27 commodities valued at nearly \$11,000,000. Mr. Christensen went on to say:

From their position in the scheme of agricultural production and marketing the farm co-operatives deserve and have a right to expect active assistance from the Federal Government and particularly from the Department of Agriculture. . . . The Co-operative Marketing Act authorized the establishment of a Division of Co-operative Marketing in the Department and thus research, education and service to farmers' co-operative associations became a part of the statutory responsibilities of the Department of Agriculture.

In the work of the Division of Co-operative Marketing, it is our aim, first, to assist in making existing associations more efficient business units; second, to assist by regional surveys of production and marketing practices in the development of sound co-operative organizations, and, third, to disseminate correct information regarding the possibilities and limitations of the co-operative method of marketing farm products and purchasing farm supplies.

Secretary Jardine, in a recent communication to the American Institute of Co-operation, made the following statement with regard to the policy of the Department of Agriculture: "In any efforts which the co-operative groups make to promote the soundness and efficiency of the co-operative movement, they may be assured of the assistance and guidance of the Federal Department of Agriculture. . . . The Department's obligation to render service to agriculture includes service to farmers' co-operative organizations. . . . The department proposes to enlarge and strengthen its services to co-operative associations, because by so doing it is effectively serving the American farmer."

Plans Under Way for Collection of International Wool Statistics.

International wool statistics seem likely to become a reality, reports George T. Willingmyre, wool marketing specialist of the United States Department of Agriculture, who recently returned from Europe where he attended a conference held at Paris, to consider the problem of collecting comparable statistics on this commodity.

Delegates from the wool industries of England, France, Belgium, Germany, Italy and Czecho-Slovakia attended the conference and reviewed a schedule for international use in the collection of this information. It was the recommendation of the conference says a statement issued Aug. 15 by the Department of Agriculture that wool statistics be made compulsory by the passage of laws within each of the countries making it obligatory for dealers and manufacturers to report their holdings of wool on certain dates and the quantity of wool entering into consumption. The International Wool Statistical Committee, set up by the Economic Council of the League of Nations, also held a meeting in Paris which was attended by representatives of the principal wool-consuming countries of Europe. Mr. Willingmyre while at Bradford, England, attended a conference of Australian, New Zealand and South African wool growers and members of the British Wool Federation and the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, which was called to discuss difficulties of production and manufacture, changes of fashion, &c. He believes that meetings such as this could advantageously be held by wool producers and manufacturers in other countries. The Department's statement adds:

At the meetings in Bradford many other matters of trade importance were discussed, such as sheep branding fluids that will withstand the rigors of atmospheric conditions and soil, and yet, after months of service as an identification mark, remain soluble in the regular scouring solutions. A subject discussed which deserves the consideration of all producers is the production of uniform fleeces according to official standards, qualities and trade requirements.

Organization of the entire wool industry in the Continental countries has gone far, says Mr. Willingmyre. These organizations include wool producers, merchants, wool pullers, commission combers, spinners, weavers and distributors. Problems arising in any branch of the industry are brought to the attention of representatives of the different branches and free discussion is invited, usually resulting in a recommendation for correction with the welfare of the entire industry in mind.

Conditions in Woolen and Worsted Industry Reviewed
By A. D. Whiteside of Wool Institute.

A. D. Whiteside, President of the Wool Institute, Inc., in a review of conditions in the woolen and worsted industry, presents both a resume of the situation in the industry at the time of the organization of the Institute on Feb. 15 1928, and the conditions on Aug. 15 1928, his remarks relative to the situation at the last named date, being in part as follows:

From a central point, where the facts are more or less accurately known about nearly every mill, and where exact information is received as to the plans of 70% of the industry, it is not unreasonable to suppose that a fairly clear idea of the new lineup in the woolen and worsted industry could be visualized at this time.

It might be well to point out again the fact that the conditions, both from a competitive and an efficiency-of-production standpoint, in regard to all groups of cloths, are not identical.

The wool institute is now in a position to formulate a fairly accurate opinion as to the favorable or unfavorable situation from a marketing standpoint in connection with most of the major groups of fabrics.

The information available at this time makes it reasonably safe to make the following general comment covering the entire situation.

There is every reason to believe that the prices of the fabrics which have been opened so far for the spring of 1929, and those which will be quoted in the openings from now on, whether higher or lower than the corresponding season last year, will be the lowest prices charged for identical fabrics as long as the present level of wool prices is maintained.

It is further an opportune time to state authoritatively that the prices

quoted at the openings of staple and semi-staple clothes were in no way determined because of either—

- (a) Any anticipation of lower wool prices in the near future, or
 - (b) Because of the existence of accumulated stocks of these fabrics.
- This comment is not intended to convey a prediction as to the trend in raw wool prices. It is made to offset the opinion which has been expressed by a number of buyers that anticipation of lower wools influenced the pricing of staples.

A most careful inquiry on that point made both before and after the openings of the spring staple lines eliminates that feature as a deciding factor in the price situation.

With even more definite assurance, a statement may be made to the effect that the stocks of staple and semi-staple Menswear fabrics on hand with the mills on as June 30th did not exceed the requirements of this market for 40 days' supply, at the current rate of consumption.

There is no evidence whatever which substantiates the thought that any factor has governed the revisions of staple prices made so far, excepting the nature of the competition on the part of the minority of mills producing those cloths.

The Institute, in surveying the situation previous to the spring openings, brought out clearly to its members the fact that this group of fabrics was the only major division in which the membership of the Institute did not consist of more than 50% of the active looms producing those cloths.

Under the circumstances, members were advised that the situation could only be considered from the standpoint of the individual mills.

Summary.

The new set-up of the Industry from a group fabric competitive standpoint will have a favorable effect upon the trend of conditions in the woolen and worsted industry.

This comment is made from the viewpoint of the outlook of this industry singly, as it would be impractical under existing conditions to attempt to forecast the industrial situation in general, particularly this year.

The weavers may feel no apprehension from the menace of an accumulation of stock goods as reductions of 47% have made since Jan. 1st in the low-priced fabrics, and 24% in the carry-over of last year's Womenswear, reducing those cloths to a point where they could be absorbed on the slightest sign of an activity in demand.

There are only very meagre current stocks on hand of Menswear medium-priced woollens or worsteds, staples, semi-staples or fancies.

Fine woollens and worsteds are being produced only on order.

During the past six months, the utmost caution has been exercised by the mills in working on topcoatings and overcoatings.

Perhaps at no time in the entire history of the woolen and worsted industry has the production of Womenswear dress goods and suitings been timed with such exact precision to meet the current demand as at present.

With prices at an irreducible minimum—

With the inactive looms in the majority of mills definitely segregated—

With costs more accurately estimated than ever before—

With declarations of price policy filed by mills representing 70% of the looms in the industry, and

With fabric group meetings attended by the majority of leaders in each division considering the collective figures available from a majority of the total loomage showing the monthly production, billings and stocks of all fabrics—

It would not seem unduly optimistic to look forward to the near future of the woolen and worsted industry as one that would yield a reasonable return for the capital investments at stake and the energy and intelligence invested in its management.

National Raw Silk Exchange to Begin Operations
Sept. 11.

The official opening of the National Raw Silk Exchange has been fixed for Sept. 11, it was announced on Aug. 10 by President Paolino Gerli. On the opening day trading in raw silk futures will begin at 10:30 a. m. and continue to 3 p. m. The quarters of the Exchange at 58-60 Water St., in the Grace National Bank building, are expected to be in readiness by the first of the month. During September the only months for future delivery of raw silk to be traded in will be the month of October and the succeeding 6 months. There will be no trading in the then current month of September. Copies of the by-laws and rules of the new exchange and the by-laws and rules of the National Raw Silk Exchange Clearing Association were mailed to members on Aug. 9. President Gerli announced on Aug. 7, the receipt of a cablegram from the Steam Filature and Cocoon Guild of Shanghai assuring him of the guild's desire to cooperate with the Exchange. The cablegram, which was signed by Wang Chin Chen, Chairman, follows:

"The Guild learns with pleasure that the National Raw Silk Exchange will soon be ready for trading. Should you decide to include China raw silk in your trading you are assured of our hearty cooperation."

"This is only another evidence," said Mr. Gerli, "of the keen interest which has been aroused throughout the world markets of silk by the establishment of the National Raw Silk Exchange; an interest which is being keyed up to a great pitch of expectation now that the exchange is almost ready to function." The election of Mr. Gerli as President of the new Exchange was noted in our issue of July 21, page 336.

Petition to President Machado of Cuba for Removal of Sugar Restrictions.

From Havana on Aug. 23 Associated Press advices were reported as follows:

The Cuban Government will permit an unrestricted sugar crop in 1929 if producers so desire. President Machado has decided, according to the newspaper *El Mundo*.

A delegation of sugar planters from Santa Clara province called on the President this morning and asked him to repeal the restriction measures as well as those permitting official intervention in the sale of the crop.

The President said that as the measures had been promulgated at the petition of the planters their opinion would likewise prevail if there were a concerted demand for repeal.

Last night's (Aug. 24) "Wall Street Journal" announced the following from Havana:

Commissions representing American and Cuban sugar interests interviewed President Machado separately on Thursday. Their petitions asked that there be no restriction on the next sugar crop and that the Cuban Sugar Export Corp., in charge of sales of sugar to other countries than the United States be dissolved.

Representatives of the producers stated after the interview that President Machado had declared there would be no restriction of the next crop unless the majority of planters ask for it. There is no indication, however that the Export Corp. will be dissolved.

Practically all the important American producing companies signed the petition, including companies that had formerly favored both crop restriction and the Export Corp. Among the companies signing the petition were: Cuba Cane, Punta Alegre, American Sugar, United Fruit, Cuban Dominican Sugar, Cuban American, the National City Bank interests and Antilla Sugar.

Sugar Exports from Cuba Exempted from Tax.

According to Havana advices Aug. 21 a decree has been signed exempting sugar shipped from Cuba before Oct. 15 from the 3% tax on gross receipts on maritime freight imposed by Congress last July.

Cuba's Recognition of Nanking Administration—Possibility of Creating Sugar Market in China.

Associated Press advices from Havana Aug. 17 stated: Opportunity to create a market in China for Cuban sugar is seen here in yesterday's action of the Cuban Government in giving full recognition to the National Administration at Nanking. The Department of State followed this up by stating to-day that it would take immediate steps to close a trade treaty with China. The Far East has long been sought as an outlet for Cuba's surplus sugar.

Hawaii Produces Record Sugar Crop.

Hawaiian sugar production for the year ending Sept. 30 1927 is reported to the Department of Agriculture to be 811,333 short tons, which is the largest crop so far produced on the islands. The next largest, which was produced the preceding year, amounted to 787,246 short tons. More than 124,500 acres were required to produce the 1927 crop. Nearly the same acreage was used for the 1917 and 1922 crops but the yield per acre in both of those years was less than 43 tons of cane as compared with 56 tons last year. The average out-turn of sugar per ton of cane last season was only 232 pounds, which is 8 pounds below the previous five-year average.

Suit for Receiver of Subsidiary of Burley Tobacco Grower's Co-operative Association.

From the Louisville "Courier-Journal" we take the following Carrollton, Ky., advices, Aug. 15:

Suit for receivership for the Northern District Warehousing Corp., subsidiary of the Burley Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association was filed Aug. 10 in Circuit Court at Owenton it was learned here to-day.

The suit was filed by W. A. Lee, Owenton, for ten stockholders in the corporation, among them Estill Ayers, and J. M. Smith, Sparta; Kelly Cobb, Roy Cobb and Vandon Cobb, Owenton, and J. A. Lee, Glencoe.

The petition alleges the corporation has issued, without authority of stockholders, bonds totaling \$274,000 and bearing 5% interest to the Burley Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association in payment of a debt alleged due the association.

Business Has Ceased, Claim.

It also charges the business of the corporation has ceased and that the property, consisting of a number of warehouses in Owen, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Boone and other counties in the district, as well as redrying plants, are depreciating and nothing is being done to preserve them.

Directors of the corporation met here to-day but refused to make any statement of action taken. They will meet here again Saturday.

Recently the directors called for bids for rental of the corporation property here, but refused them when one of \$10,500 for the five warehouses here was the highest offer made. It then was announced the corporation would operate the floors here this year as it did last.

June W. Gayle, Owen County, then offered \$15,000 for lease during the 1928 season of the five houses and the redrying plant, but it was refused.

Operates Pool's Houses

The corporation was formed to operate tobacco warehouse acquired in this district by the Burley Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association and stock in the corporation was distributed to former members of the pool when a sufficient number of tobacco growers failed to sign contracts to continue operation of the association when they were submitted a year ago at the expiration of the old contract.

Mr. Gayle and Forest Butcher, Carroll County, also are said to be parties in the suit.

The Judge of the Owen Circuit Court promised he would consider the case immediately, as court is in vacation, and hand down his decision as soon as possible.

State Commissioner of Agriculture Seeks Federal Investigation Into Georgia Tobacco Prices—Withdrawal of Request Asked by Douglas (Georgia Chamber of Commerce).

The following Associated Press advices are from the Atlanta "Constitution" of Aug. 14:

Asserting his belief that there has been collusion on the part of tobacco interests to depress prices on Georgia markets this season, Eugene Talmadge,

State Commissioner of Agriculture, Monday asked the Federal Trade Commission to make an investigation.

Talmadge's request followed publication of figures by his Department today showing that to date the 1928 season in Georgia has seen sales of 28,089,810 pounds at an average price of \$13.56 per hundred, a decrease of 31.6% over the average price for the same period last year.

"The only explanation so far offered for this state of affairs," said Talmadge in his letter to the trade Commission, "is the estimated increase in the crop this year as compared with 1927. I have taken occasion this morning to carefully compare the figures issued by the United States census bureau and other crop reporting agencies and find that the estimated increase in yields of bright tobacco for Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia, which covers the entire bright tobacco belt, is only 4% over 1927, while the decrease in price is 31.6%.

"The average price in Georgia last year was actually 17.7% under the average price paid for the four states mentioned, thus the price being paid in Georgia today is more than 40% decrease over the average price for the entire belt last year.

"From this it would seem that Georgia farmers certainly are being discriminated against and I respectfully urge that your Commission start a thorough investigation at the earliest possible moment, as the sales season will not last more than three or four weeks longer, and it is, therefore, very important that whatever is done must be done quickly.

"I have every reason to believe that there has been collusion on the part of tobacco interests to unduly depress prices in Georgia in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law."

Talmadge estimated that in a great many instances the prices now being at Georgia tobacco markets will fail to defray the actual cost of the marketing.

Joint resolutions asking that Commissioner Talmadge withdraw his request to the Federal Trade Commission for an investigation of Georgia tobacco prices were unanimously adopted at Douglas, Ga., on Aug. 14 by the Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis club, according to associated Press advices which stated:

The resolutions declared the Commissioner of Agriculture's action "inopportune" and "ill advised" and added that it was the belief of persons here conversant with market conditions that such a probe would result to the detriment of the market, rather than its improvement.

Speakers at the meeting said that while prices were low it was due mainly to the "inferior grade" of the weed and overproduction, pointing to the carry-over figures on bright leaf to substantiate their claims.

Congressman Edwards of Georgia Petitions Secretary of Agriculture to Investigate Georgia Tobacco Market.

Congressman Edwards, of Georgia wired United States Secretary of Agriculture Jardine on Aug. 14 asking for a probe of the tobacco market situation in Georgia. Savannah Associated Press advices state:

The Congressman said his action was prompted by "rumors and suspicions of collusion between tobacco buyers and the trust."

Tobacco prices on the Georgia markets have been very low and farmers have suffered losses, said Mr. Edwards. He asked the Agricultural Department to work out a fairer method of marketing.

Eugene Talmadge, Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture, who last night asked the Federal Trade Commission to investigate the tobacco sales situation, was advised of Mr. Edwards' action and was asked to co-operate with the Government in an endeavor to establish a better marketing plan.

National Metal Exchange to Begin About Oct. 1—Applications for Membership Exceed Number Available.

According to an announcement on Aug. 11 by President Vogelsang, the newly organized National Metal Exchange, which will succeed the New York Metal Exchange, will be ready for business about Oct. 1. Trading on the New York Metal Exchange will come to an end before the National Metal Exchange opens. President Vogelsang also announced on Aug. 11 that applications for membership in the National Metal Exchange have been received in excess of the number available for public offering.

He announced that "there are only 128 memberships to be filled and we are exercising great care in the selection of applicants." The first election of new members of the exchange was held Aug. 15. Fifty new members, including representatives of a number of leading New York Stock Exchange houses, were elected at the meeting. The directors of the National Metal Exchange have since approved the election of 43 new additional members.

Petroleum and Its Products—Kerosene Higher—Gasoline Firm.

Higher prices for kerosene at Philadelphia, New York and Chicago furnished the only actual changes in the tank car market position of the refined products of petroleum the past week. Atlantic Refining Company August 22 advanced tank car kerosene $\frac{3}{4}$ c. to $8\frac{1}{2}$ c. a gallon, f.o.b. Philadelphia. On August 23, Sinclair Refining Company announced a 1c. advance on kerosene in tank car lots to $8\frac{1}{2}$ c. at New York, Philadelphia, Portsmouth, Va., Charleston, S. C., and Tiverton, R. I. The market was advanced 1c. to $8\frac{3}{4}$ c. at Jacksonville and Tampa. Standard Oil Company of New Jersey the same day advanced its price $\frac{3}{4}$ c. to $8\frac{1}{2}$ c. at Bayonne. Other refiners who had been quoting

8c. advanced 1/2c. to 8 1/2c. in following the Standard advance.

Gasoline was firm at principal refinery points during the week. Unfavorable weather retarded consumption in the East, and the expected tankcar advance failed to materialize. In Group 3 territory, prices were steady, but demand had fallen off a little.

Chicago kerosene showed a strong upward move for the week. The market opened the week at 6c. to 6 1/4c., and on August 21 advanced 1/8c. to 6 1/8c. to 6 1/4c. On August 23 a further advance of 1/8c. occurred, to 6 1/2c. a gallon, which figures prevailed on August 24. Gasoline at Chicago was steady and unchanged throughout the week at 9 3/4c. to 9 7/8c. for U. S. Motor Fuel Oil was firm and unchanged at 62 1/2c. to 65c. a barrel for 24-26 gravity oil.

There were only two changes in the tankwagon basis reported during the week. The first was an advance of 1c. a gallon on tankwagon and service station gasoline August 20 by Continental Oil Company at Albuquerque, N. M., bringing the market to 22c. tankwagon and 25c. service station. Standard Oil Company of Ohio on August 24 announced an increase effective August 25, of 1c. on gasoline to 19c. tankwagon and 20c. service station.

Phillips Petroleum Company announced August 22 that it had closed contracts to supply aviation gasoline to the Boeing Air Transport, Inc., Robertson Aircraft Corporation, Western Air Express, and National Parks Airways. Chestnut & Smith Corporation have organized Naturaline Corporation of America, a subsidiary, to market aviation gasoline.

Export gasoline trading was quiet. U. S. Navy gasoline in bulk was 1/8c. lower at 10 1/4c. at Gulf Ports. Bulk kerosene for export was 1/8c. higher at the Gulf at 6 3/4c. for prime white and 7 7/8c. for water white.

Prices on motor gasoline at principal points as of Aug. 24 follow: New York, 11 3/4c.; Group 3, 9 3/4c.; California, 9 1/4c.; Boston (delivered), 13 1/2c.; Tiverton, R. I., 12 1/4c.; Chelsea, 12 1/4c.; Providence (delivered), 13 1/2c.; Philadelphia, 12c.; Marcus Hook, Norfolk, Carteret, Baltimore and Portsmouth, 11 3/4c.; Jacksonville and Tampa, 11c.; Houston and New Orleans, 10 1/2c. Export prices were: New York, navy, cases, 26.9c.; bulk, 12c.; 61-63 degrees, 13c.; 64.66 degrees, 13 1/2c.; 66-68 degrees, 16 1/2c.; Gulf ports, navy, 10 1/4c.; 60-62 degrees, 11 1/2c.; 64-66 degrees, 12 1/4c.

Other principal refined products at New York as of Aug. 24 were as follows: Tank-wagon gasoline, 18c.; tankwagon kerosene, 15c.; gas oil, 32-36, 5c.; Diesel oil, \$2 a barrel; bunker C fuel, \$1.05 a barrel; furnace, oil, delivered, 10c.; f. o. b. refinery, 6c.; kerosene, water white, 8 1/2c.

Steady markets prevailed for crude. Although refinery runs were at a high rate, it was believed that opening up of the Little River pool in the Seminole area would afford an adequate supply of sweet crude and obviate the necessity for another advance in posted prices on high gravity oil. The St. Louis pool, nine miles from the Little River field, is now up to 63,000 barrels daily, with further expansion looked for. This field has no pro-rating agreement, as yet.

Oil operators met in Tulsa during the week and tentatively agreed to control flush production, the plan being to limit the entire State to 700,000 barrels daily. It is now producing 665,000 barrels a day. The new plan virtually means extending shutdown agreements which have been in effect at Seminole to the entire State, limiting the flow of each pool on a pro rata basis in its proportion to total flush yield, which will be determined by permitting open flow for 24 hours from each unit.

Refiners in Pennsylvania were looking for another advance in crude and were reported restricting future sales in anticipation of higher refining costs. Tank farm and pipe line gross domestic crude oil stocks east of the Rockies decreased 749,000 barrels in July, according to the American Petroleum Institute.

Walter C. Teagle, President of Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey was quoted from London on his recent meeting with Sir Henri Deterding, managing director of the Royal Dutch-Shell group and Sir John Cadman, chairman of Anglo-Persian Oil Co. Ltd., as follows: "Opportunity was naturally taken to freely discuss problems of the oil industry, among which restriction bulked largely in conversations as of paramount importance to the industry to-day. No definite scheme of restriction was formulated as this would need concerted action throughout the world oil industry in order to be effective and not confined to the three groups represented." American oil companies have been seeking Royal Dutch-Shell co-operation in curtailing Venezuelan output.

Crude Oil Output in the United States Higher.

The American Petroleum Institute estimates that the daily average gross crude oil production in the United States for the week ended Aug. 18 1928 was 2,444,500 barrels as compared with 2,389,200 barrels for the preceding week, an increase of 55,300 barrels. Compared with the output of 2,518,400 barrels per day in the week ended Aug. 20 1927, the current figure shows a decrease of 73,500 barrels per day. The daily average production east of California was 1,809,100 barrels, as compared with 1,752,500 barrels, an increase of 56,600 barrels. The following are estimates of daily average gross production by districts for the weeks ended Aug. 18, Aug. 11 1928 and Aug. 20 1927.

DAILY AVERAGE PRODUCTION.

(In barrels.)	Aug. 18 '28.	Aug. 11 '28.	Aug. 4 '28.	Aug. 20 '27.
Oklahoma-----	661,450	604,600	592,150	817,050
Kansas-----	102,350	102,750	103,000	104,600
Panhandle Texas-----	63,150	61,700	63,750	99,850
North Texas-----	93,850	94,850	92,550	86,950
West Central Texas-----	55,450	55,450	55,700	67,300
West Texas-----	343,950	333,600	331,550	163,100
East Central Texas-----	20,900	21,100	21,150	32,050
Southwest Texas-----	25,250	25,650	25,350	31,600
North Louisiana-----	40,200	40,500	41,000	56,550
Arkansas-----	87,450	87,900	87,500	104,550
Coastal Texas-----	105,550	106,450	105,300	123,950
Coastal Louisiana-----	24,700	24,150	23,200	14,700
Eastern-----	113,500	113,000	113,500	115,000
Wyoming-----	50,750	59,750	60,300	54,050
Montana-----	10,100	10,100	10,050	16,850
Colorado-----	7,500	8,000	8,250	6,850
New Mexico-----	3,000	2,950	2,850	2,700
California-----	635,400	636,700	642,000	621,600
Total-----	2,444,500	2,389,200	2,404,150	2,518,400

The estimated daily average gross production of the Mid-Continent field including Oklahoma, Kansas, Panhandle, North, West Central, West, East Central and Southwest Texas, North Louisiana and Arkansas, for the week ended Aug. 18 was 1,494,000 barrels, as compared with 1,428,100 barrels for the preceding week, an increase of 65,900 barrels. The Mid-Continent production, excluding Smackover, Arkansas heavy oil, was 1,436,800 barrels, as compared with 1,370,300 barrels, an increase of 66,500 barrels.

The production figures of certain pools in the various districts for the current week, compared with the previous week follow. (Figures in barrels of 42 gallons.):

	Aug. 18	Aug. 11	Aug. 18	Aug. 11
Oklahoma—				
Tonkawa-----	13,050	13,100		
Burbank-----	29,050	29,000		
Bristow Slick-----	20,750	20,950		
Cromwell-----	9,250	9,450		
Seminole-----	48,800	50,200		
Boyless-----	54,800	55,950		
Searight-----	13,350	12,850		
Little River-----	90,950	45,300		
Earlsboro-----	79,750	77,250		
St. Louis-----	63,550	50,800		
Allen Dome-----	21,450	21,400		
Panhandle Texas—				
Huntshinton County-----	34,500	33,300		
Carson County-----	6,700	6,700		
Gray County-----	20,500	20,200		
Wheeler County-----	700	950		
North Texas—				
Wilbarger-----	35,000	36,000		
Archer County-----	20,200	20,350		
West Central Texas—				
Shackelford County-----	10,550	10,650		
Brown County-----	11,950	12,100		
West Texas—				
Reagan County-----	18,200	18,300		
Pecos County-----	68,700	67,750		
Crane & Upton Cos-----	61,300	62,600		
Winkler County-----	177,000	170,250		
East Central Texas—				
Corsicana Powell-----	10,400	10,500		
Nigger Creek-----	1,000	1,000		
Southwest Texas—				
Luling-----	13,250	13,500		
Laredo District-----	8,700	8,800		
North Louisiana—				
Haynesville-----	5,590	5,950		
Uranula-----	6,850	6,850		
Arkansas—				
Smackover, light-----	7,400	7,550		
Smackover, heavy-----	57,200	57,800		
Champagnolle-----	13,250	12,950		
Coastal Texas—				
West Columbia-----	7,950	8,150		
Pierce Junction-----	10,150	10,500		
Hull-----	13,300	11,800		
Spindletop-----	38,600	37,700		
Coastal Louisiana—				
Vinton-----	4,400	4,450		
East Hackberry-----	4,650	4,050		
Sweet Lake-----	4,100	3,950		
Sulphur Dome-----	3,400	3,400		
Wyoming—				
Salt Creek-----	30,000	38,100		
Montana—				
Sunburst-----	8,300	8,300		
California—				
Santa Fe Springs-----	38,000	38,000		
Long Beach-----	192,000	194,000		
Huntington Beach-----	52,500	52,000		
Torrance-----	17,700	17,700		
Dominguez-----	11,000	11,000		
Rosecrans-----	6,000	6,000		
Inglewood-----	29,700	29,700		
Midway-Sunset-----	74,500	74,500		
Ventura Ave-----	52,500	53,000		
Seal Beach-----	31,000	31,500		

Looks for Further Advances in Gasoline and Petroleum.

Because of the very tight situation in gasoline, further advances in refinery prices may be expected, is the opinion expressed by Fenner & Beane, members New York Stock Exchange, in a report on the outlook for the petroleum industry. "Overproduction of crude oil has been one of the weak points of the industry" says the statement. "In the early spring of this year it appeared menacing, but it has now been brought under control to a satisfactory extent. As a result, storage stocks of crude oil, which had become burdensome, are not being increased this summer. On the contrary there had been some slight withdrawal from storage. Last winter refiners exercised restraint in manufacturing in preparation for the 1928 spring and summer demand. The result has been extensive drafts on gasoline storage.

"In spite of the small price advances in crude and the large advances in gasoline, increases in the retail price of gasoline have been few and unimportant. Profit margins have not suffered, however, since quantity discount allowances and other trade concessions have been eliminated. Additional profits to the industry have therefore been effected by economies in distribution rather than by increases in the cost to the public." The report continues as follows: "If the current production remains under control there will be no occasion for a decline in crude prices next winter. In fact, an additional advance is possible if operators do not misinterpret the July advance and increase their output excessively. Successful pro-rating depends on withdrawing from underground oil reserves only such amounts as the market can take at a fair price level. These amounts can be revised frequently

either way. The large supply available makes for stability and pro-ration properly managed will allow a fair profit.

"Curtalement of refinery runs, when the peak-load of summer demand is passed, will keep inventories down and avoid the necessity of breaking refined oil prices by dumping on an unwilling market. The restraint practiced last winter was conspicuously successful and its lesson will, in all probably, be followed this coming winter.

"Further economies in distribution are still possible. The margin between the refinery price and the filling station prices can be further reduced with distribution profit maintained by improved efficiency in retailing.

"Following such a program, and the oil industry has every incentive to follow it, the best managed companies in the most favorable positions face a prolonged period of satisfactory earnings."

Oklahoma Oil Proposal Involves Many Factors—Companies to Study Effect of State-Wide Proration Before Agreement on Co-operation.

From the "Wall Street Journal" of Aug. 24 we take the following:

Proposal to limit crude oil production in Oklahoma to 700,000 barrels daily, presented at a meeting of operators in Tulsa on Tuesday (Aug. 21), is the result of the unexpectedly large yield of the Little River extension pool and growing size of the nearby St. Louis pool. These two areas were responsible for virtually all of the 55,000-barrel gain in daily light oil production last week.

The proposed limitation has not reached a stage to indicate it will be carried out. It is sponsored, according to reports received in New York by oil companies, by Empire Collins of the Seminole area and members of the shutdown committee, who have been active for several months in holding back production in new areas.

Reports received by oil company executives from their representatives who attended the meeting are to the effect that about 20 operators were present when the plan was outlined; that 11 of these signified their approval of the project, two were opposed to it and others did not vote. While most of the larger units were represented at the gathering, some were not present. A great many of the small producers, of course, were not in attendance as there are hundreds of producing companies and individuals in the State.

As at present constituted the plan is in the form of having been outlined to various companies or their representatives. The latter will report back to their home offices to give the matter consideration before any action will be taken. Inasmuch as the plan is Statewide instead of limited to the area in and around Seminole as heretofore, serious consideration will be required because of the numerous factors involved. This is true not only of companies with large production but also those which have, in addition, large pipe line operations. Study will be required to learn what effect the proposed limitation will have on their pipe line runs in the flush districts which will be affected most.

There are few who question that something should be done to prevent a new flood of light oil in Oklahoma at a time when prices are improving, but, what is more important, at a bad time of the year seasonally for any large addition to the crude oil supply.

Oklahoma is now yielding 665,000 barrels of crude oil daily after having dropped to around 580,000 early in July. Little River has added 60,000 barrels a day since producing limitation was changed on Aug. 15 and promises still further gain while wells drilling in St. Louis indicate that the pool will substantially increase in production above the 63,000-barrel mark it is now hitting. As a result of Little River opening up and some addition in yield at Earlsboro, the Seminole pool has increased its production from the low of 235,000 barrels on Aug. 2 to 318,000 at present.

The "Wall Street News" in advices from Tulsa (Okla.) Aug. 22 stated:

At the request of oil operators, the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, at a meeting yesterday agreed to hold hearings on a proposal to limit the crude oil production of the State to 700,000 barrels daily. Current production is approximately 667,000 barrels daily, of which the Seminole and St. Louis areas are producing almost 400,000 barrels daily. The consensus among operators is that limiting production to 700,000 barrels a day would be ineffective and practically of no benefit. They believe that any restriction program to be effective must limit production of the State at some figure between 500,000 and 600,000 barrels daily. The outcome of the hearing is problematical.

We also quote the following Associated Press accounts from Oklahoma City Aug. 23:

Application for an order extending to all oil fields in Oklahoma the curtailment program effective in the Seminole field was filed with the State Corporation Commission to-day by Ray M. Collins, umpire of the Seminole field.

Collins acted for Seminole field operators, who at a recent meeting voted to ask the Commission to limit the total daily oil production in the State to 700,000 barrels.

The Commission set hearing on the petition for Sept. 6 at Tulsa.

Mexican Oil Taxes Cut.

The "Wall Street Journal" of Aug. 18 stated:

Mexican oil production taxes for August are 0.378 cent to 1.129 cents a barrel under July rates. On light crude the tax is 13.99 cents a barrel, on heavy crude 8.74 cents and on fuel oil 12.48 cents.

Combined production and export taxes are correspondingly reduced, rate on light crude being 21.938 cents, on heavy crude 13.668 cents and on fuel oil 18.84 cents a barrel.

Reduction in taxes is due to lower prices for fuel oil in New York Harbor on which the value of Mexican crude and fuel oils for taxation purposes is based. Value fixed by Mexican Government for fuel oil in August is \$1.2496 a barrel, compared with \$1.303 for July.

Colombia Calls For Oil Laws to Guard Rights—President's Manifesto Asks Definite Legislation and Urges Further Credit.

Under the above head the "Herald-Tribune" prints the following from Bogota, Colombia Aug. 23:

The necessity of social defense legislation against communism; of a definite oil legislation and of further foreign loans to carry out the program of public works construction is emphasized in a manifesto issued to-day by President Dr. Abadia Mandez and his Cabinet.

The manifesto also urges a balanced budget and a comprehensive public works program. Regarding oil legislation, the manifesto says it should cover the following basic points:

1. Absolute guarantee of private property rights when legitimately acquired.
2. Clear definition of the nation's rights on oil-bearing subsoils in public and private lands, as well as on other hydrocarbon subsoils declared by law to be national property, in order to avoid through legal action the exploitation of the nation's property as if it were private property. The manifesto urges quick action in order to obtain the desired result.
3. Precise and definite regulation covering exploration of oil lands.
4. Organization of mixed companies in which the nation and private capital—both Colombian and foreign—would be interested, for the exploitation of oil lands belonging to the nation, as well as for the refining and marketing of the oil and the construction and exploitation of public pipe lines.
5. Regulations covering the national oil reserves whose exploitation the country would not consider convenient at the present time.

W. C. Teagle In Statement Regarding Visit to Scotland Says No Definite Scheme of Restriction of Oil Was Formulated.

It was announced in press cablegrams from abroad Aug. 22 that Walter Clark Teagle, President of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, had returned to London from Scotland where he was the guest of Sir Henri W. A. Deterding, general managing director of the Royal Dutch Company, together with Sir John Cadman, chairman of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, Ltd. The accounts quoted Mr. Teagle as saying:

No special significance must be attached to the meeting of heads of three major oil companies. Opportunity was naturally taken to discuss oil problems, among which restriction of output bulked largely. No definite scheme of restriction was formulated. Little attention was given to discussing the Turkish Petroleum Co., for which many years must elapse before it reaches the productive stage.

Reports of a world conference on oil were noted in our issue of Aug. 18, page 891. A Central News cablegram from London Aug. 22 was published as follows in the "Wall Street News":

The "Financial Times" says in regard to the current reports of world conferences on oil control and stabilization: "It is understood that no general step has been taken in the matter, but that there has been informal discussion with American producers who co-operated voluntarily in a curtailment of the output. It is felt that producers in other fields, particularly Venezuela, should exhibit an equal readiness to co-operate."

Rumania May Relax Oil Restriction.

Central News advices from London Aug. 21 to the New York News Bureau stated:

The "Times" commenting on the Schroder-Rumanian government agreement regarding a portion of the 4½% loan of 1913 and other conventions with Continental interests respecting the pre-war loans, hopes that the progress made by Rumania in adjusting relations with foreign lenders may induce a more sympathetic attitude toward the oil companies. Those interests are now precluded by the adverse mining law from obtaining fresh concessions.

Market for Steel Gaining in Breadth—Price Situation is Firmer.

The iron and steel market shows evidences of growing strength in virtually all products, from finished steel to semi-finished products and primary materials, states the "Iron Age" of Aug. 23, in its market review: Pig iron prices, which have been on a downward trend since the middle of March, are stiffening, notably in the Central West. Cleveland producers have raised prices 50 cents a ton on foundry iron for shipment to outlying districts, and an advance by Chicago furnaces is expected shortly continues the "Iron Age," which is further quoted:

In the Valleys, prices on both basic and foundry iron are firmer and inquiries have been issued by four large melters. Steel companies that ordinarily market surplus iron are no longer seeking business, and one steel interest, finding its own pig iron output short of its requirements, is regarded as a probable buyer. A factor contributing to the revival of interest in basic iron is the recent sharp advance in scrap and its continued scarcity at higher levels.

Sales of merchant pig iron by Cleveland producers totaled 63,000 tons, following bookings of 84,000 tons in the previous week, and Chicago furnaces sold 50,000 tons. Several Central Western stacks are so well booked that they are out of the market for the rest of the year. Two merchant furnaces have been blown in, one at Dubois, Pa., and another at Buffalo, while the lighting of a stack at Chicago is an early possibility.

Price strength extends to furnace coke at Connellsville, which has been favorably affected by a second draft on the spot supply of beehive fuel by a steel producer.

Steel production continues at close to 85% of capacity in the Greater Pittsburgh district and at a 75% rate at Chicago. The average for all Steel Corporation subsidiaries is 77%. New business is light in all products except pipe, but this is not surprising, since consumers are well covered for this quarter. Measured by specifications against contracts, the market is active. Shipping orders for bars and sheets are particularly heavy, and releases of hot and cold-rolled strip steel leave little to be desired.

The sustained volume of mid-season activity has given producers increasing confidence. Most producers of sheets, including the leading interest, have adopted the advances for fourth quarter recently announced, and virtually all sheet and strip mills have reduced the discount for cash payment to one-half of 1%. In addition, sheet mills at Chicago are adding an extra of 10c. per 100 lb. for orders of less than 100 tons.

Bookings of the American Sheet & Tin Plate Co. were the largest for any week since late in 1925, and independent sheet producers appear to have done correspondingly as well. Whether heavy specifying can be attributed to the lower discount, which becomes effective Oct. 1, or to the clause in third quarter contracts cancelling tonnage not released by Sept. 10 is not clear. Indeed, the Pittsburgh view is that neither of these factors is an important influence. Little evidence that consumers are stocking is seen, and current activity is ascribed to an unusually well-maintained rate of consumption.

That there will be general insistence on the Sept. 10 clause (which has been inserted in third quarter contracts for bars, plates and shapes, as well as for sheets) is indicated by current reports. Buyers who have specified their September quotas with instructions to ship in the last week of that month have met with refusals. The mills propose to ship at their convenience on or after Sept. 10 to protect themselves from the customary carryover tonnage that has resulted from heavy shipping orders in the closing week of a quarter.

Price advances have been announced in cold-rolled strips and sheet bars. The latter product has been raised \$1 a ton to \$33. Youngstown, by a Valley maker, for fourth quarter delivery, and a leading producer of cold-rolled strips has announced an advance, effective immediately, of \$2 to \$4 a ton above recently prevailing prices. Ground shafting was marked up \$2 a ton, effective Aug. 15.

Pending tests of prices announced for fourth quarter, the growing strength of the current market is attested by bids on 25,000 tons of plates, shapes and bars for the Pennsylvania RR., which brought out minimum quotations of 1.90c. from Pittsburgh and Ohio mills and 2.10c. from Chicago district producers.

An order for 37,000 tons of 18-in. pipe has been placed for a gas line to run from Fowler, La., to Memphis, Tenn. For an oil line from Oklahoma to Whiting, Ind., for the Sinclair Pipe Line Co., 42,000 tons of 8, 10 and 12-in. pipe will be required.

Structural steel contracts amounting to 53,000 tons include 20,000 tons for a Brooklyn department store and 10,500 tons for Mississippi River barges. At Oakland, Cal., bids are in on 7,200 tons of fabricated steel pipe for water mains; alternate bids were taken on 22,000 tons of cast iron pipe.

Unfilled orders of independent sheet mills on Aug. 1 were 550,468 tons, or nearly double the shipments of 278,310 tons in July. The gain in sheet sales in July was 14,455 tons over June, while production fell off 40,000 tons. Sales for the month exceeded shipments by 57,047 tons.

The "Iron Age" composite prices remain unchanged. That for finished steel is 2.348c. a lb. for the third week and that for pig iron \$17.04 a gross ton for the fifth week, as the following table shows:

Finished Steel.			Pig Iron.		
Aug. 21 1928, 2.348c. a Lb.			Aug. 21 1928, \$17.04 a Gross Ton.		
One week ago	2.348c.		One week ago	\$17.04	
One month ago	2.319c.		One month ago	17.04	
One year ago	2.367c.		One year ago	18.13	
10-year pre-war average	1.689c.		10-year pre-war average	15.72	
Based on steel bars, beams, tank plates, wire, rails, black pipe and black sheets, constituting 87% of the United States output of finished steel.			Based on average of basic iron at Valley furnace and foundry irons at Chicago, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Valley and Birmingham.		
High.	Low.		High.	Low.	
1928..2.364c.	Feb. 14 2.314c.	Jan. 3	1928..\$17.75	Feb. 14 \$17.04	July 24
1927..2.453c.	Jan. 4 2.293c.	Oct. 25	1927..19.71	Jan. 4 17.54	Nov. 1
1926..2.453c.	Jan. 5 2.403c.	May 18	1926..21.54	Jan. 5 19.46	July 13
1925..2.660c.	Jan. 6 2.396c.	Aug. 18	1925..22.50	Jan. 13 18.96	July 7
1924..2.789c.	Jan. 15 2.460c.	Oct. 14	1924..22.88	Feb. 26 19.21	Nov. 3
1923..2.824c.	Apr. 24 2.446c.	Jan. 2	1923..30.86	Mar. 20 20.77	Nov. 20

Iron and steel demand, greatly accelerated in recent weeks, shows no signs of diminishing. On the contrary, good as the market is at present, the brightest part of the picture is the assurance of sustained and broadening activity says the "Iron Trade Review" in its weekly summary of the iron and steel industry. Buying of all classes of steel continues heavy, and while the automotive industry has been one of the chief mainstays of the market, a wider range of interest is apparent. The stronger tone of the market is largely responsible for an unusually heavy run of specifications on this quarter's contracts. Some manufacturers in the Middle West have already placed fourth quarter requirements at the higher prices for that period. The tendency of prices of pig iron, as well as finished steel, is toward higher levels, and this display of strength has not retarded the movement, adds the "Review" continuing:

Pig iron buying continues active in the Middle West, and is broadening in the New England territory. Cleveland furnace interests added 63,000 tons to their bookings in the past week, bringing their total of the past four weeks' buying movement to 245,000 tons. The past week's sales were the best of the summer for several sellers in the Chicago district; all makers there report August business ahead of that of the month in 1927. Furnace stocks show more evidence of depletion. An advance of 50 cents by Cleveland furnaces for outside shipment was followed by a similar step in western Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. Shipments generally continue to exceed the July rate.

An increasing tendency is noted toward 1.90c. as the current price for plates, shapes and bars. All bids opened by the Pennsylvania RR. for 25,000 tons of plates, shapes and bars for delivery to Altoona, Pa., showed minimum quotations of 1.90c., base, mill, or 2.10c., Chicago. Most mills named no delivery period; others, for delivery to the end of the year. Bar sales appear to be the largest of any of the heavy steel products, August tonnage running well ahead of July. Motor car manufacturers' requirements give the bar market its chief support, while agricultural implement makers' needs are increasing.

Sheet specifications have increased substantially as consumers show more eagerness to take all that is due them on third quarter contracts, especially in view of the advance in black and galvanized for fourth quarter. Jobbers are laying in heavy supplies, due to the decrease in discount, now more generally followed, and to strengthening prices. Some manufacturers in the Middle West have already closed on fourth quarter sheet needs. The leading maker at Pittsburgh reports last week's orders were the heaviest of any week since November, 1925. It has followed the independents in adopting 2.75c. for black and 3.60c. for galvanized for fourth quarter, with blue annealed continuing at 2.00c. to 2.10c. and autobody at 4.00c., mill operations now are as close to capacity as weather conditions will permit.

Sheet production by independents reporting to the National Association of Flat Rolled Steel Manufacturers dropped to 267,685 tons in July, the lowest point since December, 1927. Shipments were reduced to 278,310 tons, smallest since January, 1928. Sales, however, increased to 333,357 tons, largest since March.

Demand from automobile and parts makers provide the bulk of heavy specifications for strip steel. Makers in the Pittsburgh district have increased operations greatly over the July rate and report the possibility of this month's output setting a record. Tin plate mills still operate close to capacity. Fourth quarter books for wire and nails have been opened at unchanged prices by a Pittsburgh maker.

Several large pipe line projects are maturing. The Sinclair Pipe Line Co. has entered the market for 50,000 tons of 6 to 12-inch pipe for a 450-mile line into Chicago. Some makers report July and August business

the best in several years. Private buying is holding up well. A contract for 10,000 tons of cast iron pipe for the Buenos Aires waterworks was closed with a British maker. Two western roads placed a total of 15,000 tons of rails and 7,500 tons of track fastenings. August rail specifications are about equal to those of July. An award of 500 gondola car bodies for the Chesapeake & Ohio is a feature of the eastern market, making this month's total of domestic freight car awards larger than July's.

Steel production in the Pittsburgh district this week is up about two more points this week, to an average of close to 80% with a slightly higher tendency despite hot weather. Carnegie Steel Co. is at approximately 80% Bethlehem Steel slightly over 80% and Jones & Laughlin at 75 and 80%. A slight increase is reported in sheet mill operations in the Youngstown district. Chicago mill operations average around 75%.

"Iron Trade Review's" composite of 14 leading iron and steel products is up 12 cents this week to \$35.01, which compares with an average of \$34.91 for July and \$36.25 August, 1927.

Ohio Miners Accept Scale—Work to Resume at 14 Mines As Result of New Agreement Effective Until 1930.

The following United Press advices from Columbus appeared in the "Wall Street Journal" of last night (Aug. 24):

Between 3,000 and 3,500 miners are expected to return to work in 14 mines Sept. 1 as a result of the agreement between the Central Ohio Coal Operators Association and the union mine workers calling for a \$5 wage scale and 70 cents per ton for cutting and loading.

The agreement, which will be in effect until March 1 1930, was reached late Thursday after more than a week of conferences between operators and union officials.

A competitive clause, which would have permitted the operators to compete with prices paid in non-union fields, was not included. The competitive clause was opposed by union representatives.

Although only 14 mines are affected by the agreement—which will bring to an end 17 months of idleness—hope was expressed by both union officials and operators that the scale would be extended to other mines.

Under the new pact a joint committee of three miners and three operators was created to study conditions existing in Ohio and adjoining states with relation to a joint conference of miners and operators before Mar. 1, 1930, when the new agreement ends. The joint committee is scheduled to meet in November and study conditions until the second week in February.

Pittsburgh Mine Owners Ignore Union Invitations to Negotiate Wage Agreements.

Through their refusal to accept an invitation to participate in the wage conference with local representatives of the United Mine Workers of America, Pittsburgh district coal operators have indicated that they will continue to ignore the union. A special dispatch to the "Journal of Commerce" from which we quote, added:

This much was learned in a canvass of coal company officials here after they had received invitations sent out by union heads.

Fourteen officials of local coal companies stated that they are not interested in the coming conference which P. T. Fagan, President of District No. 5 of United Mine Workers, proposed. Fagan sent out invitations to thirty-one operators, expressing a desire to negotiate a new wage scale to replace the abandoned Jacksonville scale.

Fagan said he was desirous of bringing operators and union men together for an earnest effort to stabilize conditions in the coal industry here. He stated his invitation was issued by authority granted by the policy committee of the national organization in conformity with resolutions adopted by that committee in Indianapolis last month.

The operators here are of the opinion that they have done without the union for many months and are working their mines, in many cases, under open shop conditions. At this time they see no need of changing their operating conditions.

Decline in Wages and Employment in Pennsylvania Anthracite Collieries.

Latest reports from representative anthracite collieries in Pennsylvania show a heavy decline in employment and payrolls from June to July. According to index numbers prepared by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia on the basis of operators' reports to the Anthracite Bureau of Information, employment declined 7.6% in July and was 10.1% less than last year. Payrolls reached the lowest level since the end of the strike in 1926 and were 28.2% smaller than in July 1927. The trend of employment and payrolls in recent months is shown in the following made available by the Reserve Bank Aug. 21:

Index numbers—1923-25 monthly average equals 100.

	Employment.			Wage Payments.		
	1926.	1927.	1928.	1926.	1927.	1928.
January	8.1	119.6	120.2	8.2	112.4	98.7
February	36.7	119.2	113.6	10.3	105.9	96.0
March	111.4	114.3	107.7	120.0	91.3	88.5
April	114.6	115.5	112.3	115.7	93.0	86.1
May	115.8	119.0	115.9	128.0	120.1	122.1
June	116.9	118.7	*113.8	131.1	126.6	*92.8
July	116.9	116.9	105.1	115.5	86.3	62.0
August	117.8	117.1	---	123.6	90.5	---
September	118.0	118.7	---	126.2	112.0	---
October	118.9	119.8	---	134.6	109.4	---
November	119.3	116.6	---	115.0	116.2	---
December	119.9	119.7	---	127.2	98.1	---

*Revised figures.

Vice-President Joseph R. Kraus of the Union Trust Co. of Cleveland Outlines the Problems of the Soft Coal Industry.

Abandonment of many small high cost mines is one important measure necessary for the stabilization of the soft coal industry, says Joseph R. Kraus, Vice-President of the

signed reports from representative consumers and coal merchants scattered all over the country and drawn from all kinds of industries and uses.

Reports were received from all by-product coke plants, all steel works, all large railroads (through courtesy of the American Railway Association), and from a large number of electric utility plants, coalgas works, general industrial plants, and retail dealers handling bituminous coal. These large firms, although a small part of the total number of consumers, use a very large part of the coal, and furnish an adequate basis for estimate.

[The Power Resources Division of the Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, co-operates in the preparation of these reports by collecting figures from the electric public utilities.]

Average Rate of Consumption and Exports.

From Apr. 1 to June 30 the average rate of consumption of bituminous coal, including coal drawn from stock piles or from the reserve in transit, was 8,312,000 tons a week. The exports averaged 270,000 tons a week, and the total of consumption plus exports was 8,582,000 tons.

From the table below, it will be seen that the exports were less than in the corresponding period of 1927, and much less than in 1926 when the British miners' strike stimulated shipments overseas.

The home consumption in the second quarter—8,312,000 tons a week—shows the usual decline in comparison with the first quarter, reflecting the end of the heating season. Milder weather tends to cause a decrease in the consumption of the railroads, the public utilities, and the general industrial plants, as well as a very sharp drop in the deliveries of retail dealers.

In comparison with the corresponding period a year ago, when the consumption averaged 8,889,000 tons a week, the current rate also shows a decrease.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPORTS AND CALCULATED UNITED STATES CONSUMPTION OF BITUMINOUS COAL, ALLOWING FOR CHANGES IN COMMERCIAL STOCKS, IN NET TONS.

Period.	Net United States Consumption. ^a	Exports.	Total Consumption and Exports.
1921—Apr. 1 to July 31.....	6,260,000	b637,000	6,897,000
1922—Mar. 1 to Aug. 31.....	7,480,000	155,000	7,635,000
1923—June 1 to June 30.....	8,870,000	b632,000	9,502,000
1924—June 1 to Aug. 31.....	7,320,000	380,000	7,700,000
1925—Mar. 1 to May 31.....	8,300,000	269,000	8,569,000
1926—May 1 to June 30.....	8,030,000	b470,000	8,500,000
1927—Apr. 1 to June 30.....	8,889,000	370,000	9,259,000
1927—Oct. 1 to Dec. 31.....	9,912,000	273,000	10,185,000
1928—Jan. 1 to Mar. 31.....	10,636,000	199,000	10,835,000
1928—Apr. 1 to June 30.....	8,312,000	270,000	8,582,000

^a Production plus imports and minus exports plus or minus changes in stocks. Allowance is made for stocks at the mines; coal in transit, including unbilled loads, coal in cars en route to destination, and coal on the Lake docks; and stocks of commercial consumers. ^b Unusual demand for export overseas. ^c Subject to revision.

Bituminous Coal in Transit.

According to the American Railway Association, on July 1 there were 1,195,000 tons (23,903 cars) of bituminous coal in cars unbilled at mines or in classification yards. In comparison with July 1 1927, this is an increase of 114,000 tons.

With the resumption of navigation on the Lakes, the tonnage held by the dock operators has naturally increased. On July 1, there were 6,204,389 tons of bituminous coal on the Upper Lake docks of which 4,583,960 tons were on Lake Superior and 1,620,429 tons on Lake Michigan. On the same date last year the total stocks were 6,840,554 tons.

	Superior.	Michigan.	Total.
April 1 1928.....	3,282,115	1,038,681	4,320,796
May 1 1928.....	2,723,118	747,012	3,470,130
July 1 1928.....	4,583,960	1,620,429	6,204,389

While the present stocks of bituminous coal at the head of the Lakes show a decrease of 636,165 tons when compared with the amount on hand July 1 1927 they are considerably larger than on corresponding dates in other recent years.

Anthracite and Retail Bituminous.

Retail coal yards were well stocked with anthracite on July 1. At the rate their customers were calling for hard coal in May and June the stocks of dealers reporting were sufficient to last 55 days. In New England the supply on hand was equivalent to 63 days' deliveries.

It was not feasible to canvass all retailers, but information was obtained from a representative group whose replies have been summarized in the following table. Of these dealers there were 510 handling anthracite and 808 handling bituminous coal who had reported at every one of the stock surveys since 1919.

Retail stocks of anthracite naturally tend to increase during the summer months as dealers lay in reserves against the winter demand. The anthracite on hand July 1 showed an increase of 67% when compared with Apr. 1, but was slightly under the figure for the corresponding date last year.

Retail stocks of bituminous coal also increased during the last quarter and on July 1 were sufficient to last 43 days at the rate of delivery in May and June. The tonnage on hand July 1 showed an increase of 24% over the figure for Apr. 1 but a decrease of about 20% when compared with the amount on hand a year ago.

COAL IN YARDS OF A SELECTED LIST OF RETAIL COAL DEALERS.

Date.	Net Tons in Yards of Identical Dealers. ^a		Days' Supply—All Dealers Reporting. ^b		Deliveries Used in Calculating Days' Supply.
	Anthracite.	Bituminous.	Anthracite.	Bituminous.	
1919—Jan. 1.....	935,276	1,533,711	36	39	Jan.—March 1919
1923—July 1.....	771,230	1,269,201	25	39	June 1923
1926—July 1.....	1,057,930	1,249,686	40	43	May 1—June 30 1926
1927—July 1.....	1,239,850	1,525,623	50	48	May 1—June 30 1927
1928—Apr. 1.....	688,816	985,038	25	17	Feb. 1—Mar. 31 1928
1928—May 1.....	861,210	932,440	41	33	May 1—June 30 1928
1928—July 1.....	1,150,955	1,223,173	55	43	

^a This group includes only retailers who reported on every one of the dates shown and covers 510 dealers who handle anthracite and 808 who handle bituminous coal. ^b This second group includes all retailers who reported on the particular dates cited, the number varying at each survey. On July 1 1928, for example, there were 910 who handled bituminous coal.

Stocks of anthracite on the Upper Lake docks compare favorably with corresponding dates of other years. On May 1, there were 319,266 tons on the Lake Michigan docks and 418,702 tons on Lake Superior, a total of 737,968 tons. By July 1 the stocks on Lake Michigan had increased to 369,535 tons and those on Lake Superior to 498,061 tons, a total of 867,596 tons. The total stocks in other recent years are shown below:

Aug. 1 1921.....	1,090,258	June 1 1925.....	955,052	May 1 1928.....	737,968
July 1 1923.....	447,610	July 1 1926.....	531,422	July 1 1928.....	867,596
June 1 1924.....	450,000	July 1 1927.....	1,094,874		

Stocks of By-Product Coke.

As usual at this season of the year, stocks of domestic coke at by-product plants have increased since Apr. 1. A group of 21 plants supplying gas for city use and producing coke suitable for household fuel had 879,000 tons of unsold coke on hand July 1, as against 750,000 tons on Apr. 1 and 584,000 tons on July 1 a year ago. Figures for the same group of plants on comparable dates are given below:

July 1 1923.....	308,000	July 1 1926.....	334,000	May 1 1928.....	787,000
June 1 1925.....	694,000	July 1 1927.....	584,000	July 1 1928.....	879,000

Bituminous Coal and Anthracite Production Shows Small Increase over Previous Week—Coke Production Lower.

According to the United States Bureau of Mines, production of bituminous coal during the week ended Aug. 11 amounted to 9,006,000 net tons, as compared with 8,757,000 net tons in the preceding week and 9,093,000 net tons during the week ended Aug. 13 1927, output of anthracite during the week ended Aug. 1 1928 is estimated at 1,387,000 net tons as compared with 1,607,000 net tons during the corresponding week last year and 1,164,000 net tons in the week ended Aug. 11 1928. Production of beehive coke in the United States during the week ended Aug. 11 is put at 58,000 net tons, compared with approximately 60,000 net tons the preceding week and 109,000 net tons in the week ended Aug. 13 1927. The Bureau of Mines report is as follows:

The total production of soft coal during the week ended Aug. 11, including lignite and coal coked at the mines, is estimated at 9,006,000 net tons. Compared with the output in the preceding week, this shows an increase of 249,000 tons, or 2.8%. Production during the week in 1927 corresponding with that of Aug. 11 amounted to 9,093,000 tons.

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

Week Ended—	1928		1927	
	Week.	Cal. Year to Date. ^a	Week.	Cal. Year to Date. ^a
July 28.....	8,964,000	267,335,000	8,594,000	308,085,000
Daily average.....	1,494,000	1,507,000	1,432,000	1,738,000
Aug. 4, b.....	8,757,000	276,092,000	8,495,000	316,580,000
Daily average.....	1,460,000	1,505,000	1,416,000	1,727,000
Aug. 11, c.....	9,006,000	285,098,000	9,093,000	325,673,000
Daily average.....	1,501,000	1,505,000	1,516,000	1,720,000

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

The total production of bituminous coal during the present calendar year to Aug. 11 (approximately 189 working days) amounts to 285,098,000 net tons. Figures for corresponding periods in other recent years are given below:

1927.....	325,673,000 net tons	1924.....	280,353,000 net tons
1926.....	324,847,000 net tons	1923.....	346,615,000 net tons
1925.....	287,905,000 net tons	1922.....	219,685,000 net tons

ANTHRACITE.

The total production of anthracite during the week ended Aug. 11 is estimated at 1,387,000 net tons, an increase of 223,000 tons, or 19.2%, over the output in the preceding week.

Estimated United States Production of Anthracite (Net Tons.)

Week Ended—	1928		1927	
	Week.	Cal. Year to Date.	Week.	Cal. Year to Date.
July 28.....	1,066,000	41,190,000	1,350,000	45,691,000
Aug. 4.....	1,164,000	42,354,000	1,371,000	47,062,000
Aug. 11, b.....	1,387,000	43,741,000	1,607,000	48,669,000

^a Minus one day's production first week in January to equalize number of days in the two years. ^b Subject to revision.

As already indicated by the revised figures above, the total production of soft coal for the country as a whole during the week ended Aug. 4 amounted to 8,757,000 net tons. Compared with the output in the preceding week this shows a decrease of 207,000 tons, or 2.3%. The following table apportions the tonnage by States and gives comparable figures for other recent years.

Estimated Weekly Production of Coal by States (Net Tons).

State—	Week Ended—				Aug. 1923
	Aug. 4 1928.	July 28 1928.	Aug. 6 1927.	Aug. 7 1926.	
Alabama.....	290,000	292,000	331,000	379,000	397,000
Arkansas.....	38,000	30,000	39,000	24,000	26,000
Colorado.....	170,000	161,000	169,000	157,000	173,000
Illinois.....	794,000	757,000	140,000	1,064,000	1,363,000
Indiana.....	238,000	240,000	234,000	356,000	440,000
Iowa.....	47,000	45,000	9,000	63,000	190,000
Kansas.....	23,000	21,000	29,000	66,000	84,000
Kentucky.....	990,000	1,008,000	1,008,000	948,000	765,000
Western.....	232,000	222,000	448,000	268,000	217,000
Maryland.....	48,000	49,000	55,000	57,000	44,000
Michigan.....	10,000	10,000	16,000	6,000	21,000
Missouri.....	60,000	58,000	36,800	47,000	61,000
Montana.....	46,000	46,000	42,000	40,000	50,000
New Mexico.....	51,000	52,000	44,000	43,000	49,000
North Dakota.....	12,000	9,000	9,000	15,000	20,000
Ohio.....	280,000	290,000	130,000	414,000	871,000
Oklahoma.....	50,000	48,000	48,000	43,000	55,000
Pennsylvania.....	2,167,000	2,296,000	2,174,000	2,723,000	3,734,000
Tennessee.....	97,000	102,000	92,000	111,000	118,000
Texas.....	16,000	18,000	23,000	19,000	24,000
Utah.....	70,000	66,000	87,000	76,000	83,000
Virginia.....	228,000	243,000	248,000	265,000	248,000
Washington.....	32,000	33,000	47,000	34,000	47,000
W. Va.—Southern b.....	1,906,000	2,022,000	2,168,000	1,990,000	1,552,000
Northern, c.....	763,000	754,000	781,000	745,000	538,000
Wyoming.....	98,000	91,000	84,000	99,000	154,000
Others, d.....	1,000	1,000	4,000	5,000	4,000

Total bituminous..... 8,757,000 8,964,000 8,495,000 10,057,000 11,538,000
 Pennsylvania anthracite..... 1,164,000 1,066,000 1,371,000 1,831,000 1,926,000

Total all coal..... 9,921,000 10,030,000 9,866,000 11,888,000 13,464,000

^a Average rate maintained during the entire month. ^b Includes operations on the N. & W., C. & O., Virginian and Charleston division of the B. & O. ^c Rest of State, including Panhandle. ^d This group is not strictly comparable in the several years.

BEEHIVE COKE.

The total production of beehive coke for the country as a whole during the week ended Aug. 11 is estimated at 58,000 net tons as against 60,000 net tons in the preceding week.

Estimated Production of Beehive Coke (Net Tons).

	Week Ended			1928	1927
	Aug. 11 1928. b	Aug. 4 1928. c	Aug. 13 1927.	to Date.	Date. a
Pennsylvania and Ohio	38,000	38,000	77,000	1,877,000	3,060,000
West Virginia	11,000	11,000	15,000	371,000	497,000
Ala., Ky., Tenn. & Ga.	1,000	2,000	4,000	109,000	167,000
Virginia	4,000	5,000	6,000	151,000	218,000
Colorado, Utah & Wash.	4,000	4,000	7,000	132,000	233,000
United States total	58,000	60,000	109,000	2,640,000	5,075,000
Daily average	9,700	10,000	18,200	13,900	26,500

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

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

The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the Department of Commerce at Washington has issued its report showing the merchandise imports and exports by grand divisions and principal countries for the months of June and the 6 months ending with June for the years 1927 and 1928. The following is the table complete:

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE BY GRAND DIVISIONS AND PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

Exports to—	Month of June.		6 Months Ended June.	
	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.
Grand Divisions—				
Europe	\$154,951,509	\$161,420,671	\$1,086,233,233	\$1,097,727,196
North America	108,072,286	114,004,985	615,045,896	628,361,109
South America	31,468,237	39,138,591	220,032,614	217,905,691
Asia	37,104,389	48,089,858	289,727,138	294,579,370
Oceania	17,605,520	15,429,804	103,841,559	84,004,634
Africa	7,763,876	10,552,373	51,412,527	54,954,848
Total	\$356,965,817	\$388,636,282	\$2,366,292,967	\$2,377,532,848
Principal Countries—				
Belgium	7,894,093	8,851,269	55,963,512	54,606,280
Czechoslovakia	490,252	414,935	2,558,297	2,698,924
Denmark	3,526,780	2,924,691	29,072,342	25,523,890
France	14,906,759	15,711,599	101,139,801	103,116,209
Germany	29,940,813	28,364,681	210,309,694	205,768,540
Greece	1,022,956	659,482	8,263,245	5,963,179
Italy	9,496,147	11,254,193	60,882,567	76,913,048
Netherlands	9,529,285	9,426,157	66,675,516	67,970,886
Norway	2,019,731	1,603,962	11,631,464	11,032,480
Soviet Russia in Europe	6,402,711	10,919,290	33,490,589	44,201,675
Spain	4,483,600	5,819,282	34,563,996	38,143,747
Sweden	3,612,696	5,524,316	21,266,905	30,694,138
Switzerland	918,302	1,103,541	4,448,122	6,381,411
United Kingdom	56,103,194	52,170,199	415,482,996	384,457,308
Canada	74,311,644	81,887,790	403,395,687	429,198,922
Central America	5,848,390	6,930,175	36,508,094	39,693,927
Mexico	9,512,028	9,149,890	57,354,182	57,420,878
Cuba	12,544,238	9,251,852	81,850,741	64,010,422
Dominican Republic	1,374,465	1,641,745	8,874,391	8,537,970
Argentina	11,389,116	15,692,150	75,546,746	80,174,989
Brazil	6,533,066	7,959,492	47,832,523	46,106,976
Chile	3,044,068	2,770,250	17,818,826	17,924,401
Colombia	3,224,322	4,711,373	24,299,065	27,701,295
Ecuador	546,115	434,767	3,009,173	3,104,172
Peru	1,977,112	1,725,088	12,724,965	11,323,166
Uruguay	1,593,441	2,261,759	12,638,943	12,163,182
Venezuela	2,212,416	2,813,471	21,650,355	15,264,247
British India	4,459,944	3,516,539	39,283,952	29,937,135
British Malaya	943,449	827,907	6,944,786	6,218,508
China	6,056,145	9,912,476	46,689,606	57,623,853
Hongkong	1,745,495	1,349,937	9,545,938	11,777,780
Netherland East Indies	1,996,838	2,795,891	15,638,641	16,175,140
Japan	13,698,433	21,628,122	127,528,389	122,913,793
Philippine Islands	5,879,104	6,238,561	31,792,620	37,014,600
Australia	15,046,874	12,478,043	86,424,509	66,534,959
New Zealand	2,346,238	2,780,827	16,273,939	16,220,324
British South Africa	4,127,836	5,463,118	25,418,015	27,402,115
Egypt	725,969	959,449	5,202,180	6,076,218

TOTAL VALUE OF IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE BY GRAND DIVISIONS AND PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

	Month of June.		6 Months Ended June.	
	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.
Grand Divisions—				
Europe	\$99,625,696	\$95,563,381	\$607,314,414	\$602,005,626
North America	89,835,814	72,901,082	504,163,266	488,251,478
South America	40,364,908	50,099,171	260,207,861	301,096,450
Asia	112,426,966	84,009,873	666,421,394	612,749,767
Oceania	4,164,710	3,232,542	32,540,443	31,596,881
Africa	8,474,022	9,312,294	52,527,490	48,732,294
Total	\$354,892,116	\$315,118,343	\$2,123,174,868	\$2,084,432,496
Principal Countries—				
Belgium	5,549,327	5,863,871	34,631,590	37,450,785
Czechoslovakia	2,638,965	2,606,341	14,457,214	17,643,713
Denmark	2,266,392	803,217	2,147,191	1,834,196
France	12,907,781	11,926,400	78,353,965	72,153,256
Germany	14,152,914	15,787,995	91,649,561	102,201,118
Greece	1,365,931	719,477	21,694,163	9,130,858
Italy	8,499,049	8,168,368	53,023,103	49,835,568
Netherlands	7,474,286	6,195,511	42,367,741	39,416,865
Norway	1,568,166	1,336,265	11,214,941	12,067,739
Soviet Russia in Europe	1,100,208	1,099,398	4,333,943	6,267,393
Spain	3,256,912	2,219,372	19,531,476	16,856,157
Sweden	3,728,557	3,877,471	21,328,822	18,606,086
Switzerland	3,859,725	3,348,466	21,333,090	19,935,792
United Kingdom	29,590,642	27,853,145	169,803,522	175,820,064
Canada	40,578,379	40,015,444	224,707,381	231,851,578
Central America	3,639,093	4,094,655	21,359,888	25,084,985
Mexico	12,912,214	8,721,884	78,909,444	69,560,631
Cuba	26,017,797	11,938,151	143,590,738	111,888,647
Dominican Republic	2,200,661	837,380	6,853,484	5,641,403
Argentina	8,921,341	10,318,679	47,512,417	57,015,909
Brazil	15,110,715	17,812,997	95,227,472	110,059,228
Chile	4,055,587	6,384,357	33,233,216	39,981,429
Colombia	7,156,291	8,270,437	49,170,511	54,021,779
Ecuador	535,745	896,946	2,698,943	3,013,980
Peru	1,235,311	2,047,382	9,726,011	9,112,979
Uruguay	1,020,283	1,176,902	7,999,699	7,429,838
Venezuela	2,069,694	2,969,297	12,540,023	19,145,797
British India	13,198,324	12,132,338	71,889,202	79,323,817
British Malaya	22,272,780	11,927,683	150,743,444	119,542,724
China	18,327,438	16,291,001	89,874,719	76,205,613
Hongkong	1,112,744	1,524,679	8,229,656	9,926,178
Netherland East Indies	4,729,242	3,843,775	44,793,665	42,344,486
Japan	36,034,835	22,306,339	195,388,041	184,126,455
Philippine Islands	11,001,664	11,238,099	63,921,565	65,053,212
Australia	2,173,504	1,246,137	24,063,923	19,884,557
New Zealand	1,760,290	1,724,492	6,957,465	10,630,309
British South Africa	886,335	782,240	4,685,512	5,319,251
Egypt	3,930,255	1,908,542	17,168,579	13,903,592

Dr. George Otis Smith of Geological Survey Thinks Mineral Industry Has Grown Too Fast.

"In recent years," said Dr. George Otis Smith, Director of the Geological Survey and President of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, speaking in the afternoon of July 24, before the Mineral Law Section of the American Bar Association in session at Seattle, "the mineral industry seems to have grown too fast. The American habit of 'stepping on the gas' has brought the mineral industry close to the danger line. Back in 1890," he continued, "the Sherman law was passed; since then the population of the United States has about doubled. Since then, too, the value of the annual product of the mines of this country has increased better than eight-fold—from 650 millions to 5½ billions of dollars. Since then the four largest branches of the mineral industry, which supply the iron and copper, the bituminous coal and petroleum—the bone and sinew and the energy of all other American industries—have increased their annual output nearly ten-fold as to value; and six-fold as to quantity.

"We must not make the mistake of interpreting the speeding up of the mines, quarries, and wells as a special phenomenon caused by the war demand, for, in the mineral industry as a whole, the postwar growth has been equal to the growth for a similar period of war and pre-war years. So long as the supply permits, the consumption of mineral raw materials increases in response to civilization's demands. Agriculture grows only about as fast as population, because the per capita demand for foodstuffs changes in variety only—not in quantity. Mining grows at a far different and a rate independent of population, for the demands by civilization for mineral products change in both variety and quantity with every discovery and invention." Dr. Smith then went on to say:

In a large way, however, wise public policy has a real concern in the supply of mineral raw materials. This is true not only because the products of the mines are the stuff that civilization feeds on, but also because mining is a process of continuous depletion, whereas agriculture harvests annual crops, and even forestry harvests periodic crops. As a Harvard economist has stated the contrast, "Mining typically lives upon its capital; agriculture upon its income." This increasing draft upon irreplaceable mineral deposits, this depletion of fixed reserves, makes a job for the mining engineer, but more than that, it presents a problem to the intelligence of the nation. Minerals are essential assets because they constitute a country's guaranty of future prosperity.

American industry has all the energy of youth, yet with a background of three centuries of colonial and national life we Americans are now mature enough to begin to think in terms of time as well as of space. A nation's greatness can be gaged by duration as well as by area, and a nation's wealth can be measured by its power to last. Prosperity to continue through the centuries is what we must plan for.

The Old World idea of an entailed estate might well be brought over into our thinking of the public interest in natural resources. The vital question for America today is not how many acres of oil fields or square miles of coal beds or million tons of copper ore are there for us to exploit, but rather how long can the present order of things be continued so as to benefit other generations of Americans. Prosperity should fail to satisfy the patriotic citizen unless it is backed up with some guaranty of permanence. To regard ourselves as trustees, possessing the uncounted wealth of America only to be passed on to our successors in interest without unnecessary depletion, is adopting the Golden Rule in perpetuity. Stewardship of that type means the greatest good to the greatest number for the longest time, and that is practical conservation.

As seen by the engineers, the issue of the control of production is truly a national one, not simply the problem of their employers, the mining companies. We recognize the public interest as far greater than that of the industry, and especially do we see that the public interest will continue over a longer period than the interest of even the largest corporations.

The present-situation is urgent as we look to the future. The mineral industry in general has outgrown its old garments and is in dire straits for new working clothes. And we must admit that in part the industry has itself to blame for the misfits. Progress, so called, may overstep reason. Most of our great industries are overgrown. Supply is ever ahead of demand, with little hope-and less expectation of capacity orders. Under these chronic conditions neither 100 per cent efficiency nor a full measure of economy can be thought of. Meanwhile we are skimming the cream from many of our resources; of others we have already had to begin using the 'skim milk.'

We may easily agree that the underlying purpose of exercising some control over a productive industry like mining is to promote efficiency, to prevent waste, and thus to lower costs. Unrestricted competition with its stimulative effect on production has been found too expensive a policy because in practice too commonly it is wasteful of material, of labor, and of capital. Both coal and oil, as they have been handled, light up a path that should not be traveled much longer. To be effective in the mineral industry the control for the common good must be of such nature as to protect the resource against waste and to protect both the producer—a collective term for labor and capital—and the consumer against loss from prices that are too low or too high. Plainly, control of production must start with the extractive branches of the mineral industry, where raw materials are won from the ground and where costs can be affected, and not with the market end, where control would be directed at prices only.

The urge and driving force of private initiative must be preserved; can this motive power be kept under full control? Granted that there must be less restriction in the-matter of guiding business, I suggest that there should be better equipment for governing its speed. The momentum of big business is a potential hazard to all within reach as well as a possible power for the general benefit.

So it is that I urge that brakes are needed by the mineral industry. The buggy period of small and slow-moving business is past; modern business requires modern brakes of the four-wheel type, ready for quick and effective application.

As a matter of safety, a double set of brakes is now regarded as essential and indeed is generally required by law—brakes of two kinds, which can be applied independently. In terms of industrial control, we may look upon one set of brakes as representing self-regulation and the other as representing Government restriction.

Current Events and Discussions

The Week with the Federal Reserve Banks.

The consolidated statement of condition of the Federal Reserve banks on Aug. 22, made public by the Federal Reserve Board, and which deals with the results for the 12 Reserve banks combined, shows increases for the week of \$34,900,000 in holdings of discounted bills, of \$500,000 in Government securities and of \$3,300,000 in Federal Reserve note circulation, and decreases of \$6,300,000 in holdings of bills bought in open market, of \$4,600,000 in member bank reserve deposits and of \$1,900,000 in cash reserves. Total bills and securities were \$29,100,000 above the amount held on Aug. 15. After noting these facts, the Federal Reserve Board proceeds as follows:

The principal changes in holdings of discounted bills were increases of \$39,500,000 at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, \$11,200,000 at St. Louis, and \$6,100,000 at San Francisco, and decreases of \$10,900,000 at Cleveland and \$7,700,000 at Boston. The System's holdings of bills bought in open market decreased \$6,300,000 and of U. S. bonds \$200,000, while holdings of certificates of indebtedness increased \$700,000 and holdings of Treasury notes remained practically unchanged.

Federal Reserve note circulation shows an increase of \$2,000,000 at the Federal Reserve bank of Chicago, \$1,500,000 at Dallas, \$1,300,000 at Boston, and \$1,200,000 each at Richmond and San Francisco, and decreases of \$1,800,000 at Philadelphia and \$1,100,000 at Atlanta.

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 1071 and 1072. A summary of changes in the principal assets and liabilities of the Reserve banks during the week and the year ending Aug. 22 is as follows:

	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) During	
	Week.	Year.
Total reserves.....	-\$1,900,000	-\$396,100,000
Gold reserves.....	+1,400,000	-395,900,000
Total bills and securities.....	+29,100,000	+390,800,000
Bills discounted, total.....	+34,900,000	+623,300,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations.....	+17,300,000	+366,500,000
Other bills discounted.....	+17,600,000	+256,800,000
Bills bought in open market.....	-6,300,000	+4,800,000
U. S. Government securities, total.....	+500,000	-237,900,000
Bonds.....	-200,000	-149,000,000
Treasury notes.....	-3,700,000
Certificates of indebtedness.....	+700,000	-85,300,000
Federal reserve notes in circulation.....	+3,300,000	-28,900,000
Total deposits.....	+2,100,000	-28,300,000
Members' reserve deposits.....	-4,600,000	-25,200,000
Government deposits.....	+8,000,000	-1,900,000

Returns of Member Banks for New York and Chicago Federal Reserve Districts—Brokers' Loans.

Beginning with the returns for June 29 1927, the Federal Reserve Board also began to give out the figures of the member banks in the New York Federal Reserve District, as well as those in the Chicago Reserve District, on Thursdays, simultaneously with the figures for the Reserve banks themselves, and for the same week, instead of waiting until the following Monday, before which time the statistics covering the entire body of reporting member banks—now 636—cannot be got ready.

The following is the statement for the New York member banks and that for the Chicago member banks thus issued in advance of the full statement of the member banks, which latter will not be available until the coming Monday. The New York statement, of course, also includes the brokers' loans of reporting member banks, which this week again showed a decrease, this time of \$22,099,000, the grand aggregate of these loans on Aug. 22 being \$4,201,131,000. The total of these loans is now \$362,109,000 below the all-time peak registered for the week of June 6.

CONDITION OF WEEKLY REPORTING MEMBER BANKS IN CENTRAL RESERVE CITIES. New York—45 Banks.

	Aug. 22 1928.	Aug. 15 1928.	Aug. 24 1927.
	\$	\$	\$
Loans and investments—total.....	7,107,620,000	7,113,471,000	6,509,566,000
Loans and discounts—total.....	5,254,698,000	5,251,615,000	4,695,912,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations.....	45,136,000	46,670,000	31,986,000
Secured by stocks and bonds.....	2,400,075,000	2,399,771,000	2,195,569,000
All other loans and discounts.....	2,809,487,000	2,805,174,000	2,468,357,000
Investments—total.....	1,852,922,000	1,861,856,000	1,813,654,000
U. S. Government securities.....	995,797,000	994,939,000	889,976,000
Other bonds, stocks and securities.....	857,125,000	866,917,000	923,678,000
Reserve with Federal Reserve Bank.....	692,257,000	695,290,000	725,901,000
Cash in vault.....	51,861,000	51,378,000	54,723,000
Net demand deposits.....	4,985,967,000	5,013,390,000	5,121,828,000
Time deposits.....	1,158,087,000	1,172,151,000	1,006,896,000
Government deposits.....	24,568,000	32,035,000	4,467,000

	Aug. 22 1928.	Aug. 15 1928.	Aug. 24 1927.
	\$	\$	\$
Due from banks.....	86,275,000	85,062,000	79,279,000
Due to banks.....	1,061,208,000	1,093,400,000	1,124,782,000
Borrowings from F. R. Bank—total.....	229,040,000	187,610,000	86,652,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations.....	123,820,000	89,945,000	50,200,000
All other.....	105,220,000	97,665,000	36,452,000
Loans to brokers and dealers (secured by stocks and bonds):			
For own account.....	808,873,000	783,437,000	1,000,961,000
For account of out-of-town banks.....	1,535,448,000	1,579,742,000	1,246,848,000
For account of others.....	1,856,810,000	1,860,051,000	920,265,000
Total.....	4,201,131,000	4,223,230,000	3,168,074,000
On demand.....	3,350,256,000	3,361,774,000	2,335,079,000
On time.....	850,875,000	861,456,000	832,995,000

Chicago—43 Banks.

	Aug. 22 1928.	Aug. 15 1928.	Aug. 24 1927.
	\$	\$	\$
Loans and investments—total.....	2,047,602,000	2,055,138,000	1,949,324,000
Loans and discounts—total.....	1,574,615,000	1,571,370,000	1,504,493,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations.....	14,619,000	14,620,000	14,400,000
Secured by stocks and bonds.....	783,470,000	784,871,000	809,932,000
All other loans and discounts.....	776,526,000	771,879,000	680,161,000
Investments—total.....	472,987,000	483,768,000	444,831,000
U. S. Government securities.....	216,070,000	221,086,000	187,205,000
Other bonds, stocks and securities.....	256,917,000	262,682,000	257,626,000
Reserve with Federal Reserve Bank.....	179,209,000	179,840,000	190,698,000
Cash in vault.....	16,234,000	16,460,000	18,471,000
Net demand deposits.....	1,225,693,000	1,235,324,000	1,304,216,000
Time deposits.....	672,163,000	669,911,000	619,836,000
Government deposits.....	12,415,000	14,814,000	3,013,000
Due from banks.....	150,015,000	155,230,000	145,331,000
Due to banks.....	340,200,000	343,911,000	360,806,000
Borrowings from F. R. Bank—total.....	76,758,000	81,658,000	2,975,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations.....	65,909,000	67,494,000	2,645,000
All other.....	10,849,000	14,164,000	330,000

Complete Returns of the Member Banks of the Federal Reserve System for the Preceding Week.

As explained above, the statements for the New York and Chicago member banks are now given out on Thursdays, simultaneously with the figures for the Reserve banks themselves, and covering the same week, instead of being held until the following Monday, before which time the statistics covering the entire body of reporting member banks, now 636, cannot be got ready.

In the following will be found the comments of the Federal Reserve Board respecting the returns of the entire body of reporting member banks of the Federal Reserve System for the week ended with the close of business Aug. 15.

The Federal Reserve Board's condition statement of 636 reporting member banks in leading cities as of Aug. 15 shows decreases for the week of \$63,000,000 in loans and discounts, of \$15,000,000 in investments, and of \$62,000,000 in borrowings from Federal Reserve banks, and increases of \$73,000,000 in net demand deposits and of \$6,000,000 in time deposits.

Loans on stocks and bonds, including United States Government obligations, were \$79,000,000 below the Aug. 8 total at all reporting banks, a decrease of \$66,000,000 being shown for reporting banks in the New York district and of \$12,000,000 in the Boston district, and an increase of \$6,000,000 in the San Francisco district. "All other" loans and discounts declined \$23,000,000 in the New York district and increased \$12,000,000 in the San Francisco district, \$9,000,000 in the Boston district, \$6,000,000 in the Richmond district, and \$16,000,000 at all reporting banks.

Holdings of United States Government securities declined \$6,000,000 at reporting banks in the New York district and \$16,000,000 at all reporting banks, while holdings of other bonds, stocks and securities show a net increase of \$2,000,000 for the week.

Net demand deposits, which at all reporting banks were \$73,000,000 above the Aug. 8 total, increased in nearly all districts, the principal increases by districts being: Chicago \$30,000,000, San Francisco \$21,000,000, Philadelphia \$10,000,000, and Kansas City \$8,000,000. Time deposits increased \$17,000,000 and \$5,000,000, respectively, at reporting banks in the New York and Cleveland districts, and declined \$11,000,000 in the Chicago district and \$6,000,000 in the San Francisco district, all reporting banks showing a net increase of \$6,000,000.

The principal changes for the week in borrowings from the Federal Reserve banks were declines of \$57,000,000 at reporting banks in the New York district, \$12,000,000 in the Chicago district, and \$7,000,000 in the Cleveland district, and an increase of \$8,000,000 in the Philadelphia district.

A summary of the principal assets and liabilities of 636 reporting member banks, together with changes during the week and the year ending Aug. 15, 1928, as follows:

	Increase (+) or Decrease (-)		
	Aug. 15 1928.	Week.	Year.
	\$	\$	\$
Loans and Investments—total	22,184,258,000	-77,946,000	+1,548,409,000
Loans and discounts—total	15,739,318,000	-63,184,000	+1,065,185,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations	128,690,000	-4,856,000	+10,936,000
Secured by stocks and bonds	6,561,493,000	-74,235,000	+549,923,000
All other loans and discounts	9,049,135,000	+15,907,000	+504,326,000
Investments—total	6,444,940,000	-14,762,000	+483,224,000
U. S. Government securities	2,923,783,000	-16,375,000	+427,272,000
Other bonds, stocks and securities	3,521,157,000	+1,613,000	+55,952,000
Reserve with Federal Reserve banks	1,691,887,000	+34,617,000	+23,692,000
Cash in vault	237,373,000	-7,214,000	-12,108,000
Net demand deposits	12,952,061,000	+72,957,000	-351,534,000
Time deposits	6,903,565,000	+5,500,000	+595,630,000
Government deposits	184,787,000	-9,229,000	+144,388,000
Due from banks	1,064,476,000	+33,790,000	-84,063,000
Due to banks	3,036,215,000	-13,403,000	-287,545,000
Borrowings from F. R. banks—total	764,946,000	-62,351,000	+528,903,000
Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations	457,811,000	-39,997,000	+296,581,000
All other	307,135,000	-22,354,000	+232,322,000

*Aug. 8 figures revised

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

The Department of Commerce at Washington releases for publication August 25 the following summary of market conditions abroad, based on advices by cable and radio:

ARGENTINA.

Business in Argentina throughout the week ending August 17 was better than during the previous one, and the general tone was more optimistic than for several weeks past. The weather was good. It is expected that the work on the Lacroze subway will be resumed shortly. Automotive sales continued to be good, with closed cars showing large gains this year in Buenos Aires.

AUSTRALIA.

After a year of depression, conditions in Australia have taken a trend for the better. Slight improvements are noted in general enterprises, less unemployment is reported, and the outlook for agricultural products is unusually good. The success of the Federal conversion loan, due in September, is now reported assured and this, together with improvement in reserves, has influenced bankers to be a little less conservative. Wholesale, retail, import trade, and construction, however, are experiencing little improvement, though seasonal activities are encouraging. The approach of the November election is also causing some slight hesitancy.

AUSTRIA.

While the steady upward trend in industrial and trade activity in 1928 appears to have reached its peak, the present Austrian situation shows no unfavorable development apart from the tightness and increasing cost of money and the fear that this will curb business operations. The seasonal downward curve in unemployment has apparently reached the low point for the year, with some 116,000 totally unemployed receiving doles on July 15; this is 24,000 below the figure of last year.

BELGIUM.

In spite of the summer season there has been practically no slackening of production in the principal industries, the retail trade has shown only the customary summer slowing up, and Belgian business on the whole is surprisingly good. In the major industries only textiles have been slack, and prices generally are strong. In the iron and steel industry manufacturers' books are well filled and delivery delays are required. The domestic market is very active and general prospects are bright. The improvement in the coal situation has been maintained. The output of plate and window glass remains high, while in the cement industry the situation is favorable and the output is at a capacity level. General crop conditions are good and satisfactory yields are anticipated. There is arising tendency on the bourse. Following the recent crisis on the Brussels bourse the situation is now said to be stronger than at any time in the past year. Money continues plentiful and the outlook is optimistic.

BRAZIL.

General business continues fair in Brazil with export bills scarce and money plentiful in the banks but lacking in the interior. The coffee market remains dull but prices are firm. Exchange has weakened 120 reis during the last two weeks. A federal petroleum bill is now recommended by the Ministry of Industry and action during the present year is possible. Terms of the bill are declared highly unfavorable to foreign operation.

CANADA.

With allowances for the seasonal lull and exceptionally warm weather in eastern Canada last week, the general volume of trade remains good. The very satisfactory crop situation in all provinces appears to indicate general prosperity in rural communities this fall, with corresponding stimulation of purchasing. The outstanding factor in crop returns is the continued decline in wheat quotations. According to local estimates the increase in wheat acreage in 1928 is approximately 8% and the crop is popularly forecast locally at more than 500,000,000 bushels. The carry-over at the end of the crop year was 76,484,000 bushels, as compared with 50,765,000 bushels on July 31 1927. Cutting of grain is expected to become general throughout the Prairie Provinces this week; binder twine is in demand since straw is heavy. Increased traffic on the principal Canadian canals in July is credited mainly to the wheat movement, which was later this year than in 1927. Increased shipments of iron ore also a factor in heavier traffic through the Sault Ste. Marie canals. Trading activity on Canadian exchanges continue to decline and the traders' index of the 25 best selling industrial and public utility common stocks on the Montreal and Toronto exchanges was 378.1 for the week ended August 9 as compared with 386.3 for the previous week. Returns of the chartered banks for June show a reduction of call loans in Canada from \$269,392,000 in May, the highest level ever reached, to \$268,017,000 in June. Call loans outside of Canada (New York and London) show a much larger deduction, \$22,972,000 in June.

Canadian newsprint production in July amounted to 184,000 tons. During the first seven months of 1928 production was 16% higher than for the same period of last year.

The contract for the International Paper Company's new mill at Dalhousie, New Brunswick, has been awarded to a Montreal firm. The plant will cost about \$15,000,000.

CHILE.

Centralized selling of Chilean nitrate was started by the Nitrate Producers Association on August 15 and prices for Europe have been fixed. Prices for the United States are expected in the next few days. The Comptroller's report of the government's operations during the first seven months of the year indicates a surplus of approximately \$2,000,000, although the heaviest income is expected in the latter part of the year. The merchandise situation continues favorable with greater activity apparent than in the previous month when the demand for merchandise was heavy.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

According to the Czechoslovak statistical office, imports to Czechoslovakia from the United States totaled 15,000,000 crowns in the first half of 1928, exports to the United States 516,000,000 crowns. Of imports, 75% were raw materials, notably raw cotton, and only 18% were finished manufactures. On the other hand, 99% of Czechoslovak exports to the United States were finished goods, chiefly linen and other textiles, ceramic products, glass and glassware, and ready made articles. (Crown equals \$0.0296.)

FRANCE.

The situation as a whole in France reflects general confidence. Preparations are being made for the expansion of industries in the fall when it is believed locally that business will exceed the normal level for that period of the year. All basic lines, except cotton textiles are being produced in large quantities. Sales are heavy, prices are firm and future orders are larger and more numerous while delivery delays are longer. Any difficulties that exist are of minor nature. Bourse activities have shown a sharp recovery, while the heavy daily clearances indicate a large business turnover. Issues of corporate securities continue at a high level indicating confidence in the expansion of industry. The general industrial production index has shown a gain. The demand for coal is increasing and production has risen. Domestic and foreign purchases of iron and steel are stronger and prices are firmer. Most plants are accepting orders only for three to five months delivery. In the cotton mills the situation is calmer and stocks of raw cotton are increasing. Conditions in the wool industry remain good, while in the silk plants operations are normal for the season although stocks of finished products are higher than usual. Other industries show a generally good condition.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Weather conditions in the Hawaiian Islands during the past month have been favorable to growing crops, with well distributed showers and high temperatures. Sugar cane is reported 94% harvested with a yield of 813,000 short tons to date, of which 670,000 short tons have already been shipped. Thirty-two mills are still busy. The pineapple pack, it is estimated, locally will show a moderate increase over estimates and all plantations report excellent fruit. Retail trade in the past month has been only moderate with collections fair and reflecting the influence of low sugar prices.

INDIA.

General business and industrial conditions in India the first half of August have been unsatisfactory, due largely to the decline in export demand and to lower prices for most commodities. Protracted strikes, particularly at Bombay mills and at Tata steel works, have curtailed production and resulted in large losses in profits and wages, it is reported. Although the monsoon has been generally satisfactory throughout the larger part of India, there is developing a fear of serious crop failure in northwestern India, including most of the Punjab, because of inadequate rainfall and excessive heat.

IRISH FREE STATE.

Following the removal in May of restrictions resulting from the outbreak of foot and mouth disease earlier in the year, conditions in Munster have shown steady improvement. The increase in business in the Cork district in the second quarter of the year is partly seasonal, but the position of farmers is understood to be much better than at this time last year. The crop outlook is not especially promising, and gives indications of only a fair harvest if favorable weather continues. Although agricultural prices continue at an extremely low level, more money is in circulation and trade prospects are considered fairly good.

ITALY.

The labor situation has greatly improved in Italy during the last six months judging from the figures of unemployment which have been reduced from 439,000 at the end of January to 247,000 at the end of June. Seasonal agricultural activity accounts for much of the difference.

BRITISH MALAYA.

Uncertainty regarding the trend of rubber prices after the first of November continues to affect general economic conditions somewhat unfavorably. Confidence, however, is gradually being restored and collections are improving. Import stocks are low and dealers are placing forward orders in preparation for Christmas and Chinese holidays.

Rubber trade has firmed somewhat, but there is considerable uncertainty regarding November and December shipments. The tin market remains dull.

MARTINIQUE.

Business continues good in Martinique and imports in recent months have been maintained at a satisfactory level. Construction work is active and there is prospect of increased governmental expenditures on port improvements in the next few months. Weather conditions favored the sugar harvest and a normal yield of about 40,000 metric tons is expected, of which 38,000 tons will be available for export.

MEXICO.

Business in Mexico during the week ended August 18 showed a slight improvement over the unsettled conditions which existed during the latter half of July. The peso has shown more strength, but further improvement has been checked on account of the unfavorable crop outlook caused by the continued drought, especially in the northern part of the country. The national banking convention adjourned after recommending steps which are designed to encourage savings and investments in domestic industries.

NETHERLAND EAST INDIES.

General retail buying is improving, with increased native purchasing power resulting from favorable crop returns. The volume of import trade continues heavy, except in east Java where the sugar situation is restricting buying. Lack of forward sales is necessitating the storing of sugar by a number of mills. Demand for rubber has improved somewhat and natives, despite low prices, are proceeding actively with tapping. Pepper supplies for shipments are heavy and prices are declining. In the absence of American demand, tapioca trade is dull.

NETHERLANDS.

General business conditions in the Netherlands during July showed somewhat less than the usual summer slackness. Industrial activity was

maintained at a good level and the retail trade was satisfactory owing to better weather and the influx of tourists and visitors because of the Olympic games. Prices have shown little change and unemployment is relatively low. The money market has remained practically stable although rates were somewhat easier. A new financial organization, the Netherlands Credit and Financial Company, with a capital of 12,000,000 florins, has been established at Amsterdam. Capital issues during June increased, those for foreign account being heavy. The stock market has experienced the usual summer calmness. Commodity markets were seasonally inactive, with prices rather steady until the end of the month when a weaker tendency encouraged stock replenishment. Declared exports to the United States during July showed a heavy drop as compared with the June value.

PORTO RICO.

Reports from trade circles indicate little change in Porto Rican business conditions, and the merchandise movement remains slow in practically all lines. The usual seasonal purchases of fertilizer for sugar estates are being made but prices are extremely low on account of competitive conditions. Tobacco growers are delaying their purchases of needed fertilizer pending the conclusion of satisfactory credit arrangements. Collections are still difficult but banks report indications of improvement in some districts. Shipments from Porto Rico to foreign countries during the fiscal year ended June 30 last were \$4,133,000 compared with \$7,493,000 in the preceding fiscal year. The drop in these shipments was largely the result of the decrease in coffee exports from nearly nineteen million pounds, valued at \$5,625,000 in 1926-27 to 11,145,000 pounds worth \$3,503,000 in 1927-28. Imports from foreign countries were \$12,595,000 in 1927-28 as against \$11,764,000 a year ago, the increase in great part being accounted for by larger purchases of Cuban tobacco for elaboration and reshipment to continental United States.

RUMANIA.

Rumanian customs receipts for the first six months of the current year have shown a decrease of about 23% as compared both with the budgetary estimates for the period and actual collections for the first half of 1927. The respective figures are: Receipts in 1928, 3,663,012,000 lei (average rate of exchange, \$.00618); budgetary estimates, 4,600,000,000 lei; collections in 1927, 4,754,737,000 lei. The decrease in the total receipts is due exclusively to the marked shrinkage in collection of export tax and incidental charges, chiefly as a result of the abolition and reductions of export tax and commission on the principal export commodities and partly because of the heavy decrease in exports of cereals. Receipts from import duties held their own with an increase of about 1% over the 1927 period, but are 4.6% below the budgetary estimates.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Except in copra districts where buying is reported to be better general trade conditions in the Philippines remain dull. Collections continue difficult and the situation compares unfavorably with the corresponding period of last year. In copra areas, credit conditions have improved somewhat, but remain tight in hemp, tobacco, and sugar areas.

SWEDEN.

Settlement of trouble in the iron mines which has seriously disturbed Sweden's economic situation since January has led to anticipation of a general improvement throughout the remainder of the year. At the middle of August economic conditions were fundamentally sound, although somewhat adversely affected by the poor crop prospects and as a result of labor conflicts. Crop conditions are considerably below average on account of the unusually cold rainy weather. Imports of grains and fruits will undoubtedly be heavier than last year when crops were also subnormal. The money market in July remained fairly easy with net foreign credits showing further growth. The bourse was fairly active with quotations showing a recovery. The Swedish industrial production showed a further advance during June and a general tone of improvement was noticeable in industrial and market conditions.

TURKEY.

Economic conditions in Turkey continue to feel the effects of recent business failures and unfavorable crops. Turkish exchange has remained steady, around \$0.505, in contrast with a usual rising tendency at this time of the year. The exchange of paper currency has not yet been completed, and a further extension beyond August 15 was expected.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Important foreign railway contracts have been awarded to British coal firms but the trade generally remains quiet. Three new mergers reported in process of formation in Northumberland involve 27 collieries. Output for the week ended July 28 was 4,455,900 tons and employment 897,800. A new treasury issue of £35,000,000 5% bonds has been announced.

Control of Spanish Peseta Now Realty as Speculation Ends—Anglo-American Credits Aid Bank of Spain to Keep Currency Value Up—Now Has \$520,000,000 Holdings in Gold.

The following special correspondence from Madrid Aug. 11 appeared in the "Journal of Commerce" of Aug. 22:

For several days past there have been rumors—amounting, indeed, to positive assurances—that the days of the speculator in pesetas had assuredly come to an end; for the Government, successful at last in its efforts to control the exchange, was about to make an announcement. But statements had been made so often before, and had been found so often to have been unreliable, that the game of selling and buying pesetas went on just the same.

To-day the gambler in exchange is a sad and very indignant man. Rumor at last has spoken truly, and the control of the peseta is an accomplished fact.

With the oft-threatened control of the exchange at length achieved, Spain—the last of the important European countries with a depreciated currency—is about to be relieved of all the evils that a debased money entails. Up to a few days ago the peseta was the most interesting European currency still uncontrolled, the depreciation amounting to between 10 and 15% with a world market.

Strong Credits Secured.

The cable will have informed your readers that strong credits have been secured and placed at the disposal of the committee created on June 25 by the Spanish Government to organize the defense of the peseta exchange and that the long-drawn-out negotiations between the Bank of Spain and London and New York monetary institutions had been crowned with success.

At the head of the powerful syndicate stands the Midland Bank, but also are included Barclay's Bank, Lloyd's Bank, the Westminster Bank, Martin's Bank, the Anglo-South American Bank; Hambro's Bank, Lazard Bros. and Morgan, Grenfell & Co. This group forms about as powerful a financial league as has ever been got together. The United States is represented by a smaller number of leading banks, at the head of whom, however, is the famous house of J. P. Morgan & Co.

Little more than a year ago the position of the peseta was such as to cause real anxiety to the Government. Following its recovery from 35 to the neighborhood of 29 to the pound sterling, owing to the general improvement in Spanish finances brought about by the funding of the floating loan, by the reduction in the budget deficit and by much lighter commitments in Morocco, the peseta continued to fluctuate between 29 and 26 to the pound sterling in a thoroughly disconcerting manner.

Those who have had any experience of Spanish money matters were, of course, aware that at certain periods in the year the value of the peseta would normally vary a few points. For instance, during the fruit exporting season, when payments from abroad, especially in sterling, flowed into the country; or, again, at the beginning of the summer, when numerous rich Spaniards provide themselves with foreign currencies to pay for their travels abroad. These moments were known and could be anticipated; but other fluctuations of a more mysterious nature were playing havoc with the financial interests of the country, and all official efforts to identify and stop the game failed. But it is safe to say that the speculators will flaunt them no more, or, if at all, to a very minor degree.

These gamblers in exchange, whose chief habitat has been found in Holland and Switzerland, have had several good reasons for operating in pesetas. The situation of the kingdom has been steadily improving during the past 3 or 4 years; so steadily, in fact, that the movement of the peseta toward par seemed to be increasingly probable, and any further cause of depreciation to be just as remote. Additionally, for certain Continental nations, the peseta had appeared for some time past to be a profitable medium for the purchase of sterling. It was found, in fact, more advantageous to make purchases of pounds sterling through pesetas, the value of which was temporarily enhanced by the process of buying, than to buy sterling at a fixed rate in the gold market.

Good Gold Reserve.

Naturally, these fluctuations proved a nuisance to legitimate Spanish traders, who, therefore, called upon the Government to peg the exchange value of the peseta, or, at least, to pull some of the strings which every Government has, or is supposed to have, at its disposal in order to keep fluctuations within bounds. For this purpose a Government has always means at hand in the gold brought into the country in payment of customs duties in gold specie; and so far as Spain is concerned this gold has been carefully hoarded for the last three or four years. It has been lying in the Treasury vaults entirely unproductive, of course, of interest. This considerable reserve, combined with the resources of the wealthy banks referred to, will be more than sufficient to intimidate speculators, whose maneuvers the Spanish Government declare (and no doubt with ample reason) to have been the principal cause of the fluctuations, during the past six months particularly.

At the end of June, following some violent movements in the exchange, the Government, through an official decree, gave authority to exercise control of the foreign exchange market through a committee formed under the chairmanship of the Minister of Finance, at whose disposal the vast credits above mentioned have now been placed.

The position of the Bank of Spain has been rendered so strong of itself that the step now taken may prove a precautionary measure, of which there will be little need to take advantage. The bank possesses to-day a gold holding of over 2,600,000,000 pesetas, about £104,000,000, or, say, \$520,000,000, while its note circulation amounts to 4,295,000,000 pesetas, thus giving a proportion of nearly 61% compared with the legal ratio of 40%. But this is not all. The bank holds over 700,000,000 pesetas in silver, very much more than its pre-war stock of the white metal; while its gold holding compares with 543,497,000 pesetas in pre-war days, at which period the note circulation was about 1,920,000,000 pesetas.

When, at the end of June last, the violent movements in the exchange already mentioned took place, an official decree was issued wherein the idea of the Government's acceptance of the then-existing depreciation in the currency was rejected. The decree indicated that the Government would not renounce the gold parity of the peseta, even though for the time being it might direct its efforts to maintain regularity in the rate "nearest to its just valuation." It was then announced that an exchange committee to be nominated would have full powers gradually to stabilize the peseta.

Now the bold step taken will probably prove the preliminary only to ultimate stabilization. The one danger to be apprehended is that the committee's efforts may have to be directed to regarding a too-rapid return of the exchange to the parity level, of 25 pesetas 22½ centimos, rather than to the support of a falling peseta.

Little doubt exists (except among international gamblers) that the Government has acted wisely, if somewhat belatedly. It very sensibly refrained from making any official announcement with regard to its stabilization plans until these had taken definite shape. Although the agreement for the English part of the credits obtained was concluded some little time ago, it was necessary to await the result of the American negotiations before anything could be satisfactorily proclaimed.

While no official statement of the actual amount of subscription toward the protection of the peseta has been published, it is believed here to be not less than £10,000,000 (\$50,000,000), a sum equally divided between United Kingdom and United States banking houses. At any rate the Government has shown—notwithstanding its oft-boasted independence of foreign capital—preference for the co-operation of other countries, thus following the example of nearly all those States which have stabilized their currencies during the past few years. The Government would not have been able, or content, to rely upon its own unaided resources, notwithstanding the powerful position now attained by the Bank of Spain, through the gold stock, to which reference has already been made.

It is quite clear that the Government, aided by the banking consortium, intends to strictly enforce the new measures concerning exchange transactions. Already an ordinance has been issued forbidding the opening abroad of credits in pesetas that are not justified by the requirements of commerce, while the Ministry of Finance announces that the Committee for the Control of the Exchange Market will utilize the patriotic collaboration offered by the leading private banks for the purpose of regularizing the peseta exchange.

A board meeting has just taken place at which was read the royal order regulating the conditions in which a register of all exchange transactions throughout Spain will hereafter be kept for the information of the control committee. In these new regulations an attempt will be made to "preserve secrecy" regarding the names of individuals engaged in transactions, but although it is stipulated that every effort will be made to avoid divulgence of professional secrets by allowing the banks to submit the information regarding the operations amounting to over \$20,000 in a key form instead of nominatively, there is very little doubt that the information will trickle through where and when it is desired to ascertain it. As it has been decided, however, to group transactions up to \$5,000 without specifying details, to some extent this may serve to cover up small individual transactions.

The credit in behalf of the Bank of Spain was referred to in the "Chronicle" of Aug. 11 page 767.

200,000 to Remain Permanently Out of Jobs in Britain—Government's New Labor Policy Expected to Stabilize Unemployment of Workers—State to Lend Money to Men So They Can Settle in Booming Districts.

From its London correspondent Aug. 17 the New York "Evening Post" reports the following (copyright) advices:

People who are looking to see Great Britain do great things in the way of business recovery have received a shock from the latest report of the Labor Department and the last full-dress debate on unemployment in the House of Commons.

Within three and a half years unemployment has increased by 225,000 and the Labor Department estimates that 200,000 men never will get steady work so long as they live in their present districts. The Government has announced its policy for dealing with the problem and it is very much like feeding pills to a man with a broken leg.

The upshot of the Government's policy is that unemployment will be stabilized. Perhaps not at its present figure, but something near 200,000 able-bodied men are not to have work and a million persons, counting five to a family, out of forty-five millions in the country are going to live on the starvation line supported by public relief.

This does not mean that Great Britain is not recovering in a business way. Prosperity in some districts is remarkable. The London area, for instance, is as well off as before the war. The unemployment is concentrated in certain areas and certain industries. Taken as a whole, the wealth of the British increase year by year, the amount of money spent is larger, the purchasing power of wages is increasing, the rich are richer, the workers as a whole are enjoying a better standard life.

Business Flourishing

The revelations about unemployment do not discredit the fact that Great Britain, in a business way, is flourishing. They do not take any of the luster from the success of her electrical industry, her artificial silk and half a dozen lesser lines of manufacture.

The British have "come back." But like a middle-aged man who has risen, cured, from a sick-bed, they are older for the experience and not physically stronger. They are faced with a problem that can only be solved by youth, courage and imagination. And they are not going to solve it.

To put it simply, 200,000 men live in areas where there is no work and never will be any. In other parts of the country there is a condition almost like a boom. The obvious thing to do is to move the 200,000 men. The Government sees this. But all it is doing is offering to lend individual men the money to move and to carry on while settling in their new homes. The job-finding is to be done by labor exchanges.

This is not enough. Moving 200,000 men is a gigantic task. It is a bigger task of its kind in state management than ever has been undertaken. It involves not only uprooting a million persons and transporting them to other areas, it involves housing them and giving them work for which they are fitted and by which they can support their families. It is the kind of a task that a Rhodes or a Hill might be equal to. It requires capital, enterprise, administrative genius and, above all, courage and yet more courage.

Unemployed Are Miners.

It happens that these 200,000 permanently unemployed men are miners. Either they must be put into mines which can be operated at a profit or they must be taught new trades. The Government has said nothing about opening up new mining areas, though there are areas which are merely waiting for the capital and labor to become profitable. Nor has the Government said anything about teaching these miners on a large scale new ways of earning their living.

This transference scheme is not the only remedy. The coal mines are to receive another subsidy, this time a secretive one, for the public subsidy for coal cannot be repeated after the experience of two years ago. The new subsidy is the rating scheme, which will go into operation one year sooner than planned and by virtue of which the railroads are to be freed from paying local taxation. This relief is then to be passed on to the coal and steel industries in the way of reduced freight rates. It will be a help. Just how much, no one knows. But no one dreams that it will give work to those 200,000 miners or any substantial number of them.

The present British Government is the government of big business. It has access to the best business minds in the country, it could call on the services of any business genius it chose. If it had the heart to face this unemployment problem it could do as it pleased. It commands prestige. Its power in Parliament is indisputable.

Baldwin in Appeal.

But, it has chosen to muddle along, applying palliatives, doing nothing daring and counting on the general improvement of trade to keep the country generally prosperous and generally contented. For the particular areas it expresses its regrets, and Mr. Baldwin, when discussing them in the House of Commons, made quite a stirring appeal for their assistance. It was good rhetoric, but that was all.

This is not to intimate that any alternative Government would do better. Ramsay MacDonald, the Socialist leader, who moved the vote of censure on the Government on the score of increased unemployment, did propose more substantial measures. He spoke of the road building and widening needed, the drainage of low districts and the public works, all of which would give business a fillip.

He criticized the misdirection of capital, as a Socialist would. But the fact is, the failure is not a party failure, it is national. The initiative to deal with the matter is wanting. The business brains which might cope with it are conspicuous by their absence. Britain has recovered its health but not its youth.

British Roads Lose \$5,000,000 Monthly—Sir Felix Pole Attributes Condition to Depression, High Wages and Buses.

The "Big Four" of British railroads are losing roughly an average of \$5,000,000 a month, says a London cablegram Aug. 21 to the New York "Times" which adds:

This was disclosed today in a "Daily Mail" interview with Sir Felix Pole, general manager of the Great Western Railway Company, at which representatives of the other great railway companies were present.

Sir Felix pointed out that the public was mistaken in believing the railroads relied mainly on passenger traffic. It was the carriage of freight which provided the main receipts, and the drop in coal tonnage was largely responsible for the serious crisis through which the railroads are passing, he said.

At the end of May this year there had been the following decreases in coal tonnages conveyed compared with the same period in 1927: Great Western, 2,373,000 tons; London, Midland and Scottish, 2,400,000; London and Northeastern, 3,262,000, and Southern, 375,000.

To the end of July the decrease in railroad traffic receipts, exclusive of docks and other auxiliary businesses, of the four great groups were: London Midland and Scottish, £3,070,000; London and Northeastern £1,967,000; Great Western, £1,142,000, and Southern, £654,000.

Sir Felix ascribed this unsatisfactory state of affairs to three main causes, namely, stagnation of industry, wage burdens imposed by the Government and motor transport competition.

Plan Canadian Farm Loans—New \$5,000,000 Bond Issue to Finance Organization Similar to Federal Land Banks of U. S.

Winnipeg advices published in the "Wall Street Journal" of Aug. 16 state an issue of \$5,000,000 in Federal bonds is being made to finance a national loan plan similar to the Federal Land Bank of the United States. Each province that desires to participate must make itself responsible for a part of the issue. It is said the plan may supply funds on the prairies at slightly less than the banking system, but that is yet to be determined. The idea is declared to be promoted in the interest of the agrarian sections of Western Canada.

To finance the enterprise, \$5,000,000 is to be raised by the Ottawa Government in bonds or advanced in cash. This is to be paid back out of the interest on the loan. In addition to this basic capital there will be a further stock issue of which the Dominion and provincial governments adhering to the plan must subscribe 5%, while each borrower must subscribe for 5% of the sum borrowed by him and pay for the stock at the time. Provincial boards to work in conjunction with the Farm Loan Board.

Industrial Progress in Canada Depicted by Canadian Bank of Commerce—Pulp and Paper Advances to First Place Among Industries.

A review of the industrial progress in Canada appears as follows in the August number of the Monthly Commercial Letter of the Canadian Bank of Commerce:

Canadian manufacturing plants are turning out in physical volume approximately 140% of the output reached at the peak of war-time activity ten years ago, and in spite of lower prices their products have a gross value over 20% higher. The value for 1927 was recently stated to be in the neighborhood of \$3,500,000,000, or about \$250,000,000 above the figures for 1926. This constitutes a record in the history of the country and indicates the extent to which Canada has shared in the general industrialization of non-European countries since the war.

It is worth while to draw attention to the general growth in industry during recent months. At the end of 1926 the capital invested in Canadian plants stood at \$4,000,000,000, but this has since been largely increased by extensive additions to plants and the erection of new factories, notably in the pulp and paper industry, the manufacturing of real and artificial silk, the automobile and allied trades and in concerns supplying construction materials and household goods of all kinds. The Bank has made a careful survey of recent developments in Canada and finds that during the last eighteen months over two hundred important extensions have been added to existing plants and over one hundred new factories have been erected.

A healthy sign of the times is the general increase in industrial efficiency that is taking place in Canada as well as elsewhere, linked as it is with the world-wide movement for standardization and rationalization. Europe is slowly recovering from the loss entailed by the over-capitalization of the war years, which made industrial leaders consider anew their methods of production and distribution, and brought into greater prominence the need for further scientific research. The movement had made rapid strides in the United States, and although it is comparatively new in Canada, the recent report of the National Research Council shows what has already been accomplished and the wide range of investigations that are now under way. It is significant that the Dominion Parliament at its last session increased the annual appropriation to the Council from \$170,000 to \$300,000, and that the Legislature of Ontario recently voted \$1,000,000 for an Ontario Research Foundation, \$200,000 to be expended annually for five years, upon condition that an equal amount was raised by private interests. Manufacturers now look for economies in the cutting of costs rather than of wages, and it is notable that although the number of employees is on the increase, not only the average wage but the value of the output per capita is increasing. In 1926, the last year for which figures are available, the value of Canadian products added by manufacture was \$2,600 per employee, which compares favorably with the corresponding figures for the United States in 1925, namely, \$2,740. Adjusted on the basis of prices, the output per employee was 4% greater than in 1925 and 60% greater than in 1920.

The relative importance of Canadian manufactures, as measured by the gross value of their products has altered in many respects during the past ten years. The pulp and paper industry, for example, has risen from third to first place, while automobiles have risen from eighth to fifth. Flour, meats and lumber occupy the intervening places in the order indicated; the first two have in recent years shown steady growth, while lumber has lately taken on a new lease of life. The rapid extension of the automobile trade has again brought the rubber industry into prominence and, taken together with the increased demand for machinery of all kinds, has improved the condition of the metal-working trades, although the value of iron and steel manufactures has not yet recovered the predominating position it occupied during the war.

The chief development in the textile trades has been the increase in the demand for silk, both natural and artificial, which makes it clear that the competition is not entirely between those two but between the latter goods and the other textiles as well. The wealth of pulpwood resources and water power in Canada offers an un-

usual attraction to the manufacturer of artificial silk. The world textile situation, especially as regards cottons, has been complicated by the change of markets since the war owing to the establishment of cotton spinning in countries heretofore dependent upon the older industrial lands. Japan is said to have increased her spindleage 142% between 1913 and 1926, and China is credited with as much as 240%. The increase in the United States was 19%, and in Canada 36%, the expansion being due for the most part to an increase in domestic rather than foreign consumption.

Germany Orders Minting of Three-Reichsmark Coin.

Minting of a new three-reichsmark coin has been announced by the German Federal Minister of Finance, according to a report from the Consul General at Berlin, C. B. Hurst, made public by the Department of Commerce Aug. 20. This is learned from the "United States Daily" which gives the department's statement as follows:

The new coin weighs 15 grams, measures 30 millimeters in diameter, and maintains the accepted standard of fineness of 500 parts silver to 500 parts copper. The obverse side reproduces the statue of Margrave Herman, founder of Naumburg on the Saale, the town's arms being displayed upon the shield which is carried, together with the sword, in the left hand; while the right clasp a fold of his garment. To the right of the figure appears the date of the city's founding, 1028; to the left the date of issue of the commemorating coin, 1928, a line being placed above and below the numerals. The whole is encircled by quatrefoil foliage and, further, by an embossed edge representing a pearl wreathed rod. Between these two ornamental engravings is antique lettering the words "Guendungsfeier" (celebrating the establishment) "Naumburg, Saale," the first word being separated by the foliage.

On the reverse side is shown the value of the coin, the ornamentation being the same as that displayed on the three-reichsmark piece recently.

German Reparations Receipts and Transfers During July.

Transfers totaling 137,839,597 gold marks are shown in the statement for July, issued Aug. 8 by the Agent-General for Reparations Payments. The available funds for the month totaled 145,971,881 gold marks. For the fourth annuity year to July 31 1928 the total transfers amounted to 1,521,722,922 gold marks, out of total available funds of 1,682,813,004 gold marks, leaving a cash balance July 31 1928 of 161,090,083 gold marks. The statement in detail follows:

STATEMENT OF AVAILABLE FUNDS AND TRANSFERS FOR THE FOURTH ANNUITY YEAR TO JULY 31 1928. (On cash basis, reduced to gold mark equivalents.)

	Month of July 1928. Gold Marks.	Fourth Annuity Year—Cumulative Total to July 31 1928. Gold Marks.
Available Funds—		
Balance as at Aug. 31 1927		185,487,192.84
Receipts in completion of the third annuity:		
Transport tax		20,000,000.00
Interest on railway reparation bonds		55,000,000.00
Receipts on account of the fourth annuity:		
Budgetary contribution	41,666,666.66	458,333,333.33
Transport tax	24,166,000.00	241,660,000.00
Interest and amortization on railway reparation bonds	55,000,000.00	550,000,000.00
Interest and amortization on industrial debentures	25,000,000.00	175,000,000.00
Interest and exchange differences	731,611.55	4,107,705.17
	146,564,278.21	1,689,588,231.34
Less discount on advance payments for service of railway bonds and industrial debentures	592,397.58	6,775,226.88
Totals	145,971,880.63	1,682,813,004.46
Transfers—		
In foreign currencies:		
Service of the German external loan, 1924	7,632,226.66	81,237,043.08
Reparation Recovery Acts	30,362,464.23	319,333,146.17
Deliveries under agreement	2,055,508.78	25,258,070.37
Settlement of balances owing for deliveries made or services rendered by Germany prior to Sept. 1 1924		7,511,586.93
Transferred in cash	39,633,813.54	374,752,634.73
Costs of Inter-Allied Commissions	70,581.59	3,544,443.85
Costs of arbitral bodies		53,933.37
	79,754,594.80	811,690,588.50
By reichsmark payments for:		
Deliveries in kind	52,433,048.93	643,212,092.49
Armies of Occupation	4,753,479.56	48,819,962.63
Costs of Inter-Allied Commissions	5,281,924.16	60,698,912.79
Miscellaneous objects	269,817.33	4,984,854.37
	100,211.59	1,136,203.59
	58,085,002.01	710,032,063.24
Total transfers	137,839,596.81	1,521,722,921.74
Cash balance as at July 31 1928		161,090,082.72
Distribution of Amounts Transferred—		
To the Powers—		
France—Army of Occupation	3,881,634.72	46,899,614.25
Reparation Recovery Act	4,753,479.56	48,819,962.63
Deliveries of coal, coke and lignite (incl. transport)	13,970,287.67	157,546,370.69
Other deliveries in kind	22,913,112.85	267,219,630.64
Miscellaneous payments	75,000.00	825,000.00
Cash transfers	24,376,917.79	233,743,029.81
	69,970,432.57	755,053,608.02
British Empire—Army of Occupation	1,155,115.21	11,824,201.10
Reparation Recovery Act	25,608,984.67	270,513,183.54
Settlement of balances owing for deliveries made or services rendered by Germany prior to Sept. 1 1924		7,509,395.05
Cash transfers	5,025,006.92	30,027,899.81
	31,789,106.80	319,874,679.50
Italy—Deliveries of coal and coke (incl. transport)	5,095,969.05	64,693,105.22
Other deliveries in kind	150,374.63	9,803,597.42
Miscellaneous payments		995.31
Cash transfers	3,430,304.67	32,864,183.87
	8,676,648.35	107,361,884.82

	Month of July 1928. Gold Marks.	Fourth Annuity Year—Cumulative Total to July 31 1928. Gold Marks.
Belgium—Army of Occupation	245,174.23	1,975,677.44
Deliveries of coal and coke (including transport)	92,939.93	22,638,003.23
Other deliveries in kind	4,969,128.86	54,288,961.07
Cash transfers		17,782,182.89
	5,307,243.02	96,684,244.63
Serb-Croat-Slovene State—Deliveries in kind	2,294,508.50	40,449,068.57
Miscellaneous payments	25,062.00	271,338.07
Cash transfers	1,716,653.02	12,341,558.01
	4,036,223.52	53,061,964.55
United States of America—Deliveries under Agreement	2,055,508.78	25,258,070.37
Cash transfers in liquidation of priority for Army costs in arrears	4,598,923.59	44,422,736.02
	6,654,432.37	69,680,806.39
Rumania—Deliveries in kind	971,286.97	13,217,454.11
Miscellaneous payments		34,070.21
	971,286.97	13,251,524.32
Japan—Deliveries in kind	1,302,756.11	4,105,935.41
Cash transfers	290,902.16	2,787,972.14
	1,593,658.27	6,893,907.55
Portugal—Deliveries in kind	651,629.19	7,834,428.86
Cash transfers	195,105.39	758,244.31
	846,734.58	8,592,673.17
Greece—Deliveries in kind		1,196,430.19
Poland—Deliveries in kind	21,055.19	219,107.08
Miscellaneous payments	149.59	4,797.00
Settlement of balances owing for deliveries made or services rendered by Germany prior to Sept. 1 1924		2,191.88
Cash transfers		24,827.87
	21,204.78	250,923.83
Total transfers to Powers	129,866,971.23	1,431,902,647.07
For Prior Charges—		
Service of the German external loan, 1924	7,632,226.66	81,237,043.08
Costs of Inter-Allied Commissions	340,398.92	8,529,298.22
Costs of arbitral bodies		53,933.37
Total transfers	137,839,596.81	1,521,722,921.74

Japan Restricts Rice Imports.

The restriction on imports of rice into Japan, Chosen and Taiwan, has been extended by the Japanese government to Dec. 31 next, according to radiogram received by the Department of Commerce from Tokio Aug. 23, says a Washington despatch to the "Wall Street News." It further states:

The ordinance restricts the importation of foreign rice by requiring special import licenses for shipments during the period Mar. 6 to Aug. 31, inclusive. Import licenses are not required in respect to shipments from the United States and other countries having treaties of commerce and navigation with Japan.

Roumania's Resources and Economic Possibilities.

Roumania's resources and economic possibilities have recently been summarized in a detailed survey by L. Mrazec, Minister of Commerce and Industry. According to Mr. Mrazec, whose report has just reached the United States, the immediate economic objectives of Roumania are: first, the necessity of determining and assuring a favorable relationship between agricultural and industrial production; second, the creation of the largest possible interest in the development of the nation's natural resources; and third, the will to assume in the south-east of Europe the role of chief agent for economic development and peace. In speaking of Roumania, Mr. Mrazec says: "Indeed a country that possesses the principle economic necessities and which nature has destined to serve as a bond of union between the markets of Europe and the Orient, Roumania is capable of great economic development." The Roumanian Legation at Washington, in its advices regarding the survey under date of Aug. 14, says:

The survey shows that the country is made up of 73,741,750 acres, of which 30,792,000 are suitable for agricultural purposes; 10,300,000 acres are prairies and pasture lands and 1,360,000 are orchards and nurseries; 18,120,000 acres of forest and 13,146,000 acres of unimproved land.

Of the 30,792,000 acres of workable land, 26,012,000 acres are devoted to cereals; 1,513,000 to forage and 3,065,000 to other crops. The value of the agricultural products of the country is placed at \$682,000,000.

Live stock totals 27,100,000 head of which 1,900,000 are horses, 5,000,000 cattle, 200,000 oxen, 16,000,000 sheep, 500,000 goats and 3,500,000 pigs. The estimated value of this live stock is \$496,000,000.

Of the total forest land of Roumania 7,390,000 acres are State property of which 2,194,000 are in the Government administration and 5,196,000 are managed by private companies under State supervision. Public institutions own 3,301,000 acres while 7,531,000 are private property. The Ministry of Agriculture places the value of the Roumanian forests at \$347,421,000.

The value of arable land in Roumania is placed at \$412,654,000. Fisheries produce annually about \$121,954,000 while mineral products including crude oil, coal, natural gas, gold, silver, aluminum, iron and a wide variety of other minerals have an annual total production of \$73,895,000. Of this group, crude oil is the most important item with a valuation of approximately \$45,835,000.

During recent years the government has lent active support to the growth of Roumanian industry. The last available figures show that at

the end of the first three months of 1928 there were 1,280 industrial companies with a total capital of \$164,664,000; 434 commercial companies with a total capital of \$17,505,000 and 78 other companies with a capitalization of \$2,864,000.

The agricultural phases of Roumania life have always dominated the economic life of the country. Roumania is the second cereal exporting nation of Europe, led only by Russia with its much greater land area. The last available figures for exports are those of 1926 in which year the total value was \$236,954,824; expressed in tons the exports amounted to 6,103,675 while the imports stood at 917,714.

Financial Situation of Switzerland.

The financial situation of Switzerland is dealt with in a bulletin published by the Swiss Bank Corp. in which a warning is sounded to the Swiss Government "lest they should be carried away unduly by the existence of a surplus and should give in to the assaults which will certainly be made upon them with a view to securing additional expenditure." The Swiss Bank Corp. furnishes the following summary of its discussion in the Bulletin:

The accounts of the Swiss Confederation for the year 1927 showed a deficit of Frs. 1,584,161 which compares with Frs. 9,378,432 a year before. The Budget estimated the deficit at nearly Frs. 14 million while supplementary credits voted during the year brought the total up to over Frs. 23 million. The improvement thus shown in the eventual figures is to be attributed to the fact that effective receipts amounted to over Frs. 17¼ million more than the official forecast while expenditure was more than Frs. 3½ million behind the figures originally foreseen.

The two latest monthly bulletins published by the Swiss Bank Corp. under the dates of the end of June and of July respectively study in some detail the various figures which go to make up the national accounts of the Swiss Confederation. The general impression which is drawn from this study is that while the financial situation of the Swiss Confederation has not yet become truly normal, it has certainly improved considerably during 1927. On the other hand legislation has been passed which goes to provide further resources for the Exchequer and which should definitely assure the equilibrium of the Budget for the coming year.

The most interesting feature of the Bulletin is the section dealing with the National debt. The Public debt of Switzerland amounted in 1913 to only Frs. 146 million, while at the end of 1927 it has grown to more than Frs. 2,184 million without taking into account the figures of the Swiss Federal Railways which are kept separately. This total compares with a high level of 2,304 million touched in 1924. The gradual reduction in the total has been rendered possible thanks to the operation of the special war tax the proceeds of which go to the reduction of the debt incurred by the State for military purposes during the war and for general provisioning of the country. The revenue from this source amounted to 27¼ million francs in 1927, being considerably less than the previous year's figure of 45 millions, owing to the fact that many taxpayers had compounded a three years' payment in that year.

The service of the National debt required Frs. 111,992,000 in 1927, or more than one third of the total revenue for the year and it is significant of the change which has taken place in the national finances when it is pointed out that in 1913 the total debt only required Frs. 9,175,000 of which Frs. 4,930,000 represented sinking fund payments. The service of the internal consolidated debt involved a charge of Frs. 80,622,000 in 1927 as compared with about 81 million in 1926 and the external debt cost the Exchequer Frs. 22,075,000 as compared with Frs. 22,544,000 in 1926. The average cost to the Exchequer in 1927 was 4.68% on the internal and 6.20% on the external debt.

The July "Bulletin" continues the study of the Swiss finances in so far as the various Federal Services are concerned and shows that the Post Office, the most important of these services, worked with a net surplus of 5,920,000 francs in 1927 comparing with 5,504,000 francs in 1926 and is thus continuing the steady curve of improvement which has been witnessed since 1920.

The Telephone and Telegraph services also showed better results. The excess of revenue over expenditure in 1927 amounted to 30,953,000 francs against 30,114,000 francs a year before, while the net results of the year's working showed a profit of 2,599,000 francs against 1,993,000 francs. The component parts of these accounts make interesting reading as it appears that while the Telephone service alone could show a surplus of Frs. 4,283,000 the telegraphs suffered from their competition and showed a loss of Frs. 1,684,000. This amount however, shows a decided improvement on previous years' figures, the deficit for 1926 having been Frs. 2,312,000.

The results are thus on the whole satisfactory and it now remains to be seen whether a reduction of postal and other charges cannot be secured.

In concluding his survey of the national finances proper, the writer of the "Bulletin" sounds a note of warning to the Swiss Government lest they should be carried away unduly by the existence of a surplus and should give in to the assaults which will certainly be made upon them with a view to securing additional expenditure.

Definitive Bonds of Department of Tolima Available Aug. 27.

Definitive coupon bonds of the Department of Tolima external 20-year secured sinking fund gold 7s due Nov. 1 1947 will be received on Aug. 27 upon surrender of interim receipts at the office of the International Acceptance Trust Co., 52 Cedar Street.

Anglo-Mexican Special Claims Convention.

The first meeting of the Commission set up under the Anglo-Mexican Convention of Nov. 19 1926 for the settlement of British Pecuniary Claims in Mexico arising from loss or damage from revolutionary acts between Nov. 20 1910 and May 31 1920, was held in Mexico City on Aug. 22. Copies of the Convention (Cmd. 2876) can be purchased direct from the Stationery Office, London, through any bookseller, or through the British Library of Information New York. The latter, in a statement made public Aug. 23, says:

The period of nine months within which claims falling under the terms of the convention may be presented to the Commission is calculated as

commencing from the date of its first meeting. British subjects desirous of submitting claims to the Commission are warned that they should at once communicate, if they have not already done so, with the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Foreign Office, London, S. W. I.

Particular attention is directed to Article 8 of the convention, which debars claims, which fall under the terms of the Anglo-Mexican Convention, but are not presented to the Anglo-Mexican Commission for settlement, from being subsequently presented to the Mexican Government for settlement in any other manner.

Some British claimants are understood to have already submitted to the Mexican National Claims Commission claims falling within the terms of the Anglo-Mexican Convention. In view of the terms of Article 8 of the latter convention, such claimants should at once approach the Foreign Office, if they have not already done so, with a view to their claims being submitted to the Anglo-Mexican Special Claims Commission. In order that their claims before the latter Commission may be duly documented, they should at once withdraw from the purview of the Mexican Commission and submit to the Foreign Office any documents which they may have lodged with the Mexican Commission, since such documents may be essential for the proper presentation of their claims before the Anglo-Mexican Commission. If they neglect to take these steps, they may in view of the provisions mentioned in the preceding paragraph subsequently find themselves deprived of any further remedy in respect of their claims.

L. S. Rosenthal, American Manager of Managua Bank, Asserts Nicaragua Will Gain by Loan—Expects Issue After Elections There—Plans For Rehabilitation of Nicaragua.

A cablegram from Balboa to the New York "Times," Aug. 13, says:

The recent halting of steps in Wall Street for the proposed \$12,000,000 loan to Nicaragua is a matter of no surprise, according to L. S. Rosenthal, American manager of the Nicaraguan National Bank at Managua, who arrived here today en route to New York on business for the bank and for a short vacation.

Mr. Rosenthal attributed the holding up of the loan to low bond market conditions generally and to possible lack of confidence in the United States as to the situation in Nicaragua until after the elections there in November under the supervision of Brig. Gen. McCoy. While the need for the loan was not urgently pressing, the sooner its flotation, he said, the earlier could the economic rehabilitation of the country begin.

The proposed \$12,200,000 issue, he asserted, would be amply backed by the physical property of the National Railroad, the stock of the Nicaraguan Bank and a second customs lien. The surplus of customs collections after the claims of the first lien is said to be already sufficient for the service of the proposed loan.

Mr. Rosenthal praised the report of Dr. W. W. Cumberland, who recently made a survey for the State Department on the economic condition of Nicaragua, which report was studied in relation to the proposed loan. He said that Dr. Cumberland, although his stay in the country was comparatively brief, had acquired a good grasp of the essentials of the situation.

To Link East and West Coasts.

Asked as to the most important public work to which a part of the loan funds would be devoted, Mr. Rosenthal said that communication between the practically isolated East and West Coasts should come first. He added that he did not wish to question the relative merit of railroad or highway development, the latter being recommended by Dr. Cumberland; but he asserted that public sentiment in Nicaragua favored the former, and expressed doubt that the Nicaraguan Congress would approve a highway loan. This was due to the fact that at the most there were only 500 automobiles in the country, with no modern highways, and the people were not yet educated to the value of good roads.

He stated that the political value of a railroad would probably exceed its economic value for the time being, but that the enhancement of the latter would be a natural result of greater political stability and unity, and that therefore the railroad would seem to be a justified investment.

Nicaragua National Bank.

Mr. Rosenthal indicated three points in the rehabilitation of Nicaragua: The legal authorization and fiscal support of the National Guard, now being trained by United States Marine officers; the removal of the National Bank from possible political interference and influence, and the determination and settlement of claims arising from the revolutionary troubles.

At present there was no authority from the Nicaraguan Congress for the establishment and maintenance of the National Guard, which is intended to keep law and order after the withdrawal of the marines, nor was there any budget provision for the Guard. The political, and consequently the economic, stability of the country will depend largely on this force in Mr. Rosenthal's view.

Need of Settling Claims.

While the claims for damages as a result of the revolutionary fighting were estimated at about \$15,000,000, it was expected that this sum would be reduced in the adjudication for settlement; but the claims represented a potential liability until definite steps were taken for such settlement, Mr. Rosenthal said. Settlement would react favorably on the economic condition of the country, because many native business men need the sums represented in their claims to continue and extend their operations.

All stock in the Nicaraguan National Bank is owned by the Government and the directors are appointed by the President, who has practically complete authority over the bank, although it is operated by the American manager. For many years the customs receipts under lien, collected by the American receiver, have been deposited in the National Bank.

The possible pledge of the bank stock, or its sale, which would bring the bank under disinterested private control, divorced from potential political difficulties, Mr. Rosenthal indicated, would correct faults in the present status and strengthen the financial structure of the whole country. While the bank had been practically free from political interference so far, there was the possibility of difficulties arising therefrom that it would be to the benefit of Nicaragua and the bondholders to avoid.

The National Bank is the only bank of issue, and under the present management has maintained a stabilized currency in Nicaragua, with the total present circulation guaranteed by 65% gold deposited in a bank in the United States, which in turn is backed by an equal amount in United States Liberty bonds deposited with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Mr. Rosenthal expressed the opinion that the plan broached in connection with the awaited loan, for the centralized collection of all Government revenues under a single fiscal agent, would give added assurance to the holders of Nicaraguan bonds.

Mr. Rosenthal will sail for New York to-morrow on the steamer California.

Chile Estimates \$2,420,000 Surplus—1928 Budget Indicates Improvement Since Kemmerer Reorganization.

In accordance with Article 27 of the Budget bill enacted in Nov., 1925, following the suggestions of the Kemmerer Committee, the Minister of Finance has just submitted to the President of the Republic a lengthy report concerning the financial situation of Chile, explaining the credit conditions and giving a general outline of the fiscal policy. A Santiago, Chile, cablegram, Aug. 20, to the New York "Times" in making this statement, continues:

In the course of the lengthy document the Minister of Finance reviews, piecemeal, a vast amount of data covering the last few budgets and including that of next year, showing a steady improvement.

His figures report that 1926 showed a deficit of 217,000,000 pesos (about \$26,257,000); 1927 brought a surplus of 3,500,000 pesos (about \$423,500). According to available estimates 1928 will show a surplus of 20,000,000 pesos (about \$2,420,000) and 1929 a surplus of 35,000,000 pesos (about \$4,235,000.)

The Minister explains that the budget for 1928 shows a surplus of 16,000,000 pesos assigned to serve as a loan of 200,000,000 pesos, being the first quota on an extraordinary budget for public works, but in view of the fact that only an eighth part of that loan has been floated so far, which is already covered by the recent 25,000,000 pesos loan subscribed in the domestic market, the report states that it is possible to take into consideration the surplus mentioned. It is added that the figures for the next five months are estimated on the experience of past months. Conservatively reckoned a probable revenue of 135,000,000 pesos is expected from the nitrate exports up to December. This means an average exportation per month of 270,000 tons.

Referring to the item of 200,000,000 pesos in this year's extraordinary budget which is meant to cover part of the vast public works plan, the Minister of Finance says that 175,000,000 pesos have still to be obtained in foreign market by the loan floated in September, but he adds that the Government has already received from the National City Bank, as an advance on this amount, approximately \$5,000,000.

The document goes on to say that the Government will maintain its relations with its official bankers, the National City Bank and Rothschild & Sons of London. It is expected that both firms will handle the next loans to cover the public works budget. The issue will probably be at 95 to 96%. It is noted that the last issue for railroad consolidation was at 93 1/2%.

After referring to the improved prices of Chilean bonds in New York in comparison with last year, the Minister observes that internal credit is also better, and he shows that the 8% bonds of 1926 were valued at only 80%, while this year the 1928 bonds are valued at 102%.

Dealing with the policy to be pursued, the Minister contemplates that part of the surplus obtainable from the ordinary yearly budgets will be assigned to the extraordinary budget for public works, and that when it is possible a special emergency fund should be created to aid the public debt. When the surplus allows, a 50% reduction of taxes is contemplated.

Referring to the budget for 1929, he says the total expenditure is estimated at 1,068,000,000 pesos, as compared with 942,000,000 for the present year, but he also mentions 21 new sources of revenue, totaling 186,000,000.

The Minister ends by proposing a new law to make the 1929 budget figures for fiscal services the normal and fixed budget, and he suggests nullifying the numerous decree laws enacted in the last few years, which are now considered unnecessary.

Court Approves Release of Special Fund of \$500,000 to General Creditors of G. L. Miller & Co.

On Aug. 16 Judge Julian Mack in the Federal Court approved the release of a special fund of approximately \$500,000 for the benefit of the general creditors of the bankrupt investment firm of G. L. Miller & Co., Inc., which passed into the hands of a receiver in Sept. 1926. Claims first filed in the bankruptcy proceedings were in excess of \$22,000,000, according to the New York "Times" of Aug. 17, but these have been sealed down through objections filed by the trustee in bankruptcy to approximately \$6,000,000. Godfrey Goldmark of the law firm of Goldmark, Bennett & Colin, counsel for the trustee, explained the preliminary settlement by saying:

Under the Miller plan various mortgagors were obliged to pay to the Miller Co. each month large sums of money toward coupons becoming due and maturing bonds, which money the Miller Co. agreed to apply for that purpose. Instead of keeping the money available for such purposes the Miller Co. mingled the moneys with its own funds and used the same in its business affairs. A few weeks before the failure the directors of the company attempted to set aside in a special trust fund cash and bonds of a value of more than \$750,000 to be applied to the payment of these bonds and coupons for which the company had received payment.

This trust fund came into the possession of the Trustee in bankruptcy, and the claim was advanced by him that the trust fund was illegally created and was an attempt to prefer one group of creditors over another. Claims against the trust fund were asserted by a bondholders' committee, of which George E. Roosevelt is Chairman and Messrs. Root, Clark, Buckner, Howland & Ballantine are counsel, on behalf of coupon holders and bondholders, for whose benefit it was alleged that the trust fund had been created.

As a result of protracted negotiations between the attorneys for the committee and the trustee in bankruptcy, a settlement agreement was made, which was approved by the Court to-day, under which all claimants against the trust fund will receive 30% in cash of the amount which was set up in the trust fund for their benefit in full for their claims. These payments will aggregate \$250,000, releasing the balance of the fund, or approximately \$500,000, for the benefit of the general creditors of the Miller company without further litigation.

As the assets remaining in the hands of the trustee in bankruptcy consist of bonds of various issues underwritten by the Miller company, the liquidation of which will take a long period of time, it is impossible to state what these assets will realize, but as a result of the release of the trust fund money and the eventful liquidation, it is hoped that the general creditors will receive a substantial dividend.

Further continuing the paper mentioned remarked: It was said the assets of the bankrupt company would amount to about \$1,500,000. This would leave a deficit in full settlement of all allowed claims of about \$4,500,000. The largest creditors are the mortgagors; the other class consists of holders of receipts for bonds that were not delivered. Mr. Goldberg said there were 120 different bond issues and 20,000 customers of the bankrupt concern and that the bonds sold amounted to \$60,000,000. The Miller Co.'s business was the underwriting and selling of bonds or other evidences of indebtedness secured by first mortgages on real estate. The receiver in a preliminary report said the company's practice of providing funds for interest payments, amortization, taxes and other charges and not for the completion of buildings was believed to be largely responsible for its financial troubles. As a result of these practices, it was said, its working capital gradually became converted into frozen assets.

Our last reference to the affairs of G. L. Miller & Co., Inc., appeared in the "Chronicle" of Oct. 8 1927, page 1913.

New York Stock Exchange Makes Available Monthly Figures of Market Value of Listed Shares.

The intention to release, regularly, figures of listings on the New York Stock Exchange was announced on Aug. 22, by President E. H. H. Simmons of the Exchange, who stated that the total market value of all listed shares on Aug. 1 was \$53,728,776, 349. President Simmons' statement follows:

For some time the Statistical Department of the Exchange has regularly made compilations of the total market value of all listed securities as of the first of each month, as well as of the average prices, both of all listed bonds and all listed shares. Owing to the extensive character of these compilations, the final audited statistics for shares are not as a rule available until toward the end of each month; for special reasons, the similar figures for bonds take even longer to complete.

Hitherto these figures have been officially published by the Exchange only on an annual basis in its President's Reports, although they have been furnished to anyone who so requested. So numerous have such requests become that it has been thought advisable to release them regularly to the press as they become available.

As I have previously pointed out in my annual reports, fluctuations in the ratio of total Stock Exchange member borrowings on security collateral to total listed share values may be assumed to indicate in a general way whether the "floating supply" of listed shares is increasing or decreasing, and thus to shed a certain amount of light upon current tendencies in the distribution and redistribution of securities which the stock market is constantly effecting. Bonds are omitted from the calculation in order to avoid unnecessary delay in making these figures available to the public.

On August 1st, 1928, the total market value of all listed shares was \$53,728,776,349, an increase of \$798,397,993 over the figure of \$52,930,378,356 for July 1st preceding.

Over the same period, security collateral borrowings by New York Stock Exchange members declined \$61,003,908, from \$4,898,351,487 on July 1st to \$4,837,347,579 on August 1st.

The ratio of Exchange member borrowings to listed share values declined 0.25%, from 9.25% on July 1st to 9.00% on August 1st.

The average market value of all listed shares advanced \$0.29, from \$76.89 per share on July 1st to \$77.18 per share on August 1st.

Application to Broadcast Stock Quotations Overseas Denied By Federal Radio Commission.—Opposed By Reuters—Not Approved by New York Stock Exchange.

Washington advices to the "Times" stated that the Federal Radio Commission, for the second time, refused on Aug. 23 to grant a license to the International Quotations Co., Inc., for a short transatlantic wave to send stock market quotations to Europe. An earlier Washington dispatch (Aug. 21) to the same paper said:

Ormsby MacHarg appeared before the Federal Radio Commission for the third time to-day on behalf of the International Quotations Co., Inc., and asked for a short wave with which to send stock market quotations to Europe. The application was opposed in an affidavit filed with the Commission by Douglas Williams, General Manager in this country of Reuters News Agency of London.

The original application for sending stock market quotations by radio to the Continent was filed by what was then called the S. P. Radio Co. It developed at to-day's hearing for the first time that these initials stand for De Saint Phalle & Co., members of the New York Stock Exchange.

The International Quotations Co. is the new name of the S. P. Radio Co. Mr. MacHarg told the Commission there is a need for the instantaneous radio service of stock market quotations and predicted that if such a service is put into operation it will increase the sale of American securities abroad. The new company, he said, would act as a public utility.

Official endorsement of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange and the Chicago Board of Trade have been obtained for the proposed service, while the New York Stock Exchange has taken no official action, Mr. MacHarg explained.

The affidavit filed by Douglas Williams of Reuters, joined in also by the Havas News Agency of France and the Wolff News Agency of Berlin, challenged the statement of the International that the existing service was limited. The present service, said Mr. Williams, fully supplies the requirements.

"The operation of such a service as proposed by the International under Government license," said Mr. Williams, "would constitute unfair competition to existing services which do not enjoy that privilege."

Ticker advices yesterday (Aug. 24) from Washington to the "Wall Street News" in stating that the second application of the International Quotations Co., Inc. had been denied by the Commission added:

The Commission received a telegram from Ormsby MacHarg, Counsel for the company, attacking the operations of the Reuters Agency, and charging that the quotation company has learned through official channels that Reuters Agency has not been authorized to transmit the official quotations from either the Chicago Board of Trade or the New York Stock

Exchange. Far from awaiting the required 30 minutes, the telegram stated, the official quotations of the stock exchanges taken from the tickers are placed in London through the regular communication companies in a few minutes and three minutes later broadcast through the Rugby, England, wireless station. The telegram charged that this creates a condition "inconsistent with American market exchange practices, and against their written rules and allows bucket shops and unauthorized persons throughout the world to act on these quotations to the demoralization of the American market."

A letter from E. H. H. Simmons, President of the New York Stock Exchange, informed the commission that the Stock Exchange has never approved any plan of the International Quotations Co. for broadcasting market quotations to Americans and others in Europe.

"No application for permission to transmit the quotations in this manner has been made to the New York Stock Exchange, or any of its committees, and the plan of the International Quotations Co. has not been approved, nor will any plan which would permit unauthorized persons the continuous quotations of the New York Stock Exchange be approved by it," Mr. Simmons declared.

"For many years," the letter explained, "the Exchange has found it necessary in order to prevent dishonest persons using them for improper purposes, to confine the distribution of its quotations to persons approved by it. The results of this policy have been so beneficial that practically all American exchanges, including our great commodity and grain exchanges, have adopted the same principle, and the Exchange will certainly not at this time approve any method of distribution which might result in permitting its quotations to be used for illegitimate purposes."

A previous item regarding the proposed transoceanic radio service appeared in our issue of Aug. 18, page 899.

President Muller of New York Curb Exchange Urges Recognition of Exchange by National Association of Securities Commissioners—Seeks Exemption from "Blue Sky" Provisions.

Responding to an invitation to address the eleventh annual convention of the National Association of Securities Commissioners at Salt Lake City, William S. Muller, President of the New York Curb Exchange, expressed himself as happy "to again embrace the opportunity to plead with you for recognition of the New York Curb Market, the second largest Stock Exchange in the United States. I have come three-fourths of the way across the continent to plead with you for the same exemption under your 'Blue Sky' provision that is conceded to our esteemed contemporary, the New York Stock Exchange." In part, Mr. Muller, whose address was delivered at the Convention on Aug. 22, said:

I shall make my argument principally on the basis of character, for regardless of what our listing requirements may be, regardless of what our rules of trading and our general policy may be, they all stand for nothing unless they are interpreted by men of character.

I have found in my conversations with men who are not in immediate contact with the Curb Exchange, a tendency to think of it in the terms of Broad Street and Exchange Place, the old outside market. That is not hard to understand, for it is a psychological fact that our first impressions are those that remain the longest, and I have no doubt it is that very thought which gives some of you gentlemen pause in conceding the exemption we ask.

That old outside market was no better and no worse than should have been expected in the circumstances, and should you take a cross section of our citizenry to-day and place them in that same environment, under the same conditions, history would repeat itself. That market nevertheless served its useful purpose, for many of the securities on the Stock Exchange had their initial trading on that market. We had the skeleton of an organization and we had laws, but we had no means of enforcing them by reason of our outside environment, so it is not hard to understand that sinister influences crept in and capitalized its facilities to their selfish and unlawful purposes. But these were not of our organization, and it is indeed unfortunate that we were often confounded with that element that chose to live beyond the law.

When we came indoors seven years ago, we came in as an entirety both as to personnel and mediums of trade. It was necessary to do so in order that we did not leave the nucleus of another market outside, but from the moment we came indoors, the process of refinement started. It has been going on ever since, and, in the nature of things, will continue to go on so long as we endure as an institution.

Your Mr. Hicks inquired of us recently regarding our disciplinary procedure. The constitution of the Curb Exchange provides for a Committee of Arrangements consisting of 9 members, who are given broad powers to supervise the process of business on the Exchange floor. They are men thoroughly conversant with the rules of trading which have their fundamental basis, so far as the public is concerned, on the laws governing the obligation of an agent. Should it come to their observation that a member has transgressed the provisions, he is notified by the Secretary of the Exchange to appear before the Committee, not next week or next month, but that very afternoon. The member is examined together with witnesses; if in the judgment of the Committee there has been a wilful violation and the infraction is serious, charges are drawn under a section of the Constitution. The President calls a meeting of the Board of Governors and the member is given his day in court; he may call witnesses. He is subject to further examination by the Board and the Chair. Upon completion of the examination, he may be found guilty or not guilty by a majority vote of the board. A vote is then taken if guilty for the penalty provided for in the section of the Constitution under which the charges were drawn. The board, through the Constitution, is vested with an all powerful authority over the members and they approach their duty with true judicial understanding. Judgment is passed not with the idea of vengeance, but as a warning to others who may contemplate the same infraction.

The Business Conduct Committee functions in the same manner but confines its observations to the process of business beyond the Exchange floor. The Constitution of the Exchange has laid down an exhaustive law of procedure for the protection of the public and the body of the membership as among themselves, but its exercise is rarely called upon, for the standards of business ethics are high.

You gentlemen will agree with me that the charlatan with whom you have had to deal operates through mediums of questionable merit, and so if you subscribe to the theory that a man's profession and the medium

through which he deals oft proclaims the man, I can tell you that the securities dealt upon our Exchange bear favorable comparison with those of the major Exchanges of the country; indeed, of the 1,700 stocks dealt in on our Exchange, approximately 1,200 pay dividends.

You are particularly interested in our listing department. The listing requirements of the Curb follow in all essentials those of the New York Stock Exchange.

As further evidence of the standing of the Curb Exchange, the recent action of 28 of the leading banks and trust companies in New York City is of interest. For a period of over 75 years, the transfer agents in the City of New York have exacted to an endorsement on a stock certificate deposited for transfer the guarantee of a New York Stock Exchange firm. The guarantee of a Curb Exchange member is now accepted equally with those of the Stock Exchange.

Surely if these institutions have placed their stamp of approval upon our Exchange, it should in a measure be a determining factor in this matter of exemption.

The Board of Governors of the Curb Exchange are men of standing in the financial community; they are men voiced in the intricacies of Wall Street procedure and dedicated to service in the public interest, and as stands this Board of Governors, so stands the Exchange, for the institution itself may not very well be higher than that of its directing force. Its presiding officer is responsible for its policy.

Resolution of New York Curb Market Requiring Specialists to Own Stocks in Which They Specialize.

Regarding a new rule of the New York Curb Market the "Sun" of last night (Aug. 24) stated:

The Board of Governors of the New York Curb Market to-day put a new wrinkle into the rules and regulations of that body by requiring specialists in stocks of companies admitted to unlisted privileges to know something about the companies whose shares they specialize in. The board ruled that specialists would have to become stockholders of record, even if to the extent of only one share.

It was explained at the Curb Market that the exchange has not the same jurisdiction or authority over stocks admitted to unlisted trading privileges as it has over listed stocks, and frequently it has inadequate information about dividends, dividend dates, rights and other matters affecting such issues. Now the specialists in these stocks are saddled with the responsibility of collecting and collating such information.

The Curb's new ruling takes effect Oct. 1 and applies to all regular members who act as specialists. During such time as they continue as specialists they must receive and transmit to the office of the secretary such information, reports, &c., as the company in each case sends to them. This regulation also applies to regular members who may in the future become special lists in stocks which in the future may be admitted to unlisted trading privileges.

Notice of the new ruling was made as follows by the Secretary of the Curb Market.

NEW YORK CURB MARKET.

August 23 1928.

To the Members,

At a regular meeting of the Board of Governors held Aug. 22 1928, the following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That regular members of this Exchange who are specializing in stocks of companies admitted to unlisted trading privileges, regardless of the date the stock was admitted, are required, on and after Oct. 1 1928 (1) to become registered stockholders, if for only one share, in such companies, (2) to continue as registered stockholders in same during the time they act as specialists, and (3) to file with the Exchange all communications they may receive, as stockholders, from such companies. This requirement shall also apply in the future to all regular members specializing in securities which may be admitted to unlisted trading privileges."

The Committee on Listing (Unlisted Department) desires to call specialists attention to the fact that in the event of absence from their office, arrangements shall be made with some one in the office to see that all circulars, communications, &c., addressed to them, containing information with respect to companies admitted to unlisted trading privileges, are forwarded to the Secretary's office.

A. B. STURGES, Secretary.

H. C. Hicks of National Association of Blue Sky Commissioners Praises Development of New York Curb Market.

In an address delivered at the eleventh annual convention of the National Association of Blue Sky Commissioners at Salt Lake City, H. C. Hicks, Director of the Association and Chairman of the Committee to investigate and report on stock exchanges in the United States, said:

For many years the New York Curb Market was operating on the street, but a few years ago that organization built its own building and is now housed in its own quarters and is without question conducting the second largest Exchange in America. We are taking up this case first, because it represents the most picturesque if we may be permitted to use the word and the most rapid reconstruction of the Exchange business in the history of that business. To-day the New York Curb Market is just as vigorous if not more so in the correction of evils which may creep into the business than any other similar institution in the United States.

Statement by W. C. Wood, California State Superintendent of Banks on Situation Relative to Bank Taxation.

The following statement relative to the situation in California bearing on the taxation of bank shares, and the move for a change in the law through the adoption of a constitutional amendment, appears in the August "Bulletin," published by Will C. Wood, California State Superintendent of Banks:

On July 2, the California Tax Commission issued a statement announcing that it had decided to recommend that the Governor call a special session of the legislature to deal with the taxation of banks and intangible personal property. The Governor has stated that he will consider calling a special session if he can be assured that there is substantial agreement among the various interested groups and that no controversy may be expected to arise which will protract the meeting of the legislature.

The Tax Commission is about to publish a special report setting forth in detail its analysis of the problems involved, including the results of its statistical analysis based on the replies received to questionnaires sent some time ago to all of the banks and to a large sample of the corporations in the State.

It will be recalled that the validity of the present share-tax method of taxing banks was questioned in suits brought by various banks seeking the refund of their taxes for 1926 and 1927. The grounds for complaint were the so-called 7% solvent credits law of 1925 had the effect of taxing other moneyed capital at a lower rate than bank shares, this being forbidden by the Federal statute, section 5219, which states the manner in which national banks may be taxed. In the hope of removing this alleged discrimination, the legislature in 1927 changed the 7% law so as to make the rate on foreign securities and solvent credits the same as the rate on bank shares. A few months ago the State Supreme Court, in the case of Arnold vs. Hopkins, declared both the 1925 and 1927 solvent credits laws unconstitutional, with the result that once more solvent credits are taxable at the usual general property rates.

However, recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States seem to indicate that the banks may still be able to base a claim of discrimination on the fact that the California constitution exempts real estate mortgages from taxation. It is considered undesirable economically and impossible politically to seek the repeal of this constitutional exemption of mortgages. The Tax Commission, after exploring all of the possible methods of taxing banks permitted by section 5219, has decided to proceed under the fourth method, which calls for a tax "according to or measured any net income." This contemplates a tax applied to net income substantially as defined for Federal income tax purposes, except that certain items, such as interest on Government securities, are included in the base.

When banks are taxed under this fourth method, the Federal statute insists that other financial corporations, as well as manufacturing and business corporations, be subjected to an equivalent burden upon the income arising from business carried on in the State. This necessitates a revision of the present general franchise tax on corporations. It is proposed that corporations in general be submitted to precisely the same tax as the banks, with the proviso that they continue to pay the local taxes on personal property (which the banks do not pay), but be permitted to use these local tax receipts as an offset or credit against the new franchise tax "according to or measured by net income."

The rate to be applied to the income of the banks and business corporations has not yet been announced, but the Commission has stated that the rate of the new tax is to be fixed so as merely to produce the yield of the present taxes it is to replace. The rate of similar taxes in New York State is 4 1/4% and in Massachusetts is approximately 6%. It is expected that the rate of the proposed new California tax will be slightly lower than the New York rate.

With the fourth method in force, the tax is no longer compared with the rate on "other moneyed capital." The way is then open to attack the solvent credits difficulty. The Commission urges that the necessary constitutional changes be made to permit the taxation of foreign securities and solvent credits at a rate of 4 mills on the dollar, that is, at the rate of 4-10 of 1% of full value. This is the rate which is generally applied in other States which have such laws.

It will be observed that these three proposals are interrelated. The proposed new bank tax makes necessary the proposed revision of the franchise tax and the desirability of a solvent credits law has been strongly urged as a reason for the new bank tax.

While the general problem is one which is a matter of concern in many other States, the situation in California is rendered particularly difficult because of the extent to which the present taxes are imbedded in the constitution. The situation can not be cleared up without a constitutional amendment. If the opportunity is not seized to amend the constitution this fall and action is postponed until two years hence, the amount of State revenue placed in jeopardy may amount to as much as \$22,000,000, sufficient to wipe out entirely the surplus in the State treasury.

It is understood that, as a result of preliminary discussions, the Commission is confident that the adoption of its recommendation by the legislature and by the people will lead ultimately to the withdrawal of all of the pending bank litigation. This would be a fortunate result not merely from the point of view of its effect upon the State treasury, but also because it would apparently eliminate the possibility of a reassessment at full value of the securities and solvent credits assessed in 1926 and 1927 at 7%. If the suits are contested, such a reassessment may be found necessary, and the onus of this action will inevitably fall upon the banks.

Comptroller of Currency McIntosh Appoints B. K. Patterson Chief National Bank Examiner of Chicago Federal Reserve District Succeeding H. M. Sims.

The Comptroller of the Currency announced on Aug: 17 the appointment of B. K. Patterson of Minneapolis to be Chief National Bank Examiner of the Seventh (Chicago) Federal Reserve District, which vacancy has been created by the resignation of Howard M. Sims, who has accepted the position of Clearing House Examiner of Chicago, as noted in our issue of Aug. 18, page 900. The Comptroller's announcement says:

Mr. Patterson is a native of Idaho and received his commission as National Bank Examiner in 1918, prior to which he was for a number of years engaged in the banking business in Pocatello, Idaho, and other places, and since which time his activities with the Department have embraced important assignments in the Eastern States and those of the Northwest. He will take up his new duties in Chicago in the course of the next few days.

To fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Mr. Patterson to Chicago, the Comptroller has appointed Irwin D. Wright to be Chief National Bank Examiner of the Ninth Federal Reserve District, with headquarters at Minneapolis.

Mr. Wright is a native of Oregon and was appointed a National Bank Examiner in 1920, since which time he has been engaged in the examination of large banks in both the Seventh and Ninth Districts. He first came into the Service as an Assistant in 1919 and has been continuously with the Department since that date.

Secretary of Treasury Mellon Returns From Abroad.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon reached New York this week on the steamer "Leviathan." With Secretary Mellon's return to Washington on Aug. 22 he was reported as optimistic about business conditions here and abroad,

but was not prepared to enter into a general discussion of the political situation in this country. A dispatch from Washington to the "Times" stated:

Secretary Mellon said he was much impressed by Herbert Hoover's speech of acceptance. He thought it was timely, appropriate and altogether a very effective speech.

As to conditions abroad, Secretary Mellon said that while he had not conferred with any foreign officials or bankers, he felt, from all that he saw that conditions were very good. His impression, he said, was gained only from casual observations.

Forthcoming Treasury Issue—Proceeds to Retire Third Liberty Loan Bonds.

A forthcoming Treasury issue, to be put out, it is expected, in furtherance of the plans to retire outstanding Third Liberty Loan Bonds, is indicated in the following notice issued by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York:

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK.

New Treasury Issue, Preliminary Notice of Offering and Methods of Filing Subscriptions.

To all Member Banks, State Banks, Trust Companies and Savings Banks in the Second Federal Reserve District:

From advices received from the Treasury Department of the United States, this bank is enabled to transmit to banking institutions in this district the following information:

1. That a Treasury offering may be expected shortly.
2. That the subscription books may be closed by the Treasury without advance notice, and therefore,
3. That each subscribing bank, upon receipt of information as to the terms of the Treasury offering (either in the press, through the mails or by telegram) should promptly file with the Federal Reserve Bank any subscriptions for itself and its customers. This is important, as no guarantee can be given as to the period the subscription books may remain open, and subscribing banks, even before receipt of official subscription blanks, may file their subscriptions by telegram or by mail with the Federal Reserve Bank. Any subscriptions so filed by telegram or mail in advance of receipt by subscribing bank of subscription blanks furnished for the particular issue should be confirmed immediately by mail, and on the blank provided, when such blank shall have been received.
4. That if the terms of the offering when announced provide for both cash subscriptions and subscriptions for which payment may be tendered in other securities, the subscribing bank should prepare its subscriptions in such manner as to indicate the method by which it proposes to make payment and the respective par amounts of securities, if any, to be tendered in payment.

Classification of Subscriptions, Etc.

Bank Customers' Subscriptions.—With regard to issues, subscriptions to which the Treasury determines for the purpose of allotment shall be considered as on a cash basis irrespective of whether or not payment is to be made in cash or in securities, the following classification will be required of subscriptions made for account of customers, stating the number of subscriptions in each class.

- Class A—Subscriptions for \$1,000 or less for any one subscriber;
- Class B—Subscriptions for over \$ 1,000, but not exceeding \$ 10,000;
- Class C—Subscriptions for over \$ 10,000, but not exceeding \$ 50,000;
- Class D—Subscriptions for over \$ 50,000, but not exceeding \$ 100,000;
- Class E—Subscriptions for over \$ 100,000, but not exceeding \$ 500,000;
- Class F—Subscriptions for over \$ 500,000, but not exceeding \$1,000,000;
- Class G—Subscriptions for over \$1,000,000.

Where the maturing securities are not by the instructions accompanying the offering given a preference they shall be treated as cash and such subscriptions to be paid for in securities should be included in the classification.

Bank Subscriptions.—A subscription for a bank's own account should not be included in the above classification of subscriptions for account of customers but should be clearly indicated as for the bank's own account and in addition to subscriptions for customers.

Subscriptions Not Classified.—Where under the terms of an offering or under instructions accompanying an offering the Treasury agrees to allot new securities in full for any of its securities maturing on the date of the new issue or on any later date, subscriptions to be paid for in such securities should not be classified.

Application Forms to be Furnished.

When the terms of the offering are announced, notice thereof, together with subscription blanks, will be mailed promptly by this bank to banking institutions in this district. Should notice and subscription blanks for any reason be delayed in reaching such institutions this bank will nevertheless receive subscriptions either by letter or telegraph. It is suggested that subscriptions be promptly transmitted to this bank.

If it be found necessary to telegraph subscriptions they should be confirmed immediately either by letter or on subscription blank, setting forth the classifications indicated above and method of payment, and clearly stating that the confirmation is not an original subscription so that duplication may be avoided.

Very truly yours,

Benj. Strong, Governor.

The "United States Daily" in its issue of Aug. 24 said:

Although the Treasury has issued no formal statement on the subject, it was stated orally Aug. 23 by the Department that the New York Bank's circular related to a refunding issue which will be forthcoming in connection with the maturity of Third Liberty Loan bonds on Sept. 15.

While the Treasury declined at this time to discuss the character of the issue under consideration or to give a suggestion as to its terms, it was officially stated that the usual custom as to announcement of the issue will be followed in this instance. Heretofore, it was explained, the issues have been announced about two weeks in advance of the date from which the securities bear interest, and since the Third Liberty bonds mature at the middle of the month, the usual course of Treasury procedure would bring announcement of the amount and terms about Sept. 1.

Billion in Bonds Outstanding.

There are approximately \$1,000,000,000 of Third Liberty bonds outstanding, but the issue's maturity date coincides with an installment date on income and profits taxes and this fact will enable the Treasury to use funds from that source to a limited extent, it was explained.

The Secretary of the Treasury, Andrew W. Mellon, has said on several occasions that the Third Liberty Loan was more widely distributed than any other of the wartime issues and this was accepted by the Department as meaning that the matured bonds will be slow in coming in, despite the fact that the interest will cease on the maturity date.

Redemption is Often Slow.

On some security issues, as little as 60% of the total outstanding at maturity were turned in promptly, according to the Treasury records, and the Department said that undoubtedly the Third Liberty bonds will not be turned in for redemption very rapidly. None of the officials of the Department would estimate the amount which will come in at once after the interest ceases.

The Treasury has been gradually cutting down the amount of the outstanding Third Liberty bonds, since early spring. The sinking fund required by law to be employed in reducing the public debt has been turned almost wholly to the purchase of these bonds, and in addition other funds were used from the surplus, while the Department also employed a refunding issue on two occasions to bring the total to manageable proportions at maturity.

President Coolidge Names J. Reuben Clark Under-Secretary of State to Succeed Robert E. Olds, Resigned.

Announcement was made on August 17 of the appointment by President Coolidge of J. Reuben Clark of Salt Lake City, Utah, to be Under-Secretary of State, succeeding Robert E. Olds, whose resignation, effective July 1, was noted in our issue of June 23; page 3870. The "Journal of Commerce," in advices from its Washington correspondent Aug. 17, said:

As Under-Secretary, Mr. Clark will deal particularly with Mexican affairs, a field in which he has had wide experience.

When Olds submitted his resignation two months ago Secretary of State Kellogg sought Clark for the post, but the latter replied that he would prefer to have the Republican Senatorial nomination from his home State, Utah. Kellogg thereupon decided to await the outcome of the Republican convention in Utah, holding the Under-Secretaryship open in the meantime. Yesterday Mr. Clark was defeated for the nomination and the Secretary again offered him the position, which he accepted.

Although equipped by experience to handle almost any phase of foreign relations, Mr. Clark recently has found his greatest interest directed toward Mexico. Two years ago he was American agent before the Mexican-American Mixed Claims Commission sitting in Mexico City. Last summer he unofficially "sat in" as Under-Secretary of State, handling many Mexican matters, while Olds was absent on leave. Later in the year he accompanied Mr. Morrow to the Mexican capital, where, as the Ambassador's principal aide, he assisted Mr. Morrow in bringing about a settlement of the oil law controversy.

Mr. Clark was Assistant Solicitor of the Department of State from September, 1906, to June, 1910, when he was appointed Solicitor, a position he held until the end of the Taft administration. On the day of his retirement, March 2 1913, he was named General Counsel for the United States before the British-American Claim Commission. In this capacity he handled only a few special cases. President Taft also appointed him Chairman of the American delegation to attend the Third Hague Conference, which, however, was never convened because of the World War.

During the war Mr. Clark was a major on the staff of the Judge Advocate General, relinquishing this post June 18 1917, to become adjutant of the Provost Marshal General.

Mr. Clark also served as Counsel for the Department of State and as an expert Assistant to the American delegation at the Washington Conference on the Limitation of Armaments in 1921-22.

Resignation of Herbert Hoover as Secretary of Commerce Accepted by President Coolidge—W. F. Whiting Named as Successor.

The resignation of Herbert Hoover as Secretary of Commerce was formally accepted by President Coolidge on Aug. 21 at which time the President made known the appointment of William F. Whiting, of Holyoke, Mass., as Mr. Hoover's successor. The latter's resignation was tendered early in July after his nomination for President at the Republican National Convention. Telegraphic advices from Superior, Wis. (the summer White House), on July 7, to the "United States Daily," stated that oral announcement had been made that day of the receipt of Secretary Hoover's resignation; it was added that the text was not made public, but Mr. Sanders, the President's Secretary, said the resignation was to take effect at the pleasure of President Coolidge. In his letter accepting Secretary Hoover's resignation, President Coolidge said:

Superior, Wis., Aug. 21 1928.

Hon. Herbert Hoover, Washington, D. C.:—Your resignation as Secretary of Commerce tendered some time ago is hereby accepted. I wish to express to you my appreciation of the character of the service you have rendered in that office. It has been of great benefit to the commercial life of the nation and has given a new impetus to our entire business structure.

You have gained a knowledge of the mechanics of business and government that is unsurpassed. It will always be a satisfaction to me to have had the benefit of your wise counsel in meeting the problems which have arisen during my Administration. My best wishes will always attend you in the broader field to which you have been called.

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

Regarding Mr. Whiting's appointment we quote the following dispatch Aug. 21 to the "Herald Tribune" from Superior, Wis.:

The appointment was understood to be something of a surprise to Mr. Whiting himself. He returned from Europe about a week ago to find the offer of a cabinet position had come to rest on his doorstep.

Although Mr. Whiting has taken an active interest in Republican politics in the city of Holyoke, near Northampton, the President's home, he never has before held public office. He is President of the Whiting Paper Company, and is so absorbed in the conduct of his business that he has engaged his three sons in it with him. He was, however, one of the original

Coolidge-for-President men at the Republican National Convention in 1920. He continued so in 1924, and in 1928 came out for Mr. Hoover only when convinced Mr. Coolidge would not seek the office.

Silent on His Policies.

Mr. Whiting was reticent to-day when asked whether he would make any changes in the policies of the Department of Commerce during the six months which remain of the term of office.

"I should prefer not to make any declaration of policy until I learn something about the problems now before the Department of Commerce," he said. "I suppose Mr. Hoover has followed the policies of President Coolidge and I shall endeavor to uphold them likewise."

Asked about his political relations with Mr. Coolidge, the new Cabinet member said: "I was interested in Mr. Coolidge when he started—from the time he was President of the Senate of Massachusetts."

Whiting Delegate Thrice.

The President let it be known that he had known Mr. Whiting many years; that he was an important political factor in the city of Holyoke, where the Whiting paper plants are situated; that he was delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1920, 1924 and 1928, and that his father was spoken of for a position in the McKinley Cabinet, although the President could not remember what position it was.

It was understood that Mr. Whiting would not be disposed to remain away from his paper business longer than the six months of Mr. Hoover's unexpired term.

Speech of Acceptance of Gov. Smith, Democratic Candidate For President—Proposes Amendment To Eighteenth Amendment So As To Permit States to Authorize Sale of Alcoholic Beverages—Pledges Law For Relief of Agriculture—Revision of Tariff Schedules.

Placing before the Nation his views on the prohibition question, Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York, Democratic candidate for President of the United States, in his speech at Albany, N. Y., Aug. 22, formally accepting the nomination, declared that "we have not achieved temperance under the present system" (the Volstead Law) and that "to-day disregard of the prohibition law is insidiously sapping respect for all law." "Certainly," he said, "no one foresaw when the Eighteenth amendment was ratified the conditions which exist to-day of bootlegging, corruption and open violation of the law in all parts of the country." The belief "that there should be submitted to the people the question of some change in the provisions of the Eighteenth Amendment" was expressed by the Governor, who added:

The people themselves should, after this eight years of trial, be permitted to say whether existing conditions should be rectified. I personally believe in an amendment to the Eighteenth Amendment which would give to each individual State itself, only after approval by a referendum popular vote of its people, the right wholly within its borders to import, manufacture or cause to be manufactured and sell alcoholic beverages, the sale to be made only by the state itself and not for consumption in any public place. We may well learn from the experience of other nations. Our Canadian neighbors have gone far in this manner to solve this problem by the method of sale made by the State itself and not by private individuals.

There is no question here of the return of the saloon. When I stated that the saloon "is and ought to be a defunct institution in this country" I meant it. I mean it to-day. I will never advocate nor approve any law which directly or indirectly permits the return of the saloon.

Preliminary to his views on the question as expressed above Gov. Smith said in part:

"The President of the United States has two constitutional duties with respect to prohibition. The first is embodied in his oath of office. . . . I shall to the very limit execute the pledge of our platform 'to make an honest endeavor to enforce the Eighteenth Amendment and all other provisions of the Federal Constitution and all laws enacted pursuant thereto.'

The President does not make the laws. He does his best to execute them, whether he likes them or not.

"The second constitutional duty imposed upon the President is 'to recommend to the Congress such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient.' Opinion upon prohibition cuts squarely across the two great political parties. There are thousands of so-called 'wets and dries' in each. The platform of my party is silent upon any question of change in the law. I personally believe that there should be change, and I shall advise the Congress in accordance with my constitutional duty of whatever change I deem necessary or expedient. It will then be for the people and the representatives in the national and State legislatures to determine whether these changes shall be made.

In his acceptance speech Gov. Smith reiterated his previously announced intention, if elected President, to call a conference of "those best equipped on the particular subject" to work out a solution for the relief of agriculture." The previous indications of the Governor's intentions in this respect were noted in our issue of July 21, page 358. In his declarations on the subject in his speech accepting the Presidential Nomination Gov. Smith said:

Co-operative, co-ordinated marketing and warehousing of surplus farm products are essential just as co-ordinated, co-operative control of the flow of capital was found necessary to the regulation of our country's finances. . . . The question for agriculture is complex. Any plan devised must also be co-ordinated with the other phases of our business institutions. Our platform declares for the development of co-operative marketing and an earnest endeavor to solve the problem of the distribution of the cost of dealing with crop surpluses over the marketed unit of the crop whose producers are benefited by such assistance. Only the mechanics remain to be devised. . . . In my administration of the government of my State whenever I was confronted with a problem of this character I called into conference those best equipped on the particular subject in hand. I shall follow that course with regard to agriculture. Farmers and farm leaders with such constructive aid as will come from sound economists and fair-

mindful leaders of finance and business must work out the detail. There are varying plans for the attainment of the end which is to be accomplished. Such plans should be subjected at once to searching, able and fair-minded analysis, because the interests of all require that the solution shall be economically sound.

Gov. Smith, also in his acceptance speech, made the statement that "the tariff is ineffective on commodities of which there is exportable surplus without controlled sale of the surplus. Our platform points the way to make the tariff effective for crops of which we produce a surplus." He further said: "I shall ask Congress to carry out the tariff declaration of our platform." He likewise said:

The Democratic party does not, and under my leadership will not, advocate any sudden or drastic revolution in our economic system which would cause business upheaval and popular distress. . . . The Democratic party stands squarely for the maintenance of legitimate business and a high standard of wages for American labor. Both can be maintained and at the same time the tariff can be taken out of the realm of politics and treated on a strictly business basis.

I shall restore this [Tariff] Commission to the high level upon which President Wilson placed it, in order that, properly manned, it may produce the facts that will enable us to ascertain how we may increase the purchasing power of everybody's income or wages by the adjustment of those schedules which are now the result of log-rolling and which upon their face are extortionate and unnecessary.

In his remarks relative to the conservation of our natural resources Gov. Smith noted that "the recent disclosures of the methods employed by private monopolies to wrest our remaining water powers from public control." . . . I shall carry into Federal administration the same policy which I have maintained against heavy odds in my own State. Under no circumstances should private monopoly be permitted to capitalize for rate-making purposes water power sites that are the property of the people themselves. It is to me unthinkable that the Government of the United States or any State thereof will permit either direct or indirect alienation of water power sites.

The measures for flood control were also referred to by Gov. Smith, who said: "the policy thus initiated for the Mississippi must be carried through. The money actually appropriated for flood relief is too small to make even a start. Too much time has been spent in squabbling over who shall pay the bill."

From these premises it was inevitable that our platform should further recognize grave abuses in the issuance of injunctions in labor disputes which threaten the very principle of collective bargaining. . . .

The Judiciary Committee of the United States Senate has already in progress a careful study of this situation. I promise full co-operation to the end that a definite remedy by law be brought forth to end the existing evils and preserve the constitutional guaranties of individual liberty, free assemblage and speech and the rights of peaceful persuasion.

He likewise said: "it will be the policy of my administration while retaining government ownership and control, to develop a method of operation for Muscle Shoals which will reclaim for the government some fair revenue from the enormous expenditure already made for its development and which is now a complete waste."

Labor and the abuse of injunctions were also touched upon by the Governor, who observed:

We declare for the principle of collective bargaining which alone can put the laborer upon a basis of fair equality with the employer; for the human principle that labor is not a commodity; for fair treatment to Government and Federal employees; and for specific and immediate attention to the serious problems of unemployment. . . .

Gov. Smith asserted that "the present Administration has been false to that declaration of one of its greatest party leaders. The situation in Nicaragua fairly exemplifies our departure from this high standard. The Administration has intervened in an election dispute between two conflicting factions, sent our troops into Nicaragua, maintained them there for years, and this without the consent of Congress." He added:

To no declaration of our platform do I more heartily commit myself than the one for the abolition of the practice of the President of entering into agreements for the settlement of internal disputes in Latin-American countries unless the agreements have been consented to by the Senate as provided for in the Constitution of the United States. I personally declare what the platform declares: "Interference in the purely internal affairs of Latin-American countries must cease." And I specifically pledge myself to follow this declaration with regard to Mexico as well as the other Latin-American countries.

The Governor's speech was delivered in the Assembly Chamber at Albany, a heavy rain having upset the plans for its delivery outside the capital. The notification speech was delivered by Senator Key Pittman of Nevada, Chairman of the Notification Committee following a speech by the Mayor of Albany, John Boyd Thacher. The speeches were broadcast throughout the entire country, 111 stations carrying the address over the largest network ever assembled. In addition (we quote from the "Times") six short wave stations sent his words ringing around the world as he spoke from the Assembly room of the State Capitol at Albany. The Governor's acceptance speech follows in full:

In the Capitol building itself, where twenty-five years ago I first came into the service of the State, I receive my party's summons to lead it in the nation. Within this building I learned the principles, the purposes and the functions of government and to know that the greatest privilege that can come to any man is to give himself to a nation which has reared him and raised him from obscurity to be a contender for the highest office in the gift of its people.

Here I confirmed my faith in the principles of the Democratic Party so eloquently defined by Woodrow Wilson: "First, the people as the source and their interests and desires as the text of laws and institutions. Second, individual liberty as the objective of all law." With a gratitude too strong for words and with humble reliance upon the aid of Divine Providence, I accept your summons to the wider field of action.

Government Should Be Progressive.

Government should be constructive, not destructive; progressive, not reactionary. I am entirely unwilling to accept the old order of things as the best unless and until I become convinced that it cannot be made better.

It is our New World theory that government exists for the people as against the Old World conception that the people exist for the government. A sharp line separates those who believe that an elect class should be the special object of the governments' concern and those who believe that the government is the agent and servant of the people who create it. Dominant in the Republican Party today is the element which proclaims and executes the political theories against which the party liberals like Roosevelt and La Follette and their party insurgents have rebelled. This reactionary element seeks to vindicate the theory of benevolent oligarchy. It assumes that a material prosperity, the very existence of which is challenged, is an excuse for political inequality. It makes the concern of the government not people but material things.

I have fought this spirit in my own State. I have had to fight it and to beat it, in order to place upon the statute books every one of the progressive, humane laws for whose enactment I assumed responsibility in my legislative and executive career. I shall know how to fight it in the nation.

It is a fallacy that there is inconsistency between progressive measures protecting the rights of the people, including the poor and the weak, and a just regard for the rights of legitimate business, great or small. Therefore, while I emphasize my belief that legitimate business promotes the national welfare, let me warn the forces of corruption and favoritism that Democratic victory means that they will be relegated to the rear and the front seats will be occupied by the friends of equal opportunity.

Likewise, governmental policy should spring from the deliberate action of an informed electorate. Of all men, I have reason to believe that the people can and do grasp the problems of the government. Against the opposition of the self-seeker and the partisan, again and again, I have seen legislation won by the pressure of popular demand, exerted after the people had had an honest, frank and complete explanation of the issues. Great question of finance, the issuance of millions of dollars of bonds for public projects, the complete reconstruction of the machinery of the State Government, the institution of an executive budget, these are but a few of the complicated questions which I myself have taken to the electorate. Every citizen has thus learned the nature of the business in hand and appreciated that the State's business is his business.

That direct contact with the people I propose to continue in this campaign and, if I am elected, in the conduct of the nation's affairs. I shall thereby strive to make the nation's policy the true reflection of the nation's ideals. Because I believe in the idealism of the party of Jefferson, Cleveland and Wilson, my administration will be rooted in liberty under the law; liberty that means freedom to the individual to follow his own will so long as he does not harm his neighbor; the same high moral purpose in our conduct as a nation that actuates the conduct of the God-fearing man and woman; that equality of opportunity which lays the foundation for wholesome family life and opens up the outlook for the betterment of the lives of our children.

In the rugged honesty of Grover Cleveland there originated one of our party's greatest principles: "Public office is a public trust." That principle now takes on new meaning. Political parties are the vehicle for carrying out the popular will. We place responsibility upon the party. The Republican Party today stands responsible for the widespread dishonesty that has honeycombed its administration.

During the last Presidential campaign the Republican managers were partially successful in leading the American people to believe that these sins should be charged against the individual rather than against the party. The question of personal guilt has now been thoroughly disposed of and in its place, challenging the wisdom and good judgment of the American people, is the unquestioned evidence of party guilt.

The Democratic Party asks the electorate to withdraw their confidence from the Republican Party and repose it with the Democratic Party pledged to continue those standards of unblemished integrity which characterized every act of the administration of Woodrow Wilson.

But I would not rest our claim for the confidence of the American people alone upon the misdeeds of the opposite party. Ours must be a constructive campaign.

False Prosperity and Unemployment.

The Republican Party builds its case upon a myth. We are told that only under the benevolent administration of that party can the country enjoy prosperity. When 4,000,000 men, desirous to work and support their families, are unable to secure employment there is very little in the picture of prosperity to attract them and the millions dependent upon them.

In the year 1926, the latest figures available show that one-twentieth of 1% of the 430,000 corporations in this country earned 40% of their profits; 40% of the corporations actually lost money; one-quarter of 1% of these corporations earned two-thirds of the profits of all of them. Specific industries are wholly prostrate and there is widespread business difficulty and discontent among the individual business men of the country.

Prosperity to the extent that we have it is unduly concentrated and has not equitably touched the lives of the farmer, the wage earner and the individual business man. The claim of governmental economy is as baseless as the claims that general business prosperity exists and that it can exist only under Republican administration.

Promises of Consolidation of Federal Agencies.

When the Republican Party came into power in 1921 it definitely promised reorganization of the machinery of government and abolition or consolidation of unnecessary and overlapping agencies. A committee was appointed. A representative of the President acted as Chairman. It prepared a plan of reorganization. The plan was filed in the archives. It still remains there. After seven years of Republican control the structure of government is worse than it was in 1921. It is fully as bad as the system which existed in New York State before we secured by constitutional amendment the legislation which consolidated more than one hundred offices, commissions and boards into eighteen co-ordinated departments, each responsible to the Governor. In contrast with this, the Re-

publican Party in control at Washington when faced with the alternative of loss of patronage for the faithful or more efficient and economical management of the Government permitted the old order to continue for the benefit of the patronage seekers.

The appropriations for independent bureaus and offices not responsible to any cabinet officer increased from \$3,400,000 in 1914 to \$163,000,000 in 1921, and to \$556,000,000 in 1928. No wonder that a cabinet officer of the Republican President of 1921 said "if you could visualize the Government as a business or administrative unit, you would see something like one of those grotesque spectacles of a big oyster shell to which in the course of years big and irregular masses of barnacles have attached themselves without symmetry or relevancy." And the Chamber of Commerce of the United States said in its annual report this year: "No progress has been made on the plan of reorganization of the Government's departments as advocated by the chamber." The Administration spokesman answers only, "We have given an economical administration," and that has been repeated so often that some people begin to believe it without the slightest proof. I assert that there is no proof.

Increased Federal Appropriations.

The appropriation bills signed by the President of the United States for the last year are just one-half a billion dollars more than they were for the first year of his Administration. The appropriations for the Executive Department itself (the President and Vice-President) have increased more than 10% under President Coolidge.

The figures for expenditure as distinguished from appropriations tell the same story. Aside from interest on the public debt which has been reduced by retirement of bonds or by refinancing at lower interest rate, the actual expenditures for governmental activities during the fiscal year ending in 1928 were just \$346,000,000 more than in President Coolidge's first year.

Increased Federal Taxes.

If the defenders of the administration answer that taxes have been reduced, they find themselves in a similar dilemma. The total taxes collected are \$24,000,000 more than in the first year of the Coolidge administration. While tax rates have been reduced and some war-time taxes abandoned, the Government actually took from the people in income taxes \$383,000,000 more during the last fiscal year than during the first year of the Coolidge Administration. And even these reductions in tax rates have been brought about primarily because the Administration has committed the Government to appropriations authorized but not made, amounting approximately to one billion dollars, which is an obligation that is being passed on to succeeding administrations. I wish to focus the public attention on these fundamental facts and figures when it is fed with picturesque trifles about petty economies, such as eliminating stripes from mail bags and extinguishing electric lights in the offices at night.

False vs. True Economy.

With this has gone a governmental policy of refusal to make necessary expenditure for purposes which would have effected a real economy. The Postmaster General states that there was a large annual waste in the handling of mail, resulting from lack of modern facilities and equipment. Scarcely a large city in the country has adequate quarters for the transaction of Federal business. The Government pays rent in the City of Washington alone of more than one million dollars annually. It is estimated that the Government is paying rentals of \$20,000,000 in the nation. True economy would be effected by the erection of Federal buildings, especially in the numerous instances where sites acquired many years ago have been left vacant because the administration did not desire to have these expenditures appear in the budget. It is not economy to refuse to spend money and to have our soldiers living in barracks which the Chief of Staff of the Army recently stated were indecent and below the standard for the meanest type of housing permitted anywhere. And the wise, properly timed construction of needed public improvements would substantially tend to lessen the evils of unemployment.

If the people commission me to do it, I shall with the aid of the Congress effect a real reorganization and consolidation of governmental activities upon a business basis and institute the real economy which comes from prudent expenditure. I shall aid programs for the relief of unemployment, recognizing its deep, human and social significance and shall strive to accomplish a national well-being resting upon the prosperity of the individual men and women who constitute the nation.

Tariff Proposals.

Acting upon the principle of "Equal opportunity for all, special privileges for none," I shall ask Congress to carry out the tariff declaration of our platform. To be sure the Republican party will attempt in the campaign to misrepresent Democratic attitude to the tariff. The Democratic party does not and under my leadership will not advocate any sudden or drastic revolution in our economic system which would cause business upheaval and popular distress. This principle was recognized as far back as the passage of the Underwood Tariff bill. Our platform re-states it in unmistakable language. The Democratic party stands squarely for the maintenance of legitimate business and a high standard of wages for American labor. Both can be maintained and at the same time the tariff can be taken out of the realm of politics and treated on a strictly business basis. A leading Republican, writing in criticism of the present tariff law, said: "It stands as one of the most ill-drawn pieces of legislation in recent political history. It is probably near the actual truth to say that taking for granted some principle of protection of American business and industry, the country has prospered due to post-war conditions abroad and in spite of, rather than on account of, the Fordney-McCumber tariff." What I have just quoted is no part of a campaign document. It was written a few months ago by Professor William Starr Myers of Princeton University, writing the history of his own party.

Against the practice of legislative log-rolling, Woodrow Wilson pointed the way to a remedy. It provided for the creation and maintenance of a non-political, quasi-judicial, fact-finding commission which could investigate and advise the President and Congress as to the tariff duties really required to protect American industry and safeguard the high standard of American wages. In an Administration anxious to meet political obligations, the commission has ceased to function and it has been publicly stated by former members of it that the work of the commission has been turned over to the advocates of special interests. To bring this about, it is a matter of record that the President demanded the undated resignation of one of its members before he signed his appointment.

I shall restore this Commission to the high level upon which President Wilson placed it, in order that, properly manned, it may produce the facts that will enable us to ascertain how we may increase the purchasing power of everybody's income or wages by the adjustment of those schedules which are now the result of log-rolling and which upon their face are extortionate and unnecessary.

Pay no attention to the Republican propaganda and accept my assurance as the leader of our party that Democratic tariff legislation will be honest. It will play no favorites. It will do justice to every element in the nation.

Foreign Policy.

The Constitution provides that treaties with foreign powers must be ratified by a vote of two-thirds of the Senate. This is a legal recognition of the truth that in our foreign relations we must rise above party politics and act as a united nation. Any foreign policy must have its roots deep in the approval of a very large majority of our people. Therefore, no greater service was ever rendered by any President than by Woodrow Wilson when he struck at the methods of secret diplomacy. To-day we have close relations, vital to our commercial and world standing, with every other nation. I regard it, therefore, as a paramount duty to keep alive the interest of our people in these questions and to advise the electorate as to facts and policies.

Through a long line of distinguished Secretaries of State, Republican and Democratic alike, this country had assumed a position of world leadership in the endeavor to outlaw war and substitute reason for force. At the end of President Wilson's Administration we enjoyed not only the friendship, but the respectful admiration of the peoples of the world. To-day we see unmistakable evidences of a widespread distrust of us and unfriendliness to us, particularly among our Latin-American neighbors.

Latin-American Policy.

I especially stress the necessity for the restoration of cordial relations with Latin America and I take my text from a great Republican Secretary of State, Elihu Root, who said: "We consider that the independence and equal rights of the smallest and weakest member of the family of nations deserve as much respect as those of the great empires. We pretend to no right, privilege or power that we do not freely concede to each one of the American republics."

The present Administration has been false to that declaration of one of its greatest party leaders. The situation in Nicaragua fairly exemplifies our departure from this high standard. The Administration has intervened in an election dispute between two conflicting factions, sent our troops into Nicaragua, maintained them there for years, and this without the consent of Congress. To settle this internal dispute, our marines have died and hundreds of Nicaraguans in turn have been killed by our marines. Without consultation with Congress, the Administration entered on this long-continued occupation of the territory of a supposedly friendly nation by our armed troops.

To no declaration of our platform do I more heartily commit myself than the one for the abolition of the practice of the President of entering into agreements for the settlement of internal disputes in Latin-American countries, unless the agreements have been consented to by the Senate as provided for in the Constitution of the United States. I personally declare what the platform declares: "Interference in the purely internal affairs of Latin-American countries must cease," and I specifically pledge myself to follow this declaration with regard to Mexico as well as the other Latin American countries.

Monroe Doctrine.

The Monroe Doctrine must be maintained, but not as a pretext for meddling with the purely local concerns of countries which, even though they be small, are sovereign and entitled to demand and receive respect for their sovereignty. And I shall certainly do all that lies in my power to bring about the fullest concerted action between this country and all the Latin American countries with respect to any step which it may ever be necessary to take to discharge such responsibilities to civilization as may be placed upon us by the Monroe Doctrine.

The evil effect of the Administration's policy with respect to Latin-America has extended to our relations with the rest of the world. I am not one of those who contend that everything Republican is bad and everything Democratic is good. I approve the effort to renew and extend the arbitration treaties negotiated under the Administration of President Wilson. But the usefulness of those treaties as deterrents of war is materially impaired by the reservations asserted by various nations of the right to wage defensive wars, as those reservations are interpreted in the light of President Coolidge's record. Defending his policies he announced on April 25 1927, the doctrine that the person and property of a citizen are a part of the national domain, even when abroad. I do not think the American people would approve a doctrine which would give to Germany, or France, or England, or any other country, the right to regard a citizen of that country or the property of a citizen of that country situated within the borders of the United States a part of the national domain of the foreign country. Our unwarranted intervention in internal affairs in Latin-America and this specious reason for it constitute the basis upon which other countries may seek to justify imperialistic policies which threaten world peace and materially lessen the effectiveness which might otherwise lie in the multilateral treaties.

Real Outlawry of War.

The real outlawry of war must come from a more substantial endeavor to remove the causes of war, and in this endeavor the Republican Administration has signally failed. I am neither militarist nor jingo. I believe that the people of this country wish to live in peace and amity with the world. Freedom from entangling alliances is a fixed American policy. It does not mean, however, that great nations should not behave to one another with the same decent friendliness and fair play that self-respecting men and women show to one another.

Limitation of Armaments.

In 1921 there was negotiated a treaty for the limitation of the construction of battleships and battle cruisers of more than 10,000 tons. It was approved without party dispute as a start of the process of removing from the backs of the toiling masses of the world the staggering burden of the hundreds of millions of dollars that are wrung from them every year for wasteful transformation into engines of destruction. For seven years the Republican Administration has followed it with nothing effective. No limitation has been placed upon land armaments, submarines, vessels of war of under 10,000 tons displacement, poisonous gases or any of the other machinery devised by man for the destruction of human life. In this respect our diplomacy has been futile.

I believe the American people desire to assume their fair share of responsibility for the administration of a world of which they are a part, without political alliance with any foreign nation. I pledge myself to a resumption of a real endeavor to make the outlawry of war effective by removing its causes and to substitute the methods of conciliation, conference, arbitration and judicial determination.

Prohibition and Law Enforcement.

The President of the United States has two constitutional duties with respect to prohibition. The first is embodied in his oath of office. If, with one hand on the Bible and the other hand reaching up to heaven, I promise the people of this country that "I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States and to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States," you may be sure that I shall live up to that oath to the last degree. I shall to the very limit execute the pledge of our platform "to make an honest endeavor"

enforce the Eighteenth Amendment and all other provisions of the Federal Constitution and all laws enacted pursuant thereto."

The President does not make the laws. He does his best to execute them whether he likes them or not. The corruption in enforcement activities which caused a former Republican Prohibition Administrator to state that three-fourths of the dry agents were political ward heelers named by politicians without regard to civil service laws and that prohibition is the "new political pork barrel," I will ruthlessly stamp out. Such condition cannot and will not exist under any administration presided over by me.

The second constitutional duty imposed upon the President is "To recommend to the Congress such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." Opinion upon prohibition cuts squarely across the two great political parties. There are thousands of so-called "wets and drys" in each. The platform of my party is silent upon any question of change in the law. I personally believe that there should be change and I shall advise the Congress in accordance with my constitutional duty of whatever changes I deem "necessary or expedient." It will then be for the people and the representatives in the national and State legislatures to determine whether these changes shall be made.

I will state the reasons for my belief. In a book "Law and its Origin," recently called to my notice, James C. Carter, one of the leaders of the bar of this country, wrote of the conditions which exist "when a law is made declaring conduct widely practiced and widely regarded as innocent to be a crime." He points out that in the enforcement of such a law "trials become scenes of perjury and subornation of perjury; juries find abundant excuses for rendering acquittal or persisting in disagreement contrary to their oaths" and he concludes "Perhaps worst of all is that general regard and reverence for law are impaired, a consequence the mischief of which can scarcely be estimated." These words, written years before the Eighteenth Amendment or the Volstead act, were prophetic of our situation to-day.

Temperance vs. Disregard of Law.

I believe in temperance. We have not achieved temperance under the present system. The mothers and fathers of young men and women throughout this land know the anxiety and worry which has been brought to them by their children's use of liquor in a way which was unknown before prohibition. I believe in reverence for law. To-day disregard of the prohibition laws is insidiously sapping respect for all law. I raise, therefore, what I profoundly believe to be a great moral issue involving the righteousness of our national conduct and the protection of our children's morals.

The remedy, as I have stated, is the fearless application of Jeffersonian principles. Jefferson and his followers foresaw the complex activities of this great, widespread country. They knew that in rural, sparsely settled districts people would develop different desires and customs from those in densely populated sections, and that if we were to be a nation united on truly national matters there had to be a differentiation in local laws to allow for different local habits. It was for this reason that the Democratic platform in 1884 announced "We oppose sumptuary laws which vex the citizens and interfere with individual liberty," and it was for this reason that Woodrow Wilson vetoed the Volstead act.

Amendment to Volstead Law.

In accordance with this Democratic principle, some immediate relief would come from an amendment to the Volstead law giving a scientific definition of the alcoholic content of an intoxicating beverage. The present definition is admittedly inaccurate and unscientific. Each State would then be allowed to fix its own standard of alcoholic content, subject always to the proviso that that standard could not exceed the maximum fixed by the Congress.

Amendment to Eighteenth Amendment.

I believe moreover that there should be submitted to the people the question of some change in the provisions of the Eighteenth Amendment. Certainly, no one foresaw when the amendment was ratified the conditions which exist today of bootlegging, corruption and open violation of the law in all parts of the country. The people themselves should after this eight years of trial be permitted to say whether existing conditions should be rectified. I personally believe in an amendment in the Eighteenth Amendment which would give to each individual State itself only after approval by a referendum popular vote of its people the right wholly within its borders to import, manufacture or cause to be manufactured, and sell alcoholic beverages, the sale to be made only by the state itself and not for consumption in any public place. We may well learn from the experience of other nations. Our Canadian neighbors have gone far in this manner to solve this problem by the method of sale made by the State itself and not by private individuals.

There is no question here of the return of the saloon. When I stated that the saloon "is and ought to be a defunct institution in this country" I meant it. I mean it to-day. I will never advocate nor approve any law which directly or indirectly permits the return of the saloon.

Such a change would preserve for the dry States the benefit of a national law that would continue to make interstate shipment of intoxicating beverages a crime. It would preserve for the dry States Federal enforcement of prohibition within their own borders. It would permit to citizens of other States a carefully limited and controlled method of effectuating the popular will wholly within the borders of those States without the old evil of the saloon.

Such a method would re-establish respect for law and terminate the agitation which has injected discord into the ranks of the great political parties which should be standing for the accomplishment of fundamental programs for the nation. I may fairly say even to those who disagree with me that the solution I offer is one based upon the historic policy of the Democratic Party to assure to each State its complete right of local self-government. I believe it is a solution which would be offered by Jefferson, or Jackson or Cleveland, or Wilson, if those great leaders were with us.

Agriculture.

Publicity agents of the Republican Administration have written so many articles on our general prosperity, that they have prevented the average man from having a proper appreciation of the degree of distress existing to-day among farmers and stockraisers. From 1910 to the present time the farm debt has increased by the striking sum of ten billions of dollars, or from four billion to fourteen billion dollars. The value of farm property between 1920 and 1925 decreased by twenty billions of dollars. This depression made itself felt in an enormous increase of bank failures in the agricultural districts. In 1927 there were 830 bank failures, with total liabilities of over 270 millions of dollars, almost entirely in the agricultural sections, as against 49 such failures during the last year of President Wilson's Administration.

The report of Nov. 17 1927, of a Special Committee of the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities states: "Incomes from farming since 1920 have not been sufficient to pay a fair return on the current value of capital used and a fair wage for the farmers' labor, or to permit farm people to maintain a standard of living comparable with other groups of like

ability." The Business Men's Commission on Agriculture said in November, 1927, "Since the war, the prices of farm products have persisted in an uneconomic and unfavorable adjustment to the general scale of prices of other goods and services;" and "the disparity between urban and farm incomes has emphasized the disparity in standards of living in the rural and urban populations." "The value of farm land and farm property decreased heavily in the post-war deflation" and "large numbers of farmers have lost all their property in this process."

We have not merely a problem of helping the farmer. While agriculture is one of the most individualized and independent of enterprises, still as the report of the Business Men's Commission points out, "Agriculture is essentially a public function, affected with a clear and unquestionable public interest." The country is an economic whole. If the buying power of agriculture is impaired, the farmer makes fewer trips to Main Street. The shop owner suffers because he has lost a large part of his trade. The manufacturer who supplies him likewise suffers as does the wage earner, because the manufacturer is compelled to curtail his production. And the banker cannot collect his debts or safely extend further credit. This country cannot be a healthy, strong economic body if one of its members, so fundamentally important as agriculture, is sick almost to the point of economic death.

The normal market among the farmers of this country for the products of industry is ten billions of dollars. Our export market, according to latest available figures, is exclusive of agricultural products, approximately one billion, six hundred millions of dollars. These large figures furnish striking indication of the serious blow to national prosperity as a whole which is struck when the buying power of the farmer is paralyzed.

Plans for Relief of Farmer.

When, therefore, I say that I am in accord with our platform declaration that the solution of this problem must be a prime and immediate concern of the Democratic Administration, I make no class appeal. I am stating a proposition as vital to the welfare of business as of agriculture.

With the exception of the Administrations of Cleveland and Wilson, the government of this country has been in Republican hands for half a century. For nearly eight years the President and Congress have been Republican. What has been done to solve this problem. Many promises were made which have never been fulfilled. Certainly the promise of relief by tariff has not been fulfilled.

The tariff is ineffective on commodities of which there is exportable surplus without controlled sale of the surplus. Our platform points the way to make the tariff effective for crops of which we produce a surplus. There has been Government interference with laws of supply and demand to benefit industry, commerce and finance. It has been one-sided because business, industry and finance would have been helped more if proper attention had been given to the condition of agriculture. Nothing of substance has been done to bring this basic part of our national life into conformity with the economic system that has been set up by law. Government should interfere as little as possible with business. But if it does interfere with one phase of economic life, be it by tariff, by assistance to merchant marine, by control of the flow of money and capital through the banking system, it is bad logic, bad economics and an abandonment of Government responsibility to say that as to agriculture alone the Government should not aid.

Twice a Republican Congress has passed legislation only to have it vetoed by a President of their own party; and whether the veto of that specific measure was right or wrong, it is undisputed that no adequate substitute was ever recommended to the Congress by the President and that no constructive plan of relief was ever formulated by any leader of the Republican Party in place of the plan which its Congress passed and its President vetoed. Only caustic criticism and bitter denunciation were provoked in the minds of the Republican leaders in answer to the nationwide appeal for a sane endeavor to meet this crisis.

Co-operative Marketing.

Co-operative, co-ordinated marketing and warehousing of surplus farm products is essential just as co-ordinated, co-operative control of the flow of capital was found necessary to the regulation of our country's finances. To accomplish financial stability, the Federal Reserve system was called into being by a Democratic Administration. The question for agriculture is complex. Any plan devised must also be co-ordinated with the other phases of our business institutions. Our platform declares for the development of co-operative marketing and an earnest endeavor to solve the problem of the distribution of the cost of dealing with crop surpluses over the marketed unit of the crop whose producers are benefited by such assistance. Only the mechanics remain to be devised. I propose to substitute action for inaction and friendliness for hostility. In my administration of the Government of my State, whenever I was confronted with a problem of this character, I called into conference those best equipped on the particular subject in hand. I shall follow that course with regard to agriculture. Farmers and farm leaders, with such constructive aid as will come from sound economists and fair-minded leaders of finance and business, must work out the detail. There are varying plans for the attainment of the end which is to be accomplished. Such plans should be subjected at once to searching, able and fair-minded analysis, because the interests of all require that the solution shall be economically sound.

If I am elected, I shall immediately after election ask leaders of the type I have named, irrespective of party, to enter upon this task. I shall join with them in the discharge of their duties during the coming Winter and present to Congress immediately upon its convening the solution recommended by the body of men best fitted to render this signal service to the nation. I shall support the activities of this body until a satisfactory law is placed upon the statute books.

Railroads and Waterways.

Adequate distribution is necessary to bring a proper return to production. Increased efficiency of railroad transportation and terminal handling means lowering of cost, which in turn reflects itself in the form of increased purchasing power through reduction in the cost of everyday necessities of life.

Nor do railroads exhaust means of transportation. I believe in encouraging the construction and use of modern highways to carry the short haul of small bulk commodities and to aid in effective marketing of farm products.

Of great importance and still in a highly undeveloped state are our transportation routes by waterways. Commodities of great bulk, where the freight cost is a large part of the cost to the ultimate consumer, are among the least profitable to railroads to carry and lend themselves most readily to water transportation.

Certain areas of our country are deeply interested in opening up a direct route from the Middle West to the sea by way of the Great Lakes and adjacent waterways. Controversy has arisen over the relative merits of the St. Lawrence route or the all-American route. As Governor of New York, I have heretofore expressed a preference for the all-American route, basing my view on engineers' reports made to me. The correctness of these reports and also of those favoring the St. Lawrence route has been challenged.

As President of the United States, therefore, it would be my clear duty to restudy this question impartially upon engineers' reports the accuracy of which must be above question. When the results of such a study are given to Congress, I am entirely willing to abide by the decision of Congress.

Flood Control.

With the development of inland waterways goes the control of floods thereon. The Mississippi flood of last year brought home to the nation the imperative need for a national policy of flood control. The last two administrations waited for this calamity and for universal demand that something be done instead of taking leadership in this important work. Forethought, courage and leadership and knowledge of what real ultimate economy means would have done much to prevent this calamity with its ensuing waste and misery. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of first aid and relief. In the last Congress the Reid-Jones bill laid down sound lines for the solution of this great problem. The policy thus initiated for the Mississippi must be carried through. The money actually appropriated for flood relief is too small to make even a start. Too much time has been spent in squabbling over who shall pay the bill.

The Mississippi River and its tributaries constitute a great network of waterways flowing through a large number of States. Much more than flood control is involved. Full development of the Mississippi River and its tributaries as arteries of commerce should be the goal.

Conservation of Natural Resources.

Wide possibilities for public good are latent in what remains of our natural resources. I pledge myself to a progressive liberal conservation policy based upon the same principles to which I have given my support in the State of New York, and to fight selfish aggression in this field wherever it appears and irrespective of whom it may involve. No nation in history has been more careless about the conservation of natural resources than has ours. We have denuded our forests. We have been slow to reclaim lands for development and have allowed to run to waste or have given to private exploitation our public waters with their great potential power for the development of electrical energy.

The value of this heritage can best be measured when we consider the recent disclosures of the methods employed by private monopolies to wrest our remaining water powers from public control.

No more dishonest or unpatriotic propaganda has ever been seen in this country than that disclosed by the investigation into the methods of certain utility corporations. Private corporations to gain control of public resources have procured the writing of textbooks for the public schools; have subsidized lecturers pretending to give to the country their own honest and unbiased advice; have employed as their agents former public officials and have endeavored to mislead public opinion by the retention of the services of leaders of the community in various parts of the country. High-priced lobbyists penetrated into every State and into the legislative halls of the nation itself.

As against propaganda, it is the duty of the Democratic Party to set up truth. The ownership of some of these great water powers is in the nation, of others in the several States. These sources of water power must remain forever under public ownership and control. Where they are owned by the Federal Government they should remain under Federal control. Where they are owned by an individual State they should be under the control of that State, or where they are owned by States jointly they should be under the control of those States.

Wherever the development, the Government agency, State or Federal as the case may be, must retain through contractual agreement with the distributing companies the right to provide fair and reasonable rates to the ultimate consumer and the similar right to insist upon fair and equal distribution of the power. This can be secured only by the absolute retention by the people of the ownership of the power by owning and controlling the site and plant at the place of generation. The Government—Federal, State or the authority representing joint States—must control the switch that turns on or off the power so greedily sought by certain private groups without the least regard for the public good.

I shall carry into Federal Administration the same policy which I have maintained against heavy odds in my own State. Under no circumstances should private monopoly be permitted to capitalize for rate-making purposes water power sites that are the property of the people themselves. It is to me unthinkable that the Government of the United States or any State thereof will permit either direct or indirect alienation of water power sites.

Colorado River.

Electrical energy generated from water power as an incident to the regulation of the flow of the Colorado River is the common heritage of all the States through which the river flows. The benefits growing from such development should be equitably distributed among the States having right of ownership. The duty of the Federal Government is confined to navigation. I am of the opinion that the best results would flow from the setting up of a Colorado River Authority, representative equally of all the States concerned. The development should be by the States through the agency of this authority by treaty ratified by Congress.

Muscle Shoals.

It will be the policy of my administration, while retaining Government ownership and control, to develop a method of operation for Muscle Shoals which will reclaim for the Government some fair revenue from the enormous expenditure already made for its development and which is now a complete waste. In this way the original peace-time purpose of the construction of this plant will be achieved. The nation will be reimbursed, agriculture will be benefited by the cheap production of nitrates for fertilizer and the surplus power will be distributed to the people.

The remaining public natural resources now under control of the Federal Government must be administered in the interests of all of the people.

Likewise, a complete survey and study of the remaining undeveloped public resources of land, coal, oil and other minerals is greatly needed and should be undertaken.

The United States, because its people use more wood than any other on earth, is therefore more dependent on the forest than any other great nation. At the same time we are the most wasteful of all people in the destruction of our forest resources.

The use of our national forests for recreation should be greatly extended. I also pledge myself to give the same continuing interest and support to a national park, reforestation and recreation program as have brought about the establishment of a great conservation and State park system in the State of New York.

It was Grover Cleveland who first made our national forest and conservation policy into a great public question. Theodore Roosevelt followed in his footsteps. What these two men began must be continued and carried forward.

Labor and Abuse of Injunctions.

The American people constitute a structure of many component parts. One of its foundations is labor. The reasonable contentment of those who

toil with the conditions under which they live and work is an essential basis of the nation's well-being. The welfare of our country, therefore, demands governmental concern for the legitimate interest of labor.

The Democratic Party has always recognized this fact, and under the Administration of Woodrow Wilson a large body of progressive legislation for the protection of those laboring in industry was enacted. Our platform continues that tradition of the party. We declare for the principle of collective bargaining, which alone can put the laborer upon a basis of fair equality with the employer; for the human principle that labor is not a commodity; for fair treatment to Government and Federal employees, and for specific and immediate attention to the serious problems of unemployment.

From these premises it was inevitable that our platform should further recognize grave abuses in the issuance of injunctions in labor disputes, which threaten the very principle of collective bargaining. Chief Justice Taft in 1919 stated that government of the relations between capital and labor by injunction was an absurdity. Justice Holmes and Justice Brandeis of the United States Supreme Court unite in an opinion which describes the restraints on labor imposed by a Federal injunction as a reminder of involuntary servitude.

Dissatisfaction and social unrest have grown from these abuses and undoubtedly legislation must be framed to meet just causes for complaint in regard to the unwarranted issuance of injunctions.

The Judiciary Committee of the United States Senate has already in progress a careful study of this situation. I promise full co-operation to the end that a definite remedy by law be brought forth to end the existing evils and preserve the constitutional guarantees of individual liberty, free assemblage and speech and the rights of peaceful persuasion.

I shall continue my sympathetic interest in the advancement of progressive legislation for the protection and advancement of working men and women. Promotion of proper care of maternity, infancy and childhood and the encouragement of those scientific activities of the National Government which advance the safeguards of public health are so fundamental as to need no expression from me other than my record as legislator and as Governor.

None can question my respect for and co-operation with the Civil Service nor my interest in proper compensation for Government service. I believe in that true equality of women that opens to them without restriction all avenues of opportunity for which they can qualify in business, in Government service and in politics.

Veteran Relief.

I have a full appreciation of what this country owes to our veteran soldiers. I know that when the country called, the veteran came promptly. When the veteran in distress calls to the country, the country should be equally prompt. Red tape and technicalities and autocratic bureaucracy should be brushed aside when the time comes for a grateful American people to recognize its debt to the men who offered themselves in our hour of need.

Immigration.

During all of our national life the freedom of entry to the country has been extended to the millions who desired to take advantage of the freedom and the opportunities offered by America. The rugged qualities of our immigrants have helped to develop our country and their children have taken their places high in the annals of American history.

Every race has made its contribution to the betterment of America. While I stand squarely on our platform declaration that the laws which limit immigration must be preserved in full force and effect, I am heartily in favor of removing from the immigration law the harsh provision which separates families, and I am opposed to the principle of restriction based upon the figures of immigrant population contained in a census 38 years old. I believe this is designed to discriminate against certain nationalities and is an unwise policy. It is in no way essential to a continuance of the restriction advocated in our platform.

Will Not Be Influenced in Appointments.

While this is a Government of laws and not of men, laws do not execute themselves. We must have people of character and outstanding ability to serve the nation. To me one of the greatest elements of satisfaction in my nomination is the fact that I owe it to no one man or set of men. I can with complete honesty make the statement that my nomination was brought about by no promise given or implied by me or by any one in my behalf. I will not be influenced in appointments by the question of a person's wet or dry attitude, by whether he is rich or poor, whether he comes from the North, South, East or West, or by what church he attends in the worship of God. The sole standard of my appointments will be the same as they have been in my Governorship—integrity of the man or woman and his or her ability to give me the greatest possible aid in devoted service to the people.

In this spirit I enter upon the campaign. During its progress I shall talk at length on many of the issues to which I have referred in this acceptance address, as well as other important questions. I shall endeavor to conduct this campaign on the high plane that befits the intelligence of our citizens.

Victory, simply for the sake of achieving it, is empty. I am entirely satisfied of our success in November because I am sure we are right and therefore sure that our victory means progress for our nation. I am convinced of the wisdom of our platform. I pledge a complete devotion to the welfare of our country and our people. I place that welfare above every other consideration and am satisfied that our party is in a position to promote it. To that end I here and now declare to my fellow-countrymen, from one end of the United States to the other, that I will dedicate myself with all the power and energy that I possess to the service of our great Republic.

Gov. Smith's Farm Stand Praised by B. F. Yoakum— Says Agriculture Is Convinced Governor Earnestly Seeks Efficient Market Plan.

According to the "Times" of Aug. 11, B. F. Yoakum, former Western railroad executive and an expert on agrarian-economic questions, has written a letter to Governor Smith praising him for the stand he has taken against the principles involved in the McNary-Haugen bill. The "Times" stated further:

He (Mr. Yoakum) said in his letter that the Governor's attitude had convinced those in the farming industry that "you are earnestly seeking to enact an efficient and profitable system of marketing farm products."

Mr. Yoakum, in his letter, given out for publication yesterday, upheld the contention that to prove efficient any systems for marketing surplus products of agriculture must provide for spreading the cost over the entire volume of the product benefited. But he holds that the power of compelling such a distribution of the cost should not be lodged in a Federal Government.

agency but in the marketing units created by the several farm commodities. "How can the present situation be remedied?" Mr. Yoakum wrote. "If Congress will enact a simple law permitting producers of the different farm commodities to organize as separate marketing units under a Federal charter or license, with authority to stabilize prices and direct distribution, they can not only conduct their marketing effectively and profitably, but do their own 'equalizing.' No Federal 'equalization fee' or Government tax or enforcement would be required. The beneficiaries would pay their own marketing and all other expenses from the proceeds of their respective products.

"Each commodity would be self-supporting, founded and run on a strictly business basis. That is the best and only sound form of 'equalization.' No large Federal appropriations would be required. Farmers could finance their operations through regular banking channels on their own values and credits."

A letter previously addressed by Mr. Yoakum to John J. Raskob, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee in which Mr. Yoakum declared that "it would be unfortunate both for Gov. Smith's campaign and for the future of the country for the Democratic Party to expouse the cause of McNary-Haugenism" was given in our issue of Aug. 11, page 774.

Senator Brookhart Finds Much Ego in Governor Smith's Acceptance Speech.

We take from the New York "Times" the following telegraphic advices to its Editor from Senator Brookhart at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Aug. 22:

Ego is the outstanding style of the address. I counted 100 'I's' and then thought of Lindbergh and "We." The most excessive use of the ego is found in the statement:

"If, with one hand on the Bible and the other hand reaching up to heaven, I promise the people of this country that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States and to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, you may be sure that I shall live up to that oath to the last degree."

How superlatively impressive. But Al Smith as Governor of New York took that same oath. Did he live up to that oath to the last degree? He did not. The Eighteenth Amendment puts the same obligation upon the State of New York to maintain an enforcement law that it puts upon the Congress, but Al Smith repealed the enforcement law, put nothing in its place and cast his oath into the gutter. This same logic would repeal the Volstead Act and leave no Federal power of enforcement. No wonder he must be impressive. His proposal for farm relief might be described by the two words, ignorance and camouflage.

SMITH W. BROOKHART, Senator from Iowa.

John J. Raskob, Chairman of Democratic National Committee, Urges Voters to Take Advantage of Their Voting Rights at This Year's Presidential Election—Only 50% of Qualified Voters Cast Vote in 1924.

In a message to voters, in which he deplores the fact that only about 50% of qualified voters cast their votes at the last Presidential election, John J. Raskob, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, says: "this is no way to elect a President of the United States, who under our Constitution, is given more power than any one human being in the world"—"Let your Government hear from you," he urges, "no matter where you are on election day." Mr. Raskob's statement, made public Aug. 20, is given here-with:

Nothing is more important to the future of America than that our citizens manifest their own interest in its future by voting. We must deplore the fact that in the last Presidential election, of 54,000,000 qualified voters, only about 50% cast their votes.

This year it is anticipated that there will be 56,000,000 qualified voters in the country, and I hope and urge that the great proportion of these will take advantage of the voting right. It is a sad commentary on our democracy that Germany, with only half of our population, saw two million more votes cast at its election for President than the United States in 1924. We are generally behind other countries in the voting record, although in foreign countries the voting franchise has been a comparatively recent exercise of sovereignty by the citizens.

It is commendable that both parties this year are making earnest endeavors to have enrolled a very large vote. If an administration is to function well and to decide wisely on important issues, it should be governed by public opinion. We certainly do not get the public opinion of the United States when only 50% of the qualified voters appear at the polls. The time to record either satisfaction or disapproval of officials is on election day. Grumbling about our public servants on other days of the year is largely a waste of time.

We do not want to see here a Government of all the people by 50% of the people. We have been having a Government by only a majority within the 50%, which is far less than the actual majority of the qualified voters.

This coming election will afford the people an opportunity to register their views in no uncertain way on some fundamental issues. Neither of the candidates, if elected, would feel primed for acting as Chief Executive if only a portion of 50% of the voters is responsible for his certificate of election.

In 1924 Mr. Coolidge received 15,725,016 votes. Mr. Davis received 8,386,624 votes. Mr. La Follette received 4,830,478. And there were scattered 157,000 votes. The total vote was only 29,099,131. There were qualified to vote in 1924 54,128,895. So that Mr. Coolidge, who was elected President, only received a little more than one-fourth of the qualified votes of the country.

Research into this neglect of voting by the people of the United States has led our legislative bodies into taking action in order to develop a greater vote. The principal measures in this line have been the various laws made by the States for "absentee voting." Forty-five of the forty-eight States have made provisions so that absentees from these States may cast their ballots.

For every 100 votes cast for President in 1920, there were ninety-six who could vote but did not. This is no way to elect a President of the

United States, who, under our Constitution, is given more power than any one human being in the world.

Remember, this campaign will be the most stirring in the history of American politics. There is no American who does not want to take part in it. In many instances heretofore the race has been very close. Under our Electoral College system of selecting a President, one State may decide the result. In that State a few votes either way may determine the entire election. One man's vote is as good as another man's vote. The quality known as Americanism is demonstrated to a mathematical certainty at the polls. Your vote is valuable. Do not throw it away. If a debtor owed you money and you were away on the due date, you would make arrangements for him to transmit your money to you wherever you might be. You can make a similar arrangement in regard to the vote.

Voting under the absentee voting laws is made simple and requires but little effort. Let your Government hear from you no matter where you are on election day.

The candidates will struggle incessantly in making an appeal for your vote. They are at least entitled to expect you to exercise your franchise. Strong men are running. Great issues fill the air. It will be up to you to pass judgment and you cannot do it if you fail to register. The American vote has a background of bloody sacrifice by the great Americans of all our wars. If you choose to be voteless, they have sacrificed, to that extent, in vain.

After a terrific struggle, the franchise was granted to the women of America. In the 1920 election, it is estimated that the women cast 37% of the total vote; and 43% of the women qualified to vote actually voted. In only a few of the States did the women cast 50% or more of their voting strength.

The issues presented at the coming election will be of intense interest to the women of the land. The cost of living, employment, freedom of conscience, religious liberty and equal opportunity should attract a great majority of the women to register and to vote.

Every man and woman who votes and does not encourage the other members of their families to do likewise, only casts a portion of a vote.

Working women have a vast interest at stake in the election. Governor Smith stands as the champion of human rights and welfare of the working women. Of no other accomplishment is he prouder than of the success attending his efforts in the State of New York to better the conditions of women in industry. As President, he would have a tremendous influence on national legislation toward the same end. I trust the women will appreciate his services in this respect by their registration and vote.

Remember, you cannot vote if you do not register.

Henry Ford Opposed to Repeal of Prohibition Law—For Hoover If He Is Interested in Retaining Eighteenth Amendment.

In the view of Henry Ford "the worst thing that could happen to this country would be a step backward in our fight against liquor." Mr. Ford is also quoted as saying: "I am interested in anything to keep the Eighteenth Amendment as it is. If Hoover stands on that belief, and I am sure he does, I am for him." His views on a score of subjects, expressed to newspaper men at Wayside Inn, Sudbury, Mass. were given in a Boston dispatch to the New York "Times" Aug. 17.

He is for Hoover. He believes Thomas A. Edison is the greatest man in the country. He believes somebody must "give aviation a big push" before flying becomes commonplace. He believes permanent peace is almost here because "the present generation is too intelligent to be tricked into war."

Among other things, he is keenly interested in a new diet, or manner of eating, which makes for the greatest human efficiency.

Mr. Ford is confident that he will not lose money making his new automobile, despite the fears of many friends.

"I am sure I can make money," he said, although he declined to say whether he is now or when he expects to. He anticipates that his plants will attain a daily output of 10,000 cars about Jan. 1 1929. The present production, he said, is about 4,300 cars.

"I am now worrying about how much each car costs me," he remarked smilingly. "Much money is wasted merely trying to find out such facts."

Returning to the election and prohibition, Mr. Ford declined to say whether he would vote for Smith "if Smith were dry and Hoover were wet." "There are no such things as 'ifs,'" he answered bluntly. But later he predicted a continued era of prosperity for the country, no matter who won the election in November. He has no fear of prohibition being repealed.

"Such a change would be a calamity," he declared, "but there is no possibility of it. As for present enforcement conditions, we manage to get along well enough at Detroit, although we are next door to Canada. Personally, I'd turn out the army and navy to stop bootlegging.

"But if the law were changed, we'd have to shut up our plants. Everything in the United States is keyed up to a new pace, which started with prohibition. The speed at which we run our motor cars, operate our intricate machinery and generally live would be impossible with liquor. No, there is no chance of even modification."

Herbert Hoover, Republican Nominee for President, Enlarges upon Plans for Farm Relief—Conference of Leaders, Including Gov. Lowden, Proposed—Development of Waterways.

In an address, delivered on Aug. 21 at his birthplace, West Branch, Iowa, Herbert Hoover, Republican nominee for President, alluded anew to the legislative proposals for relief to the agricultural industry which the Republican Party has put forward in its platform, and made known his intention, in the event of his election as President, to invite Gov. Lowden and other farm leaders to join in a conference with a view to finding a solution of the farm relief problem. Mr. Hoover in his speech this week enlarged upon his remarks on the subject in his speech of acceptance given in our issue of Aug. 18, page 902. In that speech Mr. Hoover indicated that it was proposed to create "a Federal Farm Board of representative farmers to

be clothed with authority and resources with which not only to still further aid farmers' co-operatives and pools and to assist generally in solution of farm problems, but especially to build up with Federal finance farmer-owned and farmer-controlled stabilization corporations which will protect the farmer from the depressions and demoralization of seasonal gluts and periodical surpluses." In his address at West Branch, Secretary Hoover also called attention to "the importance of the development of our interior waterways as bearing on the prosperity not only of agriculture but of the whole of our Midwest business and commerce." Mr. Hoover's speech of Aug. 21 follows in part herewith:

I am proud to have been born in Iowa. I have oftentimes said that the good Lord made it the richest stretch of agricultural land that ever blessed any one sovereign government. It was settled by the adventurous, the courageous, who fought their way across the ever-extending frontier. They have builded here in so short a period as seventy-five years a State with the least poverty, the highest average intelligence, the most generous education, which ever blessed a single commonwealth.

Here in West Branch can be found all the milestones of the changes which have come to American agriculture. Only a mile from here is the farm of my Uncle Allen, where I spent some years of my boyhood. That was just at the passing stage of the great pioneer movement. Many farms were still places where we tilled the soil for the immediate needs of the families. We ground our wheat and corn on toll at the mill; we slaughtered our hogs for meat; we wove at least a part of our own clothing; we repaired our own machinery; we got our own fuel from the woods; we erected our own buildings; we made our own soap; we preserved our own fruit and grew our own vegetables. Only a small part of the family living came by purchases from the outside. Perhaps 20% of the products were sold in the markets to purchase the small margin of necessities which we could not ourselves produce, and to pay interest on the mortgage.

In a half century the whole basis of agriculture has shifted. We have improved seed and livestock; we have added a long list of mechanical inventions for saving of labor; we have increased the productivity of the land. And it has become a highly specialized business. There is no longer one industry called farming, but in fact a dozen industries. Probably over 80% of its products now go directly or indirectly to the markets and probably over 80% of the family living must be purchased from outside.

In the old days, when prices fluctuated in the Chicago market, at most they affected only 20% of the income of the farm. A violent drop in prices could reduce the family income by only 4 or 5%. To-day the same fluctuation in price, affecting as it does 80% to 100% of the farm, can take 25 or 50% away from the family net income and make the difference between comfort and freedom from anxiety, and on the other hand, debts and discouragements.

I do not suggest a return to the greater security which agriculture enjoyed in its earlier days, because with that security were lower standards of living, greater toil, less opportunity for leisure and recreation, less of the comforts of home, less of the joy of living.

I am often conscious of sentimental regret for the passing of those old-time conditions. I have sometimes been as homesick for the ways of those self-contained farm homes of forty years ago as I have been for the kindly folk who lived in them. But I know it is no more possible to revive those old conditions than it is to summon back the relatives and friends in the cemetery yonder. While we recognize and hold fast to what is permanent in the old-time conditions, we much accept what is inevitable in the changes that have taken place. It is fortunate indeed that the principles upon which our Government was founded require no alteration to meet these changes.

Just as there is transformation in agriculture, so there is in other industry; just as there is more specializations on the farm, so there is in other industry. We live to-day by the exchange of goods among ten thousand sorts of producers of specialties. A large number of occupations which were conducted on the farm in the old days are now conducted in the factory. That is one reason why we have a decreasing proportion of our people on the farms. By this revolution the American farmer has become enmeshed in powerful and yet delicate economic forces which are working to his disadvantage.

Proposals for Farm Relief.

In my acceptance speech ten days ago I made an extended statement upon the legislative proposals for relief to the agricultural industry which the Republican Party has put forward in its platform. You would not wish me to take your time to review that statement. I should, however, like to emphasize that the spirit of those legislative proposals is to work out a more economical and stable marketing system. A Federal Farm Board is to be set up with the necessary powers and resources to assist the industry to meet not alone the varied problems of to-day, but those which may arise in the future.

My fundamental concept of agriculture is one controlled by its own members, organized to fight its own economic battles and to determine its own destinies. Nor do I speak of organization in the narrow sense of traditional farm co-operatives or pools, but in the much wider sense of a sound marketing organization. It is not by these proposals intended to put the Government into the control of the business of agriculture, nor to subsidize the prices of farm products and pay the losses thereon either by the Federal Treasury or by a tax or fee on the farmer. We propose with Governmental assistance and an initial advance of capital to enable the agricultural industry to reach a stature of modern business operations by which the farmer will attain his independence and maintain his individuality.

And upon this whole question I should like to repeat from my acceptance speech that:

"The working out of agricultural relief constitutes the most important obligation of the next Administration. The object of our policies is to establish for our farmers an income equal to those of other occupations; for the farmer's wife the same comforts in her home as women in other groups; for the farm boys and girls the same opportunities in life as other boys and girls. So far as my own abilities may be of service, I dedicate them to help secure prosperity and contentment in that industry where I and my forefathers were born and nearly all my family still obtain their livelihood."

Conference of Farm Leaders.

In formulating recommendations for legislation to carry out the proposals of the party, I trust that we may have the full assistance of the

leaders of agricultural thought. I am not insensible to the value of the study which sincere farm leaders have given to this question of farm legislation. They have all contributed to the realization that the problem must be solved. They will be invited into conference. Outstanding farmers such as Governor Lowden will be asked to join in the search for common ground upon which we can act.

Importance of Development of Interior Waterways.

I had thought to-day to particularly point out the importance of the development of our interior waterways as bearing on the prosperity not only of agriculture but of the whole of our Midwest business and commerce. It is a most important supplement to agricultural relief.

The necessarily large advances in railway rates from the war militates against the economic setting of this whole interior section. This, together with the completion of the Panama Canal and the fact that ocean rates have increased but little since before the war, further disturbs the whole economic relationship of the Midwest. It is as if a row of toll gates had been placed around this whole section of our country. It seriously affects the farmer. I think we can accept it as an economic fact that the farmer on most occasions pays the freight on his products. It is a deduction from the ultimate price; you yourself can attest this. In a general way, the center point of markets is overseas or the Atlantic seaboard, where prices are determined by the meeting of streams of world products. For every hundred miles you are removed from these market centers the price of farm products is lower by the amount of freight rates.

Some calculations which I made a few years ago showed that the increases in railway rates had in effect moved the Midwest 200 to 400 miles further from seaboard. Moreover, some of the competitive agricultural regions, such as the Argentine and Australia, are close to seaboard, and with sea rates about the same as before the war they are able to compete with the American farmer in foreign markets to a greater advantage than before the war. This increase in transportation rates also affects the prices of many things which the farmer must buy, for much raw material which comes into the Midwest pays the increased freight rate, and this in turn is taken up by the consumer.

We cannot return to pre-war railway rates without ruin to the railways. Therefore I have long asserted that the real hope of reducing charges upon our bulk goods was through the modernization of our great interior waterways.

By modernization, I mean increasing depths to a point where we can handle 10,000 tons in a line of barges pulled by a tug. This Administration has authorized the systematic undertaking of this modernization. Within a few years we will have completed the deepening of the Ohio up to Pittsburgh, the Missouri up to Kansas City, Omaha and beyond, the Mississippi to St. Paul and Minneapolis, the Illinois to Chicago.

We already have experience with results, for with only the main river from St. Louis to New Orleans as yet working properly, the rates for transportation of bulk agricultural products through that section is near pre-war railway rates. We will not have the advantage of full results until the entire Mississippi and its tributaries are in one connected transportation system.

We have another great opportunity of relief in the building of a shipway from the Great Lakes to the sea. Our engineers have recommended the St. Lawrence route as the preferable outlet. The Administration has undertaken negotiations with Canada upon the subject. If these negotiations fail we must consider alternative routes. In any event the completion of this great system of barge lines on the rivers and connecting the lakes with the Gulf, of opening a ship-way from the lakes to the sea, will make an effective transportation system 12,000 miles in length penetrating twenty Mid-west States. It will connect these States with seaboard at the Gulf on one hand and with the North Atlantic on the other. And this means more than the mere saving upon the actual goods shipped over these routes. If part of our crops can move to market at a seven to ten cent saving per bushel, the buyers' competitive bidding for this portion of the crop will force upward the price of the whole crop.

Industry and Business Would Benefit.

And this development concerns not alone agriculture but every industry and business in the Midwest. The manufacturer and merchant in this section is suffering from a curtailment of his distribution field; his business province has shrunk. This development should tend to increase manufacturing industry in the Midwest and thereby create a larger diversity of employment and a greater local market for agricultural products.

Nor does this development mean the crippling of our railways. The annual increase in railways traffic will give to them a far more and complete offset to these diversions. Moreover, everything that increases the prosperity of the country also helps the railways. The policy of rapid consummation of this great project will be continued if the Republican Administration be continued. We should at the present rate of progress have completed the Mississippi system within the next four years. It is a vital part of the rehabilitation of the Middle West agriculture and business.

The modernizations of our waterways recall again the earlier life of Iowa. At one time its transportation was in large degree over these same rivers, and many of our pioneers reached this State by the old packet boats and their own rafts. Nor are the days of the pioneer over. We have to pioneer through economic problems, through scientific development and invention on to frontiers just as forbidding, just as romantic, and just as pregnant of added happiness as our fathers ever knew. The test of our generation will be whether we can overcome these frontiers, whether we can hold mastery over the system we have created, whether we can maintain the advantage we have inherited, whether we can hold ourselves a nation dedicated to equal opportunity for all.

There are those in this audience who saw Iowa an open prairie. I recall members of my own family who in my childhood were still breaking the soil in the western part of the State and were then still living in the first sod houses of the pioneer farmer. Our fathers and grandfathers who poured over the Midwest were self-reliant, rugged, God-fearing people of indomitable courage. They combined to build the roads, bridges and towns; they co-operated together to erect their schools, their churches and to raise their barns and harvest their fields. They asked only for freedom of opportunity and an equal chance.

In these conceptions lies the real basis of American democracy. They and their fathers give a genius to American institutions that distinguished our people from any other in the world. Their demand for an equal chance is the basis of American progress. To those who have by necessity worked in other lands comes this most vivid meaning of America and a deep gratitude for what our fathers have builded. Here there are no limits to hope; no limits upon accomplishment; our obligation to-day

is to maintain that equal opportunity for agriculture as well as for every other calling.

When we traverse the memories of those who have builded this State and this nation we recall these acts which are rooted in the soil of service. When we rehearse our own memories we find that none gives us such comfort and satisfaction as the record of service we have been able to render. I do not believe our people have lost those finer qualities of rugged character, self-reliance or initiative, nor have they lost the great quality which they embedded in American character, the quality of neighborly co-operation and mutual service. It is in this quality that our hopes must lie in the solution of our great problems.

And I must say again that the solution of these problems has but one purpose, that is the comfort and welfare of the American family and the American home. The family is the unit of American life and the home is the sanctuary of moral inspiration and of American spirit. The true conception of America is not a country of 110,000,000 people, but a nation of 23,000,000 families living in 23,000,000 homes. I pledge my services to these homes.

E. D. Funk of President Wilson's "Fair Price" Committee Says Secretary Hoover Had No Part in Wheat Price Fixing During War.

The following appeared in the Chicago "Tribune" of Aug. 8:

An Illinois farmer, Eugene D. Funk, who operates 4,000 acres near Bloomington, arose yesterday to the defense of Herbert Hoover against Democratic charges of responsibility for the low price fixed for wheat in 1917. Mr. Funk was a member of the Wilson "fair price" committee.

"Secretary Hoover had no part in that price fixing during the war," he said at the farm section of the Republican western headquarters here he consulted with Congressman L. J. Dickinson of Iowa.

"The story that he was responsible for the price established is absolutely false and has been so branded by every member of our committee.

"Hoover Present Only Once"

"Mr. Hoover obtained a room for us to meet in at the Albany hotel in Washington and that was the first and only time he met with us. At that time he asked to be relieved from acting with the committee and we acceded to that wish. He never was present during our deliberations and we did not take up our decisions with him.

"Our report was sent directly to President Wilson and not to Mr. Hoover. Harry A. Garfield, chairman of the committee, Charles Barrett, L. J. Taber, W. J. Shortall and I were present when the last ballot was taken and the price of spring wheat was fixed at \$2.20.

Notified After Price Is Set.

"No one left the room until the statement to President Wilson had been prepared and approved by the committee and the conclusions of the committee were not made known to Mr. Hoover until this action had been taken.

"Our final decision was of necessity a compromise as some members of the committee wanted a lower and others a higher price set."

Similar statements on this subject are said to have been made by Chairman Garfield in a letter which also was signed by four other members of the committee.

William C. Durant for Hoover and Prohibition—Looks for Higher Stock Prices.

William C. Durant, President of the Durant Motor Company, declared for Herbert Hoover, Republican nominee for President, and for prohibition, before leaving for Europe on the Ile de France on Aug. 17 to open a branch in Paris and an assembly factory in Berlin. The following account of Mr. Durant's statements before his departure is from the "Times":

Mr. Durant, who described himself as an independent Republican who had voted for Woodrow Wilson, said that he believed that good citizenship, morality and decency were on the side of prohibition and asserted that the leaders of American business belonged on that side.

Mr. Durant would not admit that his remarks on prohibition constituted a reply to other motor company officials, when it was recalled that John J. Raskob, Democratic National Chairman, and Pierre S. du Pont, until recently active in the management of the General Motors Corporation, were both opposed to present prohibition laws and for Governor Smith. Mr. Durant added that Mr. Hoover's election seemed assured and that the American people had a right to expect a continuance of prosperity.

Expects Higher Stock Prices.

"Now that the Federal Reserve has abandoned its attempt to influence the stock market," Mr. Durant said in a statement, "by regulating brokers loans and forcing liquidation (an outrageous and unwarranted procedure), we can once more enjoy a normal market and reasonable money rates, which means, if I am not greatly mistaken, very much higher prices for good securities.

"With Hoover's election practically assured, we have a right to expect a continuance of the remarkable prosperity which we have enjoyed for the past four years.

"The first duty of a good citizen is to obey the law. The highest law of the land is the Constitution. Part of the Constitution is the Eighteenth Amendment. For the widespread disobedience to the liquor law as embodied in the Constitution, the business leaders of the country are very largely responsible. Had our business leaders frowned upon instead of encouraging bootlegging, had they raised their voices in protest of public and private violations, had they used their money and their influence to obtain a fair trial for one of the best measures ever adopted by this or any other country—in other words, if they had supported the Constitution of the United States—our public officials (including our judges), our children, our servants, our employes and the thinking public generally would without question have caught the spirit of law observance—a very necessary requisite if we are to have a safe and permanent Government.

Says Business Leaders Defy Law.

"Business leaders, who have the largest stake in law observance, set the example of law defiance.

"Two solutions are offered. One is to throw up our hands, admit the liquor law is unenforceable and agitate for its repeal, and by so doing confess that the American public has failed in this test of their capacity for self-control and self-government. The other solution is to postpone admission of failure until we have given the law a chance for success. That

means the personal observance of law and the formation of public opinion to support and demand its enforcement.

"I do not believe that the majority of American business men are ready to join the defeatists. I believe that good citizenship, morality and decency are on the side of prohibition and that American business leadership also belongs on that side.

"I do not expect to make a startling contribution to the Republican campaign fund because I think this election involves principles and morals, rather than money. I shall vote for Hoover."

Senator Curtis Invited to Sit in Hoover Cabinet in Event of Election of Republican Candidates.

Herbert Hoover on Aug. 18 invited his running mate, Senator Curtis, to join in the Cabinet meetings in his office as Vice-President, in the event of Republican success in the election, and the Vice-Presidential nominee accepted the proposal. This is made known in telegraphic advices (Associated Press) from Topeka, Kan., which said:

The proposal came in a telegram from Mr. Hoover. In proposing this course, Mr. Hoover is following the precedent established by President Harding. During his term of office Mr. Harding had Vice-President Coolidge join in the Cabinet meetings. However, Vice-President Dawes declined a similar invitation from President Coolidge, asserting that he did not believe a precedent should be established in the practice.

The telegram from Mr. Hoover is as follows:

"I feel that your life-long accomplishment and experience in problems of government should be available to the administration arm of the Government. That this should be accomplished to the fullest extent, I am in hopes that upon return of Republican Administration you will consent to join in Cabinet session."

Senator Curtis replied as follows:

"I wish to acknowledge the receipt of and to thank you for your telegram of Aug. 18, inviting me to attend your Cabinet meetings if the Republican ticket is elected in November.

"It has been my belief always that closer co-operation and greater harmony in the Administration as a whole can be secured by having the Vice-President keep in active touch with the executive problems of Government and that in many respects this can be a distinct benefit to the executive branch as well as to the legislative branch.

"Therefore it gives me pleasure to accept your courteous invitation and I shall do my best to assist in making the coming Administration the most successful the country ever has had."

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia University Rejects Hoover's Stand on Prohibition and Naval Program—Confident that "Millions of Earnest Republicans" Agree with Him.

Disagreeing with Herbert Hoover, the Republican candidate for President, on two essential points, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler has indicated his stand in a letter addressed to the New York "Times," published as follows in the August 20 issue of that paper, with introductory remarks as follows:

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, President of Columbia University and a life-long Republican, breaking at last the silence he has maintained since the Kansas City Convention, announces to-day, in a letter to the Editor of The New York "Times," printed below, and likely to become notable in this campaign, his complete disapproval of the stand taken by Herbert Hoover, Republican nominee for President, upon what Dr. Butler characterizes as two of the most important questions before the American people.

The two questions involve Mr. Hoover's attitude on the United States naval program, as related to our striving for world peace, and upon prohibition. To both these questions Dr. Butler has given intensive study. He has spoken and written extensively upon both.

As President of the Carnegie Endowment Foundation for International Peace, Dr. Butler has addressed learned bodies, both in this country and in Europe, on questions relating to international relations and the promotion of world peace. In the matter of prohibition he has taken an advanced position in favor of repeal of the Eighteenth amendment, as not being in consonance with the spirit of the Constitution of the United States.

Dr. Butler's letter may perhaps be regarded as taking on added importance from the fact that his daughter, Miss Sarah Schuyler Butler, is at present acting Chairman of the Republican State Committee, owing to the recent death of Chairman George K. Morris. Miss Butler's present position is temporary, until a new State Chairman can be chosen. She is, however, permanently Vice-Chairman of the committee, and as such is in charge of Republican work among the women of the State.

DR. BUTLER'S STATEMENT.

Here is Dr. Butler's letter:

Southampton, N. Y., Aug. 15 1928.

To the Editor of the New York "Times":—As a Republican by conviction from youth, and as one who has given and is giving to the Republican party the best service of which he is capable, I wish to dissociate myself quickly, publicly and completely from positions on two of the three most important questions now before the American people that were taken by Mr. Hoover in his speech of acceptance. In full agreement with me, there are, I am confident, literally millions of earnest Republicans throughout the country, both men and women, who are entirely unselfish.

Peace and Preparedness.

The first has reference to Mr. Hoover's acceptance of the time-worn but wholly false argument that what he describes as "adequate preparedness for defense" is a factor co-operating in the maintenance of peace. The contrary is now the well-demonstrated fact. The sober and solemn words of Viscount Grey of Faldoon on this point, based on most unusual observation and experience, ought to carry conviction to any open and honest mind. Mr. Hoover dismisses with a few perfunctory words the truly remarkable treaty just now to be signed by ourselves and all the great powers of the earth pledging renunciation of war as an instrument of national policy, and chooses this moment to repeat that "we must and shall maintain our naval defense. . . . in the strength and efficiency which will yield to us at all times the primary assurance of liberty; that is, of national safety."

Listen to this sentence: "We must not only be just; we must be respected." Is it not plain that the thought behind the word "respected" would be more accurately expressed by the word "feared"? What sort of mind and nature is it which can at this stage of the world's history deliberately find a basis for respect in force rather than in justice? Is not the just man, the just nation, respected? Are not Holland and Belgium, Switzerland and Denmark respected? Surely the repetition of this ancient and discarded doctrine will not be accepted by the masses of the Republican Party or by the people.

The Principle of "Swagger."

It is but a few months since the Secretary of the Navy presented proposals for a program of naval construction, which affronted the intelligence and the moral sense not only of the American people, but of the entire world. Fortunately, public opinion rose promptly in its might and slew the monster before it had done much damage. The House of Representatives so hacked to pieces the official proposal that it could not be recognized by its own parent. Then the Senate contemptuously threw the whole thing upon the legislative garbage-heap, where it now lies, unwept, unhonored and unsung.

That amazing proposal was made in the interest of "national security," meaning thereby swagger, and it rested upon precisely the principle which Mr. Hoover now enunciates and accepts. A whole host of Republicans dissent absolutely on this point and will make that dissent manifest by every means in their power. When the American people pledge renunciation of war they mean what they say, and take it for granted that our fellow-nations mean what they say. We shall not support any policy which would at once enter upon a new and enlarged plan of naval construction under the guise of defending ourselves against some power which has only just taken a formal pledge not to attack us. The contradiction and the hypocrisy of it all would be comic were they not so unspeakably tragic.

Prohibition's Repeal.

The second dissent has reference to the question of prohibition. It is quite obvious that Mr. Hoover has no conception of the real problem by which the country is faced and which has been under eager debate for some five years. That problem has to do not with liquor, not with social experiments, good, bad or indifferent, but with the structure and functions of the Government of the United States. No one can be in favor of the principles upon which our overnment rests or of the Constitution itself as it existed before 1920, and at the same time in favor of the Eighteenth Amendment, because the two are absolutely contradictory. That amendment is an alien and unnaturalized invader of the Constitution and must be deported by the people if the Constitution itself is to be preserved and protected.

Mr. Hoover is opposed to the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, and at that point his troubles begin. Accepting the formula of that paid band of agitators, lobbyists and persecutors, which calls itself the Anti-Saloon League, he speaks of nullification as if there were an unheard of and horrid thing. As a matter of fact, the word "nullification" should not be used to describe what is in Mr. Hoover's mind, for in American political history it has a very precise and definite meanings as applied to the doctrine of Calhoun, which Andrew Jackson smashed with his heavy hand. The process and action which it is now fashionable to call nullification are the accepted and usual ways by which any free people, and particularly the American people, have gotten rid of laws that they did not like or that were offensive to their sense of justice and right. If it had not been for this treatment of the Fugitive Slave Law, the Republican Party might never have been born. Statute books, national and State, are filled with enactments which legislatures are too indifferent or too lazy to repeal, but to which no one longer pays the slightest attention. In almost any one of the older States it would be quite impossible to pass the waking hours of Sunday without violating a half dozen laws.

Must Be Repeal or Lawlessness.

Any one who is opposed to the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment and who is also opposed to that process of statutory absolescence that is now called nullification, must then be in favor of their only alternative, which is the continuance of the present reign of lawlessness, debauchery and Government-made crime. Every bootlegger in the land will support this position, both with eagerness and with a share of his very satisfactory profits.

The parrot-like cry for law enforcement means somewhat less than nothing, and, as the Irishman said, not much of that. The facts being what they are, to declare for law enforcement in respect to the Eighteenth Amendment is to declare for lawlessness and for a continuous and organized assault under official protection upon the foundations of our Government. It means what Mr. Justice Holmes, speaking from the bench of the United States Supreme Court, has properly called "dirty business."

What I wish to make entirely plain is that no candidate of my party for the Presidency can commit me or countless others like me to any such doctrines or to any such policies.

The Sinister Anti-Saloon League.

It would indeed be a sorry day for the Republican Party if it were to turn its back upon all its principles, its traditions and its ideals in order to put the sinister figure symbolic of the Anti-Saloon League in a place of honor and authority among its counsellors. Should that day come, and should the door of hope be closed to those hosts of Republicans whose mind and heart are set upon Republican leadership in restoring the purity of our Federal form of Government, in putting an end to the rapidly growing menace of centralized bureaucracy at Washington and in advancing the cause of temperance while protecting the civil liberties of the people, then the Republican Party, as we have known and served and honored it, would have come to a dismal and discreditable end.

In the face of a state of things like this, it seems a far cry to the days of Patrick Henry and James Otis and Samuel Adams and Thomas Jefferson, but some of us at least have not forgotten them. Of what I have written I say in the words which Patrick Henry made famous: "If that be treason, make the most of it!"

NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER.

In its issue of Aug. 21 the "Times" stated that Dr. Butler declared on Aug. 20 at his summer home in Southampton, L. I., that in rejecting the stand of Mr. Hoover, Republican nominee for President, in his letter to The "Times," he did so as a Republican. We quote further from the Aug. 21 issue as follows:

"A reading of the language of my letter to The New York "Times," published Aug. 20," he said, "ought to make it perfectly plain that the position which I have taken has been taken by me as a Republican and a member of the party organization."

This supplemental statement by Dr. Butler, who was the Republican candidate for Vice-President in 1912 and a candidate for the Republican nomination for President in 1920, was taken to indicate that he expected the fight for the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment to continue within the Republican Party.

In political circles interest centred in whether or not Dr. Butler would support Governor Smith, Democratic nominee for President, for whom he has frequently expressed admiration and with whom he is friendly. It is regarded as certain that Dr. Butler will make no further statement of his position until after Governor Smith's acceptance speech tomorrow. Asked what he intended to do then, Dr. Butler replied:

"When I see what Governor Smith's proposed treatment of the prohibition question is it will be time enough for me to consider discussing it."

Mr. Hoover's speech of acceptance was given in these columns Aug. 18, page 902.

Senator Curtis in Accepting Nomination for Vice-President on Republican Ticket Declares Opposition to Repeal of Eighteenth Amendment—Proposes Committee to Solve Farm Relief Problem.

Formally notified at Topeka, Kan., on Aug. 18 of his nomination for Vice-President on the Republican ticket, Senator Charles Curtis of Kansas, in his speech of acceptance enumerated fourteen methods whereby the maintenance and promotion of national prosperity can be accomplished. "To protect agriculture effectively and to encourage it in every way" was one of the means to the desired end mentioned by Senator Curtis, and in further indicating his views on the subject, he said:

The question of the proper relief for agriculture is a trying and perplexing one. . . . I am convinced that if a small joint committee of the House and Senate were appointed to study the problem and to find its proper solution, the necessary relief quickly could and would be afforded. The committee could be assisted in its task by the advice and experience of the most capable experts on the subject whose services can be obtained.

The solution will be found, and found promptly. Our party has pledged itself to the development and enactment of measures which will place the agricultural interests of the United States on a basis of economic equality with other industries, to insure its prosperity and success.

Senator Curtis also declared his views on the subject of prohibition, saying:

I believe in meeting an issue squarely; therefore I state that not only am I heartily in favor of faithfully enforcing all our laws, but, further, I am opposed to the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment or of the Volstead act.

In his declarations on the question, the Vice-Presidential candidate observed that "the prohibition amendment ultimately was adopted by all of the states except Connecticut and Rhode Island—not merely by the required three-fourths of the states, but by all except two." He went on to say:

Through this voluntary action, which binds all, the states delegated to the Federal Government their full original power and responsibility on the liquor prohibition question. The Federal Government accepted the power and responsibility so delegated, thereby binding itself, and, accordingly, Congress passed the Volstead act. For the Federal Government now to adopt, or even to propose or to favor, a policy which will result in allowing each State to determine for itself the alcoholic content of beverages to be manufactured, sold and transported throughout the country would be a direct and indefensible attempt on its part to evade or to repudiate the responsibility so delegated and assumed, and an endeavor to redelegate that responsibility to the several States from whence it came, without any justification for such action.

His recital of methods looking to the promotion of the nation's prosperity included therein the following:

To encourage active participation by women in the conduct of the Government.

To reduce the public debt, public expenses and taxes.

To encourage all industry and to maintain a protective tariff with duties high enough fully to protect American producers, American products and American labor against foreign competition.

To develop, aid, and encourage means of transportation and communication, national and international, by land and water, and in the air, through the consolidation of railroads; the establishment of a complete system of inland waterways; the re-establishment of a strong merchant marine; a strong postal and commercial aircraft service; and a wider and more efficient use of the ever-increasing possibilities of the radio.

The speech formally notifying Senator Curtis of his nomination was delivered by Senator Simeon D. Fess. Senator Curtis' acceptance speech follows:

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Notification Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen:

There has grown up in our system of politics the custom of formally notifying the candidates of the respective parties of the fact that they have been nominated for the two highest offices within the gift of the people. There has also grown up the custom on the part of the candidates, when accepting the nomination, to devote some time to a presentation of their views on the outstanding political topics of the day. Like many another, I have hoped that some day the State of Kansas might be represented by such a fortunate individual. Today this has occurred for the first time in the history of our State. The committee has done its part gracefully and well in these ceremonies.

I accept the nomination of the Republican Party for Vice-President of the United States. It is not in the nature of man to refuse such a signal mark of political recognition. I feel that my thirty-three years of life spent in an endeavor to further the cause of good government in this country have been rewarded indeed. I experience a sense of humbleness when I think that our party has in this splendid manner testified its faith in my capacity to fill such an exalted office in the affairs of the nation. I promise you that if elected no effort of mine will be spared to justify that faith.

The time, place and manner of your notification are particularly fitting. I am in the city of my birth; my lifelong residence; and my home. Around me are my neighbors and friends—friends gathered from throughout our great State of Kansas and representing thousands of others not present. They have given me loyal aid in all my efforts since that far-off day when I entered politics. They know without my words what their friendship has done for me. They know I appreciate it, and that I am and will be loyal to them. Alone, I could do nothing; with my friends to aid me, all things seem possible.

Neither the time nor the occasion will permit a review of all the subjects treated in the Republican platform. It is the part of wisdom that a speech of this character be sufficiently concise not to put too great a strain on the attention of the audience.

The United States is enjoying today an era of national prosperity never before equaled by any nation on the face of the globe. This has been accomplished by the application of Republican principles to the task of government. To maintain and promote that national prosperity, not to sacrifice it to factional interests, are the essential purposes which should shape the administration of our Government. The following are only a few of the principal methods by which these aims can be accomplished:

1. To protect agriculture effectively, and to encourage it in every proper manner.
2. To protect American labor by enacting all needed legislation, and by encouraging closer relations between labor and capital.
3. To enforce the laws without fear or favor.
4. To encourage active participation by women in the conduct of the Government.
5. To reduce the public debt, public expenses and taxes.
6. To maintain peace, engage in commerce with all nations, and to enter entangling alliances with none.
7. To encourage all industry and to maintain a protective tariff with duties high enough fully to protect American producers, American products and American labor against foreign competition.
8. To develop, aid and encourage means of transportation and communication, national and international, by land and water and in the air, through the consolidation of railroads; the establishment of a complete system of inland waterways; the re-establishment of a strong merchant marine; a strong postal and commercial aircraft service, and a wider and more efficient use of the ever-increasing possibilities of the radio.
9. To give equal and exact justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion.
10. To support the State Governments in all their rights.
11. To preserve the Federal Government in its whole constitutional vigor, and to maintain and expand the existing high state of national consciousness.
12. To preserve the liberty of the press; the freedom of speech and worship; civil liberty and security of individual rights, and to promote the cause of education among the people.
13. To protect the lives and property of our citizens by the completion of an adequate system of flood control for the Mississippi River and its tributaries, and elsewhere if necessary, to prevent a recurrence of a disaster such as recently occurred in the Mississippi Valley.
14. To continue a generous policy in the fulfillment of obligations to veterans of our wars, and to extend it to their widows, orphans and dependents.

Manifestly, I cannot discuss here each of these fourteen means to the desired end; and I shall, therefore, limit myself to the first four or five.

Curtis-Aswell Bill For Encouragement of Agriculture.

The encouragement of agriculture always has been a Republican doctrine. It is a necessary part of our philosophy of government. Agriculture is the basic industry of the country and in the very nature of things will ever be so. Whatever is to the detriment of the farmer is, eventually, to the detriment of all our citizens; his welfare and prosperity are inevitably reflected in the welfare and prosperity of the whole nation.

Many plans for the encouragement of agriculture have been proposed and many have been given effect by our party. In the course of my political life every one which in my opinion promised an appreciable measure of sound relief has had my wholehearted and active support. Of recent years two farm measures have been introduced by me in the Senate. Two Democrat members of the House joined in their preparation and introduction. The first was known as the Curtis-Aswell bill. It created an interstate farm marketing association. Its purpose was to promote and stimulate the orderly flow of agricultural commodities in commerce; to remove burdens and restraints on such commodities in commerce; and to provide for the processing, preparing for market, handling, pooling, storing and marketing of agricultural commodities through co-operative marketing associations. The object of this measure was to place the marketing organizations under the ownership and control of the farmers themselves. The other measure was known as the Curtis-Crisp bill. Its object was to enable the farmers to stabilize their markets against undue and excessive fluctuations; to preserve advantageous domestic markets, and to minimize speculation and waste in marketing.

Without the help which the Republican Party has given, the agricultural situation would be infinitely worse than it is. The Capper-Volstead act gave to the farmer the right to engage in collective buying and co-operative selling. In every possible way the Republican Administration has endeavored to give practical and substantial effect to that right.

The Department of Agriculture fills an important place in the work of aiding and advising the farmer. It is our policy to widen each year as much as possible the scope of the department's effectiveness. In the last year alone \$2,298,172 was spent in particularly valuable research work covering numerous classes of agricultural products, including cattle and swine. It is estimated that \$4,157,887 will be required for this work for the coming year. Nearly \$3,000,000 is expended annually by the Department of Agriculture in broadening agricultural markets.

The development of inland waterways, and water transportation in general, is of great value to the agricultural sections of the country. An extensive project in this regard is now being executed. The last Congress has provided for a barge line to extend from St. Louis to Missouri River points, which when in full operation will bring decided relief in the difficulties and cost of transporting farm products. When the loss of the foreign market for our products was imminent because of insufficiency of ships in which to transport them, vessels of the United States Shipping Board were reconditioned and placed in service, thereby saving the market. Tariff protection against foreign competition always has been given to farm products. The Fordney-McCumber Tariff act carries higher rates of duty on agricultural products than any tariff law in the history of the nation. It has been found that certain of the duties are not high enough to give adequate protection to some of the products of the farm, and I believe it is the duty of Congress to provide rates high enough to protect such products against foreign competition. In addition, by this act the duties have been lowered on most of the articles the farmers buy or they have been put upon the free list.

Appropriations have been made freely to aid the farmers in time of crop failures. The Federal farm loan system and the intermediate credit banks have made available to farmers, on loans at a low rate of interest, more than \$2,500,000,000.

That effective help has been given to the farmer by the Republican Party since it took charge on March 4 1921, is indicated by the statement of the Washington office of the American Farm Bureau Federation. On page 1 of its annual report dated April 6 1923, there appears the following:

The passing of the Sixty-seventh Congress into history marks an epoch in the undertaking of the American Farm Bureau's national legislative campaign. It is not too much to say that the twenty-sixth laws passed by that Congress which were initiated and supported by us are of far more importance to American agriculture than all the legislation relating to agriculture passed since the adoption of our Constitution.

Joint Committee Proposed to Study Farm Relief Problem.

Though much has been done to ameliorate the farmers' situation, still more remains to be done, for there exists today a depression in agriculture which in the best interests of all of the people must be relieved.

The question of the proper relief for agriculture is a trying and perplexing one. The problem is of deep-seated economic importance to every citizen without regard to his occupation or his political party. Properly its solution is and always should be non-partisan. I am convinced that if a small joint committee of the House and Senate were appointed to study the problem and to find its proper solution the necessary relief quickly could and would be afforded. The committee could be assisted in its task by the advice and experience of the most capable experts on the subject whose services can be obtained.

It will be remembered that for years we had great trouble with the problem of settling our standard of value. The failure to settle the question had brought forth the Greenback Party and later the Free Silver Party. In 1899 that great and able statesman from Maine Thomas B. Reed appointed a committee of eleven to draw a measure fixing the standard of value. In three weeks the committee had agreed upon a draft of a bill and the Gold Standard act of 1900 was the result. We have had no trouble with that question since then. If such a committee could settle so satisfactorily that great and vexing question surely a committee of able legislators specifically charged with the task could agree upon an agricultural relief plan which would be equally satisfactory.

The solution will be found, and found promptly. Our party has pledged itself to the development and enactment of measures which will place the agricultural interests of the United States on a basis of economic equality with other industries to insure its prosperity and success.

Capital and Labor.

In the early days employes labored long hours amid unsanitary conditions and dangerous, unguarded machinery. The plight of the native workmen was aggravated by the ever-increasing number of immigrant laborers who contended with them for jobs.

Steady progress has been made in the enactment of legislation to relieve these conditions. The hours of labor have been reduced to eight where formerly they were ten and twelve. Laws to improve working conditions have been passed, and the scope of these laws is being broadened constantly. Immigration has been restricted sharply.

In recent years capital and labor have come to recognize that they are indispensable to each other; that they are economic allies, not enemies, and that disputes between them are to the detriment of both, as well as to the detriment of the people of the country as a whole. It is believed that the time will come, and that it is not far off, when there will be a complete and honest understanding between labor and capital as to their respective rights and the rights of the general public.

Republican Party Pledged to Enforcement of 18th Amendment.

To determine the extent to which legislation is beneficial and beyond which it is hurtful is the province of statesmanship. Good laws—that is, good statesmanship—are the result of the application of common sense and sound judgment to immutable principles. While people may differ as to the wisdom of the enactment of a particular piece of legislation, or as to the amending of the Constitution in regard thereto, it is impossible to ignore the Constitution and unthinkable to evade it by a particular administrative policy.

The Constitution of the United States is the keystone of our national strength, our pride in the hour of prosperity, our consolation and rallying point under every pressure of adversity; and whoever seriously wishes to preserve our Constitution in its full purity and vigor must of necessity wish to have all its articles and amendments honestly obeyed and faithfully enforced.

Both freedom and justice are to be secured only through popular respect for the laws of our country while they remain so, regardless of personal opinion. The Republican Party pledges itself to the faithful enforcement and vigorous execution of the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution. My own record among you as Prosecuting Attorney for Shawnee County shows clearly that I believe in and practice enforcement of the law.

Prohibition Amendment Adopted By All States Except Two.

The prohibition amendment ultimately was adopted by all of the States except Connecticut and Rhode Island—not merely by the required three-fourths of the States, but by all except two. Through this voluntary action, which binds all, the States delegated to the Federal Government their full original power and responsibility on the liquor prohibition question. The Federal Government accepted the power and responsibility so delegated, thereby binding itself, and, accordingly, Congress passed the Volstead act. For the Federal Government now to adopt, or even to propose or to favor, a policy which will result in allowing each State to determine for itself the alcoholic content of beverages to be manufactured, sold and transported throughout the country would be a direct and indefensible attempt on its part to evade or to repudiate the responsibility so delegated and assumed and an endeavor to redelegate that responsibility to the several States from whence it came, without any justification for such action.

Against Repeal of Amendment.

I believe in meeting an issue squarely, therefore I state that not only am I heartily in favor of faithfully enforcing all our laws, but, further, I am opposed to the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment or of the Volstead act.

Participation By Women In Government Encouraged.

Since the beginning of civilization the right to vote, which is the right to have a decisive voice in the affairs of Government, has been coveted and fought for. When obtained it has been cherished by its possessors; hedged around with restrictions and qualifications; and extended to others only with reluctance. During the early period of our own Government it was not every free man who was entitled to vote. Our present policy of universal suffrage is the growth of the years, and the recognition of woman's rights was particularly slow.

My personal stand on the question was at all times firmly and openly in favor of permitting women to vote. It is known and recognized that my active aid and support were instrumental to no small degree in procuring the action of the Senate on June 4 1919, by which the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution was proposed to the Legislatures of the several States, and woman's right to the ballot became effective Aug. 26 1920.

The mere right to vote, not exercised, is useless. As a matter of duty women as well as men should exercise that right. There are in the United States today between twenty-six and twenty-seven million women over the age of twenty-one entitled to vote. As the years pass these women are becoming increasingly alive to their opportunity to take a large and import-

ant part in the management and control of the country's affairs; to enforce recognition, change and improvement in their own particular problems and those which most interest them, and to become a distinct power in deciding all questions of vital concern to every citizen regardless of sex.

The Republican Party has welcomed and encouraged this development. From the first it has given women substantial recognition in its councils. It believes in, and practices, the principle of full equality between man and woman. It has procured the appointment of women to responsible executive positions in the various departments of Government throughout the country; it has caused the appointment of women Judges and women diplomats, and it has procured the election of women legislators. This was done because women have borne their full share of responsibility in Government, with great credit, and have demonstrated their ability in its management. The Nineteenth Amendment has been of the utmost importance in assisting our party in the task of good government. We feel confident that our record for the maintenance and promotion of national prosperity will result in aligning the women's votes on the side of the Republican Party in the coming campaign.

Reduction of Public Debt, Expenses and Taxes.

Prompt reduction of the public debt, of expenses of public administration and of Federal taxes are obviously sound business practices.

The people have not forgotten the real condition of the country and of the Government when the Republican Administration took charge on March 4 1921. The aftermath of the tremendous struggle of the World War was full upon us. Credit was on the wane, our bonds were far below par, industry was at a standstill or running at a loss, taxes were high and almost intolerable and the work of the Government was being extravagantly administered. Our party, under the able leadership of President Coolidge, has brought about the correction of these conditions. Credit has been restored, our bonds are above par and industry is prospering.

The budget system was installed to control governmental expenditures and to reduce public expenses. It has resulted in substantial elimination of extravagance and waste in administration. There is one way in which the expense of government can and should be reduced still further. It is by doing away with every useless and unnecessary board, bureau and commission. There are many such, the existence of which greatly enlarges the Federal payroll. Some of them overlap each other and cause duplication of work which if necessary at all could be handled by previously existing departments. They are the result of a modern tendency, seriously unwise to overlegislate, overregulate and overadminister the lives of our people. This fault should be checked at once and eradicated entirely as soon as possible.

In spite of this situation, which the budget system cannot reach, the Government has by the adoption of that system materially reduced its expenses, living well within its income and setting a praiseworthy example of sound financing not only to our people but to those of the world in general. This is shown by the fact that the Treasury surplus for the fiscal year ended June 30 last was \$398,000,000.

At the close of the war the public debt had reached a total figure quite beyond the comprehension of the average man. It was approximately \$25,500,000,000. The interest charges thereon alone were stupendous. The policy of quick and substantial curtailment of the public debt was adopted and put into immediate effect. If for no other reason than to cut down the almost incredible annual interest charges, the propriety of this action cannot be denied seriously. The report of the Treasury Department for the year ended June 30 1928, now shows the public debt to be \$17,604,000,000, a reduction of \$7,796,000,000. A second good business principle put into effect needs merely its statement to show its wisdom. By transfer into securities bearing a lower rate of interest the annual rate on the interest-bearing debt was reduced from 4.29 to 3.38%. The prompt reduction of the total debt and the lowering of the interest rate have resulted in an annual interest saving of more than \$275,000,000. A graphic illustration of the result of this second policy alone is: The payment on the public debt during the last year was \$900,000,000, on which there was an interest saving of \$35,000,000. As recently stated by President Coolidge, this saving is approximately sufficient to meet the Government's annual expense in taking care of flood-control work to be done in the Mississippi Valley. The practical result of the Republican program is sufficient to show that our opponents' proposals to carry the debt indefinitely and to continue to pay such interest charges cannot be justified as good business.

Despite the tremendous sums paid toward reduction of the public debt, the sound financial policy adopted by the Republican Party has enabled it to make four reductions in taxes, thereby greatly lightening the tax burden of the American people. In the fiscal year just closed taxes were cut by more than \$220,000,000. Our party is pledged to a continuation of these sound policies, and to such further reduction of the tax burden as the condition of the Treasury may from time to time permit.

A few words more and I shall have finished. You have notified me that the man who has been nominated to the high office of President of the United States; who in a few short months is to lead our party to renewed victory and our country to continued honor, happiness and prosperity, is Herbert C. Hoover. He is well worthy of the party's choice; a credit to it and to the nation, both in the eyes of our people and of the world. His extensive knowledge, training and experience well fit him to guide the country wisely and justly to new heights of renown.

Policies of President Coolidge Expressed in Party Platform.

The policies of Calvin Coolidge are those of our party and are expressed in our platform. They are Mr. Hoover's, and they are mine. They are those of Washington, Lincoln and Roosevelt. Their wisdom and beneficent effect on the lives of our 118,000,000 people have been demonstrated during the years, particularly these last years, in Mr. Coolidge's Administration, and will continue to be demonstrated for years to come. We can well be proud of our record of sound and constructive leadership.

There must be no disloyalty within our own ranks, and there will be none. Republicans may quarrel among themselves, but not at such a time as this. Then they form and present a united and impenetrable front.

Loyal and united, we can go to the polls in November assured of a deserved and decisive majority vote of the people.

South to Get Back Georgia's First Bale of Cotton Sold in Behalf of Democratic National Campaign—To Be Made into Clothing for Orphans.

From the "Times" of Aug. 17 we take the following:

Barron G. Collier, advertising man, who paid \$5,000 for the first bale of the Southern cotton crop, auctioned Wednesday night by Mayor Walker between the acts of "Show Boat" in the Ziegfeld Theatre for the Democratic National Committee, decided yesterday to give the bale to Governor Smith.

There is a "string" to the gift, Mr. Collier suggests that Governor Smith, who will reap the benefit of the \$5,000, reciprocate by presenting the bale

to Governor L. G. Hardman of Georgia, where the cotton was grown, to be made into clothing for orphaned Georgia children. "This will insure the South's getting back what it sent North," said Mr. Collier.

The bale was first auctioned at Atlanta for the benefit of the Democratic cause and was sent North by air mail at a cost of \$1,100. The Governor, Mr. Collier said, undoubtedly will accept the gift, but probably will never see it, as it will be sent directly to Atlanta, although not by air mail again.

A reference to the auction sale of the bale appeared in our issue of Aug. 18, page 906.

Rift Reported in General Motors Corporation on Raskob Issue—Stand Taken by du Pont for Smith Regarded As Lending Emphasis to Stories of Internal Strife—Effect on Market.

The following is from the "Wall Street News" of Aug. 11:

That there is a serious rift in the executive organization of General Motors Corporation not only was made clearly evident by the happenings at Thursday's meeting of the board but also was given greater of the board. It is becoming daily more apparent that the recent advent into politics of John J. Raskob, former Chairman of the Finance Committee, started a cycle of developments which is likely to have a far-reaching effect upon the company.

Officials and others who are in possession of the facts are reluctant to talk, but the report is steadily gaining strength that Pierre S. du Pont's offer to resign as Chairman of the Board of Directors was prompted by his pique at the decision of the directors to accept Mr. Raskob's resignation as Chairman of the finance committee.

Consideration of the unusual series of events affecting General Motors' official family aroused wild rumors in Wall Street yesterday. Stimulated by reports that Mr. Raskob had become heavily interested in Chrysler Motor stock speculators bid the issue up more than 9 points in the face of 8% call money. At the same time General Motors shares receded about 4 points, but recovered most of the loss before the close of business.

Inquiry at Mr. Raskob's private office brought information that he had denied informally any stock interest in Chrysler. It was learned further that he had no thought of becoming associated with the Chrysler organization.

It is no secret that when Mr. Raskob accepted the chairmanship of the Democratic National Committee he fully expected to retain his active participation in the management of General Motors and continue as the company's Finance Chairman. When this action began to have an adverse effect upon the hitherto friendly sentiment of many of the company's dealers and car owners, and when, as a result of this, certain influential stockholders suggested to Mr. Raskob that he temporarily give up his managerial association with General Motors, Mr. Raskob readily acquiesced and tendered his resignation, which was accepted.

Pierre du Pont, it is said, was not in accord with this action and immediately decided to show his disapproval by also withdrawing from active participation in the company's affairs. When he made known to his associates his decision to resign as Chairman of the Board, they prevailed upon him not to insist upon the acceptance of his resignation but to take a leave of absence instead.

To many intelligent observers this is but an expedient to allay the impression that Mr. du Pont is out of General Motors for good, at least in so far as active participation in its management is concerned. There is little doubt but that he will retain his stock interest. It is pointed out that since President Sloan stated that Mr. du Pont was offering to resign because of his activities in connection with the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment, his absence from General Motors must necessarily continue until the association shall have gained its objective or shall have been dissolved.

Following hard on the heels of his tendered resignation from the General Motors Corp., which however was later withdrawn, Mr. du Pont, Chairman of the Board of General Motors Corp., and E. I. du Pont de Nemours Co., yesterday came out flatly with a statement of his intention to support the candidacy of Gov. Alfred E. Smith for President.

"You have asked whether it is my intention to support Governor Smith of New York as candidate for the Presidency of the United States. To this question I reply—yes, and might then pause without further comment," Mr. du Pont stated making his announcement. "However, I believe that you are interested in knowing why, on this occasion a man should reject the party of his usual choice."

Mr. du Pont dealt largely on the subject of prohibition enforcement. "The really important issue before the country, namely that of maintaining intact our original form of government and the liberties of the people, is not dealt with in either party platform," he said. "Nine years of experiment have proved that 'prohibition' does not prohibit, strong drink is still readily obtainable and the ill effects of its abuse remain with us. The real question involves the government itself—whether the machinery of our system designed to promote individual liberty can be twisted and abused so as to curtail liberty and impose upon our people without their consent, laws that may be odious to a substantial minority or perhaps even to a majority."

Mr. du Pont then went on to point out that Governor Smith both before and after his nomination had been clearly in favor of modifications. Stating that he believed that Governor Smith if elected fully intended to uphold the laws, Mr. du Pont said that his declaration of modification gave greater encouragement than does the nonconstructive opinion of his opponent.

Mr. du Pont eulogized Governor Smith's record while in office.

Lamont du Pont In Notice to Employees Says du Pont de Nemours Co. is "Not in Politics."

In a statement addressed on Aug. 15 to employees of the E. I. du Pont de Nemours Co., President Lamont du Pont warned them that the company is "not in politics", and that they are expected to vote as their judgments dictate.

The statement followed the publicity given the actions of Pierre S. du Pont, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and John J. Raskob, Vice-President and member of the

board, in supporting Governor Smith for the Presidency. The statement of Lamot du Pont issued at Wilmington, Del. follows:

"Though employees know that the du Pont Company has never taken part in politics and makes no effort to direct or control the political acts of the men and women who comprise its organization, recently there have been public discussions of political activities which have raised questions of a nature to call for a definite declaration of the company's position.

"The company's officers, regardless of their political affiliations, and the company itself are in no wise concerned with the political leanings or activities of employees, who are expected, as always, to vote as their judgments dictate.

"The leanings of employees, regardless of position, toward any political party are not to be taken as indicating a company attitude or any effort to influence employees politically.

"As good citizens and not as employees of the company, many members of the organization have held and are now holding public and political posts, both of emolument and honor. They have been delegates to the various party conventions, city, county, State and national. They have been and are members of various political and campaign committees.

"It is right that they should do these things as long as the doing does not interfere with their daily work and as long as their actions do not involve the company. Employment by a corporation should not have the remotest influence on their freedom of action as citizens.

"There must be no misunderstanding about this. The company is not 'in politics.' It does not seek to influence the votes of its employees, but expects them to exercise care that their acts as individuals shall not involve it or reflect upon it, nor shall the company's name, resources or property be used for political purposes."

Brief In Behalf of Security Holders Committees Filed With Inter-State Commerce Commission Seeks Higher Class Rates for Western Railroads—Bankruptcies Predicted Unless Rate Structure Is Revised—Unsatisfactory Income Causes Decrease in Railroad Holdings by Insurance Companies.

In a brief filed with the Inter-State Commerce Commission and served upon opposing counsel in New York on August 14, the Security Holders' Committees for a Fair Return asks higher class rates for the railroads in Western trunk line territory and predicts that "if the present trend of earnings in relation to interest charges is not corrected by proper rate revision additional bankruptcies in Western Trunk Line Territory are inevitable." As a result of the unsatisfactory income of the roads, it is said the two most important buyers of investment bonds, life insurance companies and savings banks, have substantially decreased their holdings of western trunk line bonds.

The Security Holders' Committees for a Fair Return were organized by Roosevelt & Son of New York in 1925 and at present represent about \$635,000,000 of bonds of carriers in Western Trunk Line Territory, as well as a substantial amount of stock.

Taking investment at the Commission's own valuation in accordance with the principles of the O'Fallon case the brief points out that the seven year record of return on investment of eight typical western trunk line roads is as follows:

Year	Rate of Return
1921	2.04
1922	3.13
1923	3.61
1924	3.47
1925	3.68
1926	3.74
1927	3.35
Average	3.28

The eight roads covered are the Chicago & North Western; the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha; the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy; the Minneapolis & St. & Sault Ste. Marie; The Minneapolis & St. Louis; the Chicago & Alton; The Chicago Great Western; and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. This includes all of the railroads (except short lines) having more than 75% of their mileage in western trunk-line territory. In the aggregate they have more than 90% of their mileage in that territory. According to the brief the Commission held in the O'Fallon case that regulations must be so administered that an adequate supply of private capital can be secured for and maintained in the railroad industry. The Commission then said "Obviously such an inflow of capital can only be assured by treatment of capital already invested which will invite and encourage further investment."

"In respect of the eight typical western trunk-line roads the return for seven consecutive years has averaged less than 3½% on the 'Rate base' ascertained on the Commission's own O'Fallon method and doctrine," the brief points out. It continues:

"As a result of the highly unsatisfactory income and credit conditions just referred to, important investors have lost faith in overlying western trunk-line bonds, the principal financing media available for raising new capital. Stock cannot be sold. There are no surplus earnings to be put back into the property in substantial amounts. If new money is to be put into the transportation plant it must be raised through junior bonds. But the important purchasers of railroad bonds will no longer buy the junior obligations of the western trunk lines. The most important single factor in the investment buying of the country is that of the so-called big five insurance companies. Of these the Prudential has decreased its holdings of western trunk-line overlying bonds in the last four years; the Mutual has decreased its holdings; the Equitable has decreased its holdings; and the New York Life has not increased its holdings. The Metropolitan has somewhat increased its holdings but this was due almost entirely to purchase of Burlington and Great Northern bonds which are scarcely typical of the territory. Aggregating the change in the holdings of these five companies in western trunk-line territory from 1923 to 1926 and comparing it with the increase in their holdings outside of western trunk-line territory we find that, judged by every available standard of comparison, they are putting new money into their railroads from eight to ten times as fast as into the eight typical western trunk lines.

"The record of the savings banks, the next largest single factor in investment buying, is even more striking. During the four years ending 1926 the member banks of the New York Savings Bank Association, which represent about 55% of the savings bank resources of the country, decreased their holdings of western trunk-line bonds nearly five million dollars, although their total resources increased more than a billion dollars and their total holdings of all railroad bonds increased more than a hundred million dollars. This was for the simple reason that most western trunk-line bonds are no longer legal investments for savings banks."

Additional points made by the brief are:

"Western trunk-line territory is fully able to pay rates which will produce a fair return on the value of the carriers' property. As measured by wealth per capita, wealth per mile of railroad, demand for railroad service and development of railroad tonnage, this territory is in a healthy condition and the commission is under a paramount duty to authorize and require this increase of western trunk-line class rates as an essential step to insure adequate transportation service."

The brief concludes:

"Unless the intent of the Transportation Act is to be violated; unless the Transportation Act is to be nullified in respect of a substantial portion of the railroad mileage of the country, western trunk-line territory must have immediate and substantial rate increases, including, as a first step, the entire increase in class rates proposed by the respondents herein."

The brief is submitted by William Church Osborn of 50 Broadway, New York, Grenville Clark, of Root, Clark, Buckner, Howland & Ballantine, 31 Nassau Street, New York, and Ernest S. Ballard, of Butler, Lamb, Foster & Pope, 120 So. La Salle Street, Chicago, Ill., attorneys.

Western Lines Seeking Blanket Rate Increase—Hock-Smith Briefs of Shippers and Carriers Swamp Inter-State Commerce Commission as Controversy Spreads to All Localities and Industries.

From Washington, Aug. 17, the "Wall Street News" reported the following:

For the past week a continuous stream of brief for and against increases in rates on a wide variety of commodities for Western trunk lines has continued to pour into the offices of the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

The volume of printed matter detailing at great length; with statistical exhibits, extracts from testimony, &c., is seen by transportation authorities as another attempt of the carriers in the Northwest to obtain a blanket increase in freight rates. That this is believed to be the case is borne out by the opposition briefs which are as lengthy and statistical as those for the railroads. Practically all of the principal shippers, industries and localities in the trunk line group have petitioned the Commission to prevent any increase in rates, many asking for reductions under the provisions of the Hock-Smith resolution.

The influx of briefs is the aftermath of hearings conducted by the Commission over a period of years known as the "general rate structure investigation." This inquiry into the rate structure of the nation was undertaken under the Hock-Smith resolution for the purpose of revising the present rate structure to ease the "farmer's load." The rates in the Western trunk line group, are a part of the general investigation. A decision is awaited by all interested parties with considerable anxiety.

Chairman Winslow of U. S. Board of Mediation Thinks Law Will Meet Possible Rail Strike Situation on Western Roads.

Under date of Aug. 17 advices from Washington to the New York "Journal of Commerce" stated:

There appears to be no reason for supposing that the railroad labor law would not be adequate to meet any situation likely to arise out of the threatened strike of conductors and trainmen on the Western roads, according to Chairman Samuel E. Winslow of the United States Board of Mediation. Efforts are being made to induce the board to appeal to President Coolidge for the creation of a special board to inquire into the situation. State officials, business men and officials of civic organizations are seeking to forestall labor troubles.

Chairman Winslow sees nothing different in this from other similar cases where railroad employes have undertaken a strike vote. He stated that the law clearly indicates the procedure to be followed in the event of any really threatened strike within the meaning of the act. The law is adequate, in his opinion, to meet any situation that may arise, or to protect the interests of the public.

An increase of 7½% has been demanded by the workers and arbitration has been refused by them. Just what the Federal board plans to do was not divulged by its chairman.

The distribution of strike ballots among employes of Western roads was referred to in these columns Aug. 18, page 909.

\$450,000 Wage Raise Granted by Rock Island Lines.

A wage increase of \$450,000 annually, which is retroactive to June 1 last, has been granted to 6,000 employees of the Rock Island Lines, it was announced at Chicago on Aug. 20, according to the Chicago "Journal of Commerce," which added:

The new wage scale was agreed upon after two months of negotiations between representatives of the company and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks & Freight Handlers, with T. E. Stickers of the United States Board of Mediation participating in the conferences.

Under the new wage contract the clerks will receive an advance of \$7 a month; miscellaneous classes of employees, including switchboard and elevator operators, an increase of \$5 a month; and day workers, including freight handlers and station employees, were granted an increase of from 2 to 2½ cents an hour.

L. C. Fritch, F. D. Reed and W. H. Burns, Vice-Presidents of the railroad, and J. Y. McLean, General Chairman of the brotherhood, took part in the negotiations.

Western Rail Wage Dispute—Effect of a 7½% Increase.

The following is from the "Wall Street Journal" of Aug. 14: If a 7½% increase was granted to conductors and trainmen on all western railroads, it would raise the wage bill of those carriers about \$7,500,000 annually, but in the present dispute between the roads and the men only 80 railroads and approximately 70,000 men are affected.

Due to provisions of the Watson-Parker Act, it is not likely that a strike will be called on western lines, as has been threatened by heads of the Brotherhood.

Watson-Parker Act calls for negotiations between the representatives of the roads and the men, and in case they are unable to agree the "good offices" of the Federal Board of Mediation will be invoked. The Board of Mediation is to seek to bring the opposing sides together or at least to have them agree to arbitration proceedings. In case arbitration fails, the President of the United States may be asked to appoint a fact finding committee to study the case. For 30 days, while this committee is familiarizing itself with the dispute, the Brotherhood is prevented by law from striking.

Conditions in West Different

The heads of the Brotherhood in this case hold that the questions of working rules here involved have been decided by arbitration on four occasions, thereby eliminating the necessity of arbitration in this one instance. The western roads contend that conditions in their territory are not comparable with those in other sections where 7½% increases have been awarded. They cite the fact that most of the roads in receivership in the country operate in the West.

Early in 1927 conductors and trainmen on western carriers asked for a 7½% advance in pay, which they were refused by the railroad and by a board of arbitration under the Watson-Parker Act. The brotherhoods again made preliminary demands on the roads on Nov. 7 1927. The roads denied this request on Dec. 6 1927.

Payroll Comparisons.

Payroll of principal western carrier for trainmen last year and the effect of a 7½% increase in pay to this class of employes on their lines follow:

	Trainmen Compensation for 1927.	Effect of a 7½% Increase.
Southern Pacific.....	\$13,000,000	\$975,000
Atchison.....	9,300,000	697,000
Union Pacific.....	8,100,000	607,000
St. Paul.....	7,700,000	577,000
Chicago & North Western.....	7,100,000	532,000
Chicago Burlington & Quincy.....	6,700,000	502,000
Rock Island.....	6,600,000	492,000
Missouri Pacific.....	6,000,000	450,000
Illinois Central.....	5,900,000	442,000
Great Northern.....	4,600,000	345,000
Northern Pacific.....	4,300,000	322,000

Trainmen employed on western roads received \$99,290,069 in compensation during 1927.

Fact that the companies have offered to concede a 7½% increase with modifications of certain working rules or a 6½% advance on the present rules appears to indicate that the parties in the dispute are not as far apart as a strike vote would indicate.

American Bankers Association Convention Program.

According to the schedule of meetings the annual convention of the American Bankers Association and its Divisions and Sections at Philadelphia Sept. 30 to Oct. 4 the general sessions of the association as a whole will be held at the Academy of Music the mornings of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 2 to 4, opening each day at 9.45 a. m. The convention headquarters will be the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel. An outline of the sessions is furnished as follows:

Monday, Oct. 1, Bellevue-Stratford:
 Insurance Committee, 9 a. m.
 Clearing House Session general meeting, 9.30 a. m.
 Economic Policy Commission, 9.30 a. m.
 Federal and State Taxation Committees joint meeting, 9.30 a. m.
 Fiftieth Anniversary Committee, 9.30 a. m.
 National Bank Division Executive Committee, 9.30 a. m.
 Public Relations Commission, 9.30 a. m.
 Trust Company Division Executive Committee, 9.30 a. m.
 Educational Foundation Trustees, 10.30 a. m.
 Commerce and Marine Commission, 12.15 p. m.
 Membership Committee, 1 p. m.
 State Bank Division Executive Committee, 1 p. m.
 State Secretaries Section and Board of Control, 1.30 p. m.
 State Legislation Committee and State Legislative Council, 2.15 p. m.
 Agricultural Commission, 2.30 p. m.
 Conference of Bank Auditors auspices Clearing House Section, 2.30 p. m.
 Conference of Clearing House examiners auspices Clearing House Section, 2.30 p. m.
 Public Education Commission, 2.30 p. m.
 Savings Bank Division general meeting, 2.30 p. m.
 Federal Legislation Committee and Federal Legislative Council, 3.30 p. m.
 Executive Council, 9 p. m.

Tuesday, Oct. 2, Bellevue-Stratford:
 State Bank Division general meeting, 2.30 p. m.
 Nominating Committee, 5 p. m.
 Resolutions Committee, call of Chairman.

Wednesday, Oct. 3, Bellevue-Stratford:
 State Secretaries Section general meeting, 2 p. m.
 Conference of Clearing House Managers auspices of Clearing House Section, 2.30 p. m.

National Bank Division general meeting, 2.30 p. m.
 Trust Company Division general meeting, 8.30 p. m.
 Resolutions Committee, call of Chairman.

Thursday, Oct. 4, Bellevue-Stratford:
 Executive Council, 9 p. m.
 Administrative Committee, call of Chairman.

Each day of the convention period there will be open in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel press headquarters, joint headquarters for State Secretaries having no separate headquarters, booths for the hotel committee and information bureau, a bank library exhibit, registration headquarters, office of the general association, golf committee desk, a post office and a ticket validation desk.

A. B. A. Convention to Have Financial Library Exhibit at Annual Convention in Philadelphia.

A complete financial library exhibit will be presented by the Financial Group of the Special Libraries Association at the American Bankers Association Convention to be held in Philadelphia, Oct. 1 to 4, according to announcement this week by the committee in charge, consisting of Ethel Baxter, librarian, American Bankers Association; Emma Boyer, librarian, Union Trust Co., Cleveland; Edna Casterline, librarian, Mellon National Bank, Pittsburgh; and Florence Wagner, librarian, Wall Street Journal. The exhibit, which is sponsored and financed by the various banks, is presented to assist bankers in obtaining the latest and most authoritative financial information. It is stated that:

The exhibit, which will be model both in point of equipment and arrangement, will consist of representative financial books for reference and general use as well as files of newspaper clippings and pamphlet material showing best methods of filing and the valuable uses of such files. There will also be samples of financial periodicals. A special pamphlet is being prepared for this exhibit which will show how the library may serve the bank. It will also contain a comprehensive bibliography. A staff of financial librarians will be present to advise and answer questions.

ITEMS ABOUT BANKS, TRUST COMPANIES, ETC.

Arrangements have been completed for the transfer of a second membership in the Los Angeles Stock Exchange at the record figure of \$90,000 it was announced yesterday (Aug. 21) by Norman B. Courteney, Secretary and Manager. Names of the purchaser and seller will not be made public until the transfer is approved by the membership of the Exchange.

The new thirty-eight story home of the Chase National Bank, of New York, adding another pinnacle to the region of towers in the heart of the financial district, has been completed and the coming week will house the country's second largest banking institution. Overlooking the Sub-Treasury Building, the new Chase Building rises 494 feet above the street level on a site extending along Nassau Street from Pine to Cedar. One of the most architecturally impressive business buildings in the city, it combines unusually modern and commodious banking quarters with a large area of office space rented to outside tenants. A description of the building, and a narration of the history of the site it occupies is furnished as follows:

The new home of the Chase bank stands on historic ground. Early records disclose that in 1697, when Nassau St. was known by the quaintly descriptive title of Pye Woman's St., the plot of land now occupied by the Chase Building was purchased by the French Huguenot Church. The site then lay "far out of town" and it was seven years before the congregation erected its church building there. Only July 8, 1704, Lord Cornbury, Governor of Manhattan Island, laid the cornerstone of the church, naming it "Le Temple du Saint Esprit," although it became generally known as "L'Eglise Francoise du Saint Esprit." The congregation worshipped there for many years until the growth of the city forced it to seek a home farther uptown.

Nearby on Pine St., the notorious sea-roving Captain Kidd owned a house and 75 feet of ground while an adjoining site on Nassau St. marked the home of Aaron Burr.

One of the most interesting of the recorded transfers of the property took place in 1834, when it was sold by the church for a price of \$50,000. At the present time the site, exclusive of the building, has an assessed valuation of more than \$5,000,000. It has a frontage of 160 feet on Cedar St., 150 feet on Nassau St. and 94 feet on Pine St.

The new Chase Building replaces one formerly occupied by the Mechanics & Metals National Bank, which was merged with the Chase National Bank in 1926. It will be the sixth home of the bank and the first to be owned directly by the institution, which has heretofore leased its banking quarters. The first business of the bank was carried on at 117 Broadway, where it opened in September, 1877, and later at 104 Broadway, where it moved in January, 1878. The third home occupied in May, 1887, was at 15 Nassau St., where the business of the bank grew so rapidly that it was necessary to rent additional space on Pine St. before the next move in December, 1895, to the Clearing House Building at 83 Cedar St. Twenty

years later these quarters were outgrown and since 1915 the bank has made its home at 57 Broadway.

The general form of the new building, determined by the shape of the property and the setback ordinances of the city, is suggestive of the stepped pyramids of Egypt and the architectural detail has been worked out with the Egyptian influence in mind. Thirty-five sculptured stone sphinxes adorn the four corners of the various setbacks and of the tower.

The great rectangular portal, which marks the main entrance to the bank on Pine St., is framed by an architrave of carved marble, which forms, by replicas of coins in bas relief, an historical picture of the coinage of the world. Occupying the keystone position is a carving of the American Peace Dollar, for the reproduction of which it was necessary to obtain special permission from the Department of Justice in Washington.

The interior of the building contains many novel features. The bank's mammoth vault is the largest in the country, with single exception of vaults of the Federal Reserve Bank. Three stories deep and 90 feet long, it is guarded by massive steel doors two of which weigh forty-five tons each. An elevator connecting two floors is enclosed inside the vault and all the latest devices for safety and protection have been incorporated in its construction.

Surrounding the vault which is located below the street level is the building foundation of reinforced concrete twelve feet thick. An intricate network of girders and wires embedded in concrete gives added protection to the vault itself. The low point of the building is approximately 85 feet underground in the solid rock. Suspended five stories above the street level is another vault, especially installed for the use of the Trust Department to insure physical separation of the securities left in trust from all other securities owned or handled by the bank. This vault is held in place by a re-enforced steel sub-structure which carries down into rock foundation.

The main banking room and officers' platform is five feet above the street level and is of impressive proportions, 126 feet in length, 66 feet wide and 28 feet in height. Below this main room are located the paying and receiving tellers, customers securities, brokerage loan and other departments, all of easy access to the public.

Indicative of the modern treatment in the interior arrangement is the abolition of the old-style teller cages with their bronze grill work and glass partitions. In their place the bank has substituted walnut roll-topped cageless counters. These result in greatly improved appearance and ease of transacting business.

Altogether the bank will occupy seventeen floors of the new building and two additional floors are used by the Chase Securities Corporation.

In addition to executive offices on the fourth floor there is a large directors' room in which a special table is installed so that each director, when seated, will face the chairman. Thirty-five stories above the street two floors have been set aside for officers' quarters. Dining rooms for the officers and several private dining rooms are also located in the tower.

An innovation in the bank's equipment is an incinerator for destroying cancelled bonds, etc., which is located near the top of the building. Millions of dollars of matured paper will be destroyed annually in this incinerator, which is unique not only in altitude but also in operation. The topmost tower houses ventilating and elevator equipment, a fan room and a huge water tank for emergency purposes.

The telephone system which will serve the new building is one of the largest ever installed outside of the plants operated by the telephone companies. Positions for twenty-two operators at as many panels are provided to operate the switchboard, which, with its 150 trunk lines and 800 extensions, will be capable of handling 27,400 calls in an eight-hour day.

An elaborate ventilating system to launder the air through an oil filter supplies 146,000 cubic feet of fresh air per minute, while another battery of exhaust fans is capable of removing 196,400 cubic feet of air at the same time.

Twenty-one elevators, will provide service for occupants of the new building. In place of messenger service for the Chase Bank, the various departments will be connected by three electric push button dumbwaters running from below the street level to the 15th floor. It is estimated that they will do the work of 30 messenger boys.

The vast amount of building material which went into the construction of the building is indicated by the following figures, 12,477 tons of steel, 3,370,000 brick, 55,000 square feet of glass and 150,000 pounds of bronze. The metal work of the main entrance alone required 15½ tons of bronze.

The directors of the Chase National Bank of New York announce the appointment of William T. Hoops as a member of the Advisory committee of its Mutual Bank Branch located at 49 West Thirty-third St., N. Y. City.

Fifty years ago total resources of the Chase National Bank were \$1,000,000. To-day they are \$1,103,742,061, according to the bank's statement of June 30, an increase of over 1,000%. The growth of the bank to the second largest banking institution in the United States is credited to the enterprise of the various managements and the recurrent absorption of other banks, in a monthly review prepared by B. H. Roth & Co. "With the latest increase in capitalization," says the review "the bank's capital stands at \$60,000,000 and total surplus and undivided profits at over \$57,000,000, while deposits approximate \$850,000,000."

A statement concerning the organization and policy of the proposed new bank in New York reported last week as in process of formation was given out on Aug. 22 by Eugene L. Norton, former President and now Vice-Chairman of the Board of the Baltimore Trust Co. Mr. Norton was mentioned in dispatches from Baltimore on Aug. 22 as being one of the principal organizers of the new bank, a reference to which appeared in these columns a week ago, page 909. His statement follows:

"The formation of this bank has been under serious consideration for more than six months as the result of organization plans prepared last Feb. and submitted since then to perhaps 50 of the leading industrial and financial men of the country, including bankers in other cities, representing large institutions comparable to the Baltimore Trust Co. The plans have re-

ceived enthusiastic approval. All those interested in the plans agreed that no better time could be chosen for a constructive bank organization than the present. As A. F. C. Fiske, of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., recently stated concerning this bank, "we found a general confidence of the business community that whichever way the elections go, a definite period of prosperity lies ahead." Since the organizing group itself included strong supporters of both candidates, the unanimous agreement on this point removed the only possible objection to immediate organization.

To-day's statement in one of the Baltimore papers concerning the present organization plans are correct so far as matters now stand. The proposed capital and surplus of the bank itself will be \$40,000,000, and as each certificate of the bank stock will carry an additional certificate of stock in a securities company of \$15,000,000 capital and surplus, the combined capital funds of the two companies will be \$55,000,000. The requirements of modern business are so large, and the tendency toward enlargement of individual banking units so pronounced, by merger and otherwise, that we felt any new institution in New York of less than \$20,000,000 capital funds would hardly serve a constructive purpose. Our first plans called for \$20,000,000 but the reception of the idea in many quarters convinced us of the advisability of doubling that figure.

Certain important features in the organization plan are as follows: stock will be held chiefly by men engaged in the largest industrial, professional and financial enterprises. Every stockholder invited to participate including the organizers, will be on exactly the same basis; that is, a subscription to stock will carry with it the obligation, within a reasonable period, of initiating deposits in a ratio of \$4.00 in deposits to each \$1.00 of capital stock subscribed to the bank and investment company. This means, of course, that the bank will start business with the assurance of approximately \$200,000,000 in deposits, representing the interests of firms of the highest credit standing, and with a broad and well varied list of member-stockholders whose interest would be that of active partners. Their stock holdings would have an assured earning power from the start, and the interests of depositors and stockholders would be identical.

As regards personnel, Eugene L. Norton will be Vice-Chairman of the Board and Frederick E. Hasler will be President. Various newspaper rumors which have mentioned John J. Raskob, William F. Kenny, members of the DuPont family and the Fisher Body Company as organizers of this bank are not authorized. Naturally they are all men of the calibre and standing so important to the future growth of an institution of this kind. I wish to make this very clear to avoid any possible embarrassment to them. A full list of organizers and directors will be given out later.

In the August number of the "Planet," devoted to the interests of the employes of the Morris Plan Co. of New York, we find the following concerning the retirement of Joseph B. Gilder:

An item of news which will be received with regret by every Morris Planner from east to west, and by many outside the confines of our organization, is the resignation of Joseph B. Gilder as Secretary of the Industrial Finance Corporation this coming December. Mr. Gilder has been associated with the Industrial Finance Corporation since its incorporation Feb. 16 1914, and has made a host of friends during his long term of activity. He has also been Secretary of the Morris Plan Insurance Society since 1917. He will become Secretary Emeritus of the I. F. O. from Jan. 1. When questioned as to the future, Mr. Gilder reported plans which foretell a happy time ahead. He says he is now all set to "play." Our good wishes go with this genial gentleman whose wit and brain have added so much to the success of Morris Plan and whose kindness to the members of its personnel will be remembered for many a day.

A special meeting of the stockholders of the International Union Bank of this city at 5th Ave. and 21st St., will be held Aug. 27 for the purpose of acting upon a proposal to increase the capital of the bank by \$250,000 and the surplus by \$250,000 and to reduce the par value of the stock from \$100 per share to \$25 per share; the stockholders will also be called upon to fix and prescribe the terms and conditions under which the stock shall be offered to the stockholders and to create and establish a Reserve Fund. An item regarding the proposed increase in capital appeared in our issue of Aug. 18, page 910.

Stockholders of the Bank of United States and of the Cosmopolitan Bank, both of this city, on Aug. 21 voted to merge the institutions. * The Cosmopolitan Bank will become a branch office of the Bank of United States. An item regarding the proposed merger appeared in these columns Aug. 4, page 635. The merger will become effective Monday, Aug. 27.

A new bank is being formed in Brooklyn under the name of the National Kingsboro Bank. The application to organize the bank was approved by the Comptroller of the Currency on Aug. 7. The institution will start with a capital of \$500,000 and a surplus of \$250,000; it will locate at the southeast corner of Bay Ridge and Fifth Avenues. The bank is scheduled to begin business about Jan. 1 next. The directors chosen for the new bank are: Emmet J. McCormack, Howard E. Jones, M. S. Lott, M. J. O'Hara, Henry P. Molloy, A. J. Gonnoud, John F. McKenna, B. Turecamo, P. J. Carley, William J. Heffernan, Thomas F. Wogan and C. C. Valentine. John J. Bennett, Jr., of 115 94th St., Brooklyn, is correspondent.

In commemoration of its founding one hundred and twenty-five years ago, the Plymouth National Bank, Plymouth, Mass., has issued a most attractive and interesting book, giving a brief history of the institution since its inception in 1803 as the Plymouth Bank and depicting the every-day life and habits of the people of Plymouth, starting from

the founding of the bank and continuing down to the present time. The cover of the book—which is profusely illustrated throughout—is a reproduction of the first record book of the bank and the fly leaves are reproductions of pages taken from the original account books. From a meagre beginning the bank has followed the changing commercial and business conditions through which the town has passed. To-day it is an institution with combined capital and surplus of \$260,000 and total resources in excess of \$2,700,000. Edward R. Belcher is President, and Henry W. Barnes Jr., Cashier.

At a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rhode Island Hospital Trust Co. of Providence, R. I., held on Aug. 15, Frank D. Comerford, of Boston, President of the Narragansett Electric Co. and of the New England Power Association, was elected a director. The Providence "Journal" of Aug. 15 printed the following on the matter:

Mr. Comerford was born in Worcester, Mass., on July 31 1893. He graduated from Holy Cross College in 1914 and attended Harvard Law School, graduating in 1917. Prior to his election as President of the New England Power Association, he was a member of the law firm of Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins of Boston. He is known to Rhode Islanders through his work in connection with the merging of the Narragansett Electric Light Company and the United Electric Railways Company.

Mr. Comerford has broad connections with New England business. In addition to the positions noted above, he is trustee of the Massachusetts Utilities Investment Trust and director of the First National Bank of Boston, New England Power Association, New England Power Company, Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, Lowell Electric Light Company, Lawrence Gas and Electric Company, Narragansett Electric Company, United Electric Railways Company, Rhode Island Public Service Company, Webster and Southbridge Gas and Electric Company, Quincey Electric Light and Power Company and International Paper Company.

Newark, N. J. press advices on Aug. 22 stated that efforts of the present management of the New Jersey Bankers' Securities Co. to recover \$2,847,000 from former directors ended on that day when Harry H. Weinberger, ex-President of the company, agreed to pay \$2,500,000. It was stated yesterday (Aug. 24) that John J. Stamler, President of the company, announced his approval of the proposal, which will be submitted to Vice Chancellor Backus for approval. He has jurisdiction of a suit for a receivership of the company and the proposal will be brought before him Sept. 4. The "Post" of last night (Aug. 24) said:

To settle the company's claims of \$2,847,000 against him and nine directors, Weinberger proposed to pay \$200,000 in cash and give a note for \$2,300,000.

The note will be secured by a \$200,000 mortgage on the Biltmore Apartment, \$100,000 mortgage on the Gregorian Court Apartments, both in Passaic, 1,000 shares of Hobart Service Trust stock, 16,000 shares of Securities Co. stock and an assignment of \$200,000 worth of insurance policies on his life.

The note, which is to be in full payment for the 172,034 shares that were the subjects of the dealings in the company's stock that caused the liability of the directors, will run for three years and bear 2% interest on all unpaid balances. The directors against whom claims will be settled by payment of the note are Frederick N. Bidwell, Frank C. Campbell, Senator Edwards, William W. Evans, William Harris, Supreme Court Justice Minton, John J. Folger, Edward Schoen and David G. Smith.

The Newark "News" of Aug. 21 in referring to the claim against the former directorate said:

The claim was based on allegations that the directors authorized the use of the company's funds to deal in its stock. It was alleged that 308,583 shares were bought for \$4,622,236 and that 136,459 shares were sold for \$1,775,195.

Reginald Henwood Creyk, President of the Montclair National Bank of Montclair, N. J., died on Aug. 16 in the Mountainside Hospital in Montclair. Mr. Creyk was 66 years of age. In 1922 he assisted in the formation of the Montclair National Bank and became its President. Mr. Creyk was also Treasurer of the Spool Cotton Co. and a director of the National Notion Association.

Another important Philadelphia bank merger was announced this week—namely that of the Oxford Bank & Trust Co. with the Corn Exchange National Bank & Trust Co., one of the largest Philadelphia banks. The directors of both institutions have approved the merger plan and notices of meetings to ratify the proposal have been sent to the respective stockholders. The new institution will have resources of approximately \$95,000,000 and seven offices. The consolidation will be effected, according to the Philadelphia "Ledger," on a basis of one share of Corn Exchange National Bank & Trust Co. stock, par \$100 a share, for three shares of Oxford Bank & Trust Co. stock, the par value of which is \$50 a share. Prior to the consolidation, it is said, the stockholders of the Oxford Bank & Trust Co. will receive a cash dividend of \$10 a share. A statement given out Wednesday night, Aug. 22, printed in the paper mentioned, reads as follows:

Oxford Bank Trust Co. has its main office on the most prominent corner in Frankford and maintains four-branch offices. These are located

at Burholme, Bridesburg, Wissinoming and East Orthodox Street, all in the fast-developing northeast section. Corn Exchange now has two offices, one in the great wholesale district at 2d and Chestnut Streets and the central city office at 1510-12 Chestnut St.

This consolidation will give to the northeast a banking service broad enough to look after the personal banking and trust needs of the small merchant and individual and yet will be large enough to handle the great industrial accounts of that section.

Charles S. Calwell, now head of the Corn Exchange National Bank & Trust Co., will be President of the enlarged institution, and the active officers of the Oxford Bank & Trust Co. will become officers of the new bank. According to its statement of June 30, the Corn Exchange National Bank & Trust Co. had a capital of \$2,700,000, surplus of \$7,800,000 and undivided profits of \$978,861. Its total resources were \$85,490,743. On the other hand, the Oxford Bank & Trust Co., according to a recent statement, it is said, has a capital of \$500,000, surplus of like amount, and total resources in excess of \$9,500,000. The present officers of the Corn Exchange National Bank & Trust Co. in addition to President Caldwell are: M. N. Willits, Jr., Newton W. Corson, Albert N. Hogg, W. C. Fitzgerald, Edgar W. Freeman (and Trust officer), Roland A. Hillas, Paul E. Ludes and Lewis R. Diek, Vice-Presidents; Edward T. James, Cashier; Edward J. Paul, H. A. Sinzheimer, J. J. Caprano, Russell J. Bauer, and George B. Whidden, Assistant Cashiers Clarence P. Rowland, Assistant Trust Officer, and Charles L. Chandler, Manager of the foreign commercial department. The officers of the Oxford Bank & Trust Co. are: B. E. Effing, President; John Walton and Harry Schumacker, Vice-Presidents; J. M. Vernon, Secretary and Treasurer; B. G. Walton, Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, and Louis M. McCloskey, Title and Trust Officer.

Stockholders of the Southwestern National Bank of Philadelphia on Aug. 20 approved the proposed increase in the bank's capital from \$200,000 to \$300,000, noted in our issue of July 28, page 503, according to the Philadelphia "Ledger" of Aug. 21. The new stock (par value \$100 a share) will be offered to stockholders of record Aug. 20 at the price of \$225 a share on the basis of one share of new stock for each two shares of old stock held. Payment for same may be made in four monthly installments, it is said.

A dispatch from Philadelphia to the "Wall Street Journal" on Aug. 23 stated that the proposed consolidation of the Tradesmen's National Bank, the Guarantee Trust & Safe Deposit Co. and the Chelton Trust Co., all of Philadelphia, to be voted on by their respective stockholders on Aug. 27, will date from Sept. 1, next. And furthermore stated that on Sept. 4 the various offices, of the merging banks will open under the name of the Tradesmen's National Bank & Trust Co. We referred to the proposed consolidation of these important banks in our issue of July 28, page 503.

A special meeting of the stockholders of the Bank of Philadelphia & Trust Co., Philadelphia, will be held on Sept. 5 to vote upon an agreement for merging the Oak Lane Trust Co. of Philadelphia with and under the name of the Bank of Philadelphia & Trust Co., said agreement of merger being pursuant to a plan for the consolidation of the business and assets of the Oak Lane Trust Co., Queen Lane National Bank, Broad Street National Bank of Philadelphia, and the National Bank of North Philadelphia. On the same date (Sept. 5) a special meeting of the stockholders of the Oak Lane Trust Co. will be held to vote on the same matter.

The Bancitaly Corporation, the holding company of the Bank of Italy National Trust & Savings Association, with headquarters in San Francisco has opened a Philadelphia office in the Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust building, according to the Philadelphia "Ledger" of Aug. 20. C. Conard Morgan, Jr. is Manager.

The Union National Bank of Johnstown, Pa., was placed in voluntary liquidation on July 31, having been absorbed by the First National Bank of Johnstown. The Union National sold its assets to the First National on Jan. 23, 1928, an item with regard to the acquisition having appeared in our issue of Jan. 28, page 531. The capital stock of the First National Bank is \$400,000; it has a surplus of \$800,000, and undivided profits of \$1,131,294. The absorption of the Union National Bank made no difference in the capital or organization of the First National Bank.

The Philadelphia "Ledger" of Aug. 22 reports that the title of the Citizens' National Bank of Pottstown, Pa., has been changed to the Citizens' National Bank & Trust Co.

Further reference to the proposed increase in the capital of the Union Trust Co. of Chicago, raising the same from \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000, reference to which was made in last week's "Chronicle", page 912, the stockholders at a special meeting to be held Sept. 15 will be asked to adopt the directors' resolution providing for the issuance of 10,000 shares of new stock (par value \$100 a share) to be offered to stockholders of record Sept. 28 in the ratio of one share of new stock for every three shares then held, at a price of \$400 a share (Union Trust Co. shares on Aug. 21 were quoted at 890 bid, 895 asked), payable on or before the first day of October, 1928. Upon approval of the proposed increase of stock on Sept. 15, warrant will be issued to the stockholders of record evidencing their rights to shares. For fractional shares, fractional warrants will be issued. These warrants will be negotiable, and full directions will be given to enable stockholders to deal with them. The \$4,000,000 proceeds of this issue of stock will be applied substantially in the following manner: \$1,000,000 to be added to the capital stock of the bank; \$1,000,000 to be used to cover the entire cost of additions and improvements to the Union Trust Building, a part of which will be for the construction of an additional story; the balance of \$2,000,000 to be added to surplus. In a letter to the shareholders under date of Aug. 16, Frederick H. Rawson, Chairman of the Board of Directors, tells how the bank has grown and how earnings have increased:

The bank's deposits on Jan. 1 1925 were \$64,751,711, and on Aug. 15 1928, were \$89,180,998. At various times, special temporary deposits have brought the total deposits as high as \$100,000,000. We believe that with your further assistance and our own efforts it will not be long before the bank will be generally known as a \$100,000,000 bank.

There has been a corresponding growth in earnings which is reflected not only in the regular quarterly and extra cash dividends, but also in the increase of the surplus out of earnings from \$3,000,000 on Jan. 2 1925, to \$4,000,000 at the present time. During the same period the undivided earnings have been increased from \$731,253 to \$1,431,879. The reserves established for depreciation and losses in securities have been increased from \$251,977 to \$758,553.

There has been a proportionate growth in profits as indicated by the following comparison: For the year 1924, the net earnings were \$766,000, amounting to 38.30% on the capital stock and 13.58% on the average invested capital; for 1927, they were \$1,312,730, equal to 43.76% on the capital stock, and 17.21% on the average invested capital. The net earnings for the first seven months of 1928 indicate that the profits for the year will be at least 25% larger than the amount earned last year, providing the present interest rates continue.

Our Investment Department not only deals in municipal, public utility, corporation and industrial bonds, but also does a large and increasing business in real estate mortgages and bonds. The Trust Department in its various capacities has also shown a very gratifying growth in the volume of business handled. The proceeds of the new issue of stock will be used not only to increase the facilities of the Commercial Department, but also to augment the services of the other departments of the bank.

Shortly prior to the last issuance of capital stock at \$100 a share, the market price was \$400; at the present time the market price is about \$880. It is confidently expected that the present dividend rates will be continued, and as earnings justify, extra dividends will be paid as the Board of Directors deem advisable.

For all of these reasons, and also for the purpose of contributing an even greater part in the upbuilding of Chicago and the Middle West, a most favorable opportunity is afforded at this time for an increase in the bank's capital and surplus to a point sufficient to further this development and to measure up to the opportunities of the future.

Organization of a new bank in the Hyde Park Section of Chicago, with capital, surplus and reserve fund of \$450,000, was announced on Aug. 17, according to the Chicago "Journal of Commerce" of Aug. 18. The new institution will be known as the I. C. Bank & Trust Co. It will be situated at Lake Park Ave. and 53rd St. and will be opened for business as soon as the present Illinois Central Railroad quarters can be remodeled. Among the organizers are the following:

E. B. Carson, President of the Standard Industries Corporation and a director of the Bank of America; Emil G. Seip, President of the Calumet National Bank and a director of the Foreman National Bank; Walter E. Schmidt, President of the Roseland State Savings Bank and of the Cottage Grove State Bank; Cecil A. Evans, President of the Bryn Mawr State Bank; Frank B. Bowes, retired Vice-President of the Illinois Central RR.; Weymouth, Kirkland, attorney; Jacob L. Schnadig, President of the Pullman Coach Company; Lous Kahn, President of the Capital Trust Co., and William Lederer, President of the Lederer Department Stores.

The financial difficulties of Roy C. Toombs, a Chicago broker and St. Louis insurance executive, resulted in the closing on the night of Aug. 17 of the Downer's Grove State Bank & Trust Co., at Downer's Grove, Ill., a Chicago suburb, according to advices by the Associated Press from Chicago on Aug. 18, appearing in New York daily papers of that date and the following day. The dispatch stated that Oscar Nelson, State Auditor for Illinois, closed the bank, of which Mr. Toombs was President, up to the previous Wednesday, Aug. 15, to stop "run" on the institution, which followed disclosure of Toomb's financing with the International Life Insurance Co. of St. Louis, and the Toombs & Daily Company, a Chicago investment enterprise. The closed bank, it was said, was capitalized at \$100,000 and had a surplus of \$85,000. Mr. Nelson was reported as

saying that the bank's deposits prior to Toomb's troubles were between \$700,000 and \$800,000 "but at one time while Toombs was in charge of the insurance company's funds he presented as collateral a certificate of deposit showing the International had more than \$7,000,000 in the Downer's Grove bank."

Payment of a third dividend, 10%, to depositors of the defunct Iowa Loan & Trust Co. of Des Moines, Iowa, which failed on Dec. 20 1926, was ordered on Aug. 14 by Judge Lester Thompson of the District Court, according to the Des Moines "Register" of the following day. The distribution of the dividend, which will amount to approximately \$453,000, was ordered by the Court to take place within the next 15 days. About 12,000 depositors will share in the dividend. Continuing the paper mentioned said:

Application for the payment was made yesterday by W. H. Vanderploeg, examiner in charge of the closed bank.

Two other dividends, one of 40% and another of 10% have been paid since the bank failed in December, 1926.

A report filed by Vanderploeg in District Court recently showed that \$2,207,594.25 has already been paid out to depositors. It also disclosed that the collection of interest, rentals and other profit items has exceeded the expenses of the receivership by \$99,382.85.

Liquidation of assets up until June 30 amounted to \$4,422,335.06.

A recent \$60,000 judgment obtained against the city enabled the additional dividend to be taken care of, according to Vanderploeg.

Our last reference to the affairs of the Iowa Loan & Trust Co. appeared in the "Chronicle" of Feb. 5 1927, page 747.

Advices from Jefferson City, Mo. on Aug. 16 to the St. Louis "Globe-Democrat" stated that purchase of the business and assets of the Davis State Bank of Davis, Lincoln County, Mo., by the People's Bank of Troy, Mo. was approved on that day (Aug. 16) by the State Finance Commissioner. The acquired bank, which had resources of \$50,000, the dispatch said, will be disincorporated. Davis is located five miles from Troy. This bank merger makes the 50th in Missouri the present year, it is said.

A dispatch from Denton, Tex., on Aug. 16, printed in the Dallas "News" of the following day, reported that on the preceding day (Aug. 15) the First National Bank had suspended operations, following which its Cashier, L. H. Schweer was arrested for embezzlement, and his father, H. F. Schweer, the President, who was ill at his home, placed under surveillance on a similar charge. On the following day (Aug. 16) the institution was placed in the hands of F. W. Lensing, as Receiver. The complaints filed against the two men, it was said, charged the younger Schweer with the embezzlement of \$1,194.83, and H. F. Schweer with the embezzlement of \$3,717. Shortly after his arrival in Denton on Aug. 16, Receiver Lensing was reported as saying it would probably be some time before an official statement as to the bank's condition could be made.

Announcement of the consolidation of the National City Bank of Los Angeles with the California Bank of that city, was announced as effective Aug. 16 by A. M. Chaffey, President of the latter institution, according to the Los Angeles "Times" of Aug. 17, which furthermore stated that at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors, four new names were added to the directorate of the California Bank, namely Byron J. Badham, President of the Hoffman Hardware Co.; C. R. Luton, Capitalist; R. F. McClellan, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Los Angeles County, and T. P. Breslin, President of the Standard Packing Co. At the same time Christian Specht of the California Cornice Works, was elected a Director of the California Trust Co. Henry M. French, formerly assistant Cashier of the California Bank, was promoted to Junior Vice-President, and 3 new officers were elected to the personnel as Assistant Cashiers, including W. J. Moriarity, L. B. Pollock and J. A. Shipe. The resignation of C. J. Thorson, for 6 years Treasurer of the California Bank, was accepted by the directors. Mr. Thorson is going in business for himself. Other changes in personnel included the appointment of A. D. Seeley as Manager of the Angeles Mesa branch of the California Bank to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of R. S. Sloane.

The Citizens National Trust & Savings Bank of Los Angeles has just completed alterations at its head office costing \$400,000. The bank now enjoys one of the finest and best equipped banking homes in the West.

Frank C. Bolt, Chairman of the Executive Board of the Pasadena branch of the Los Angeles-First National Trust & Savings Bank of Los Angeles, and recognized as the dean of local bankers, died at his home in Pasadena on Aug.

10, following a prolonged illness. Mr. Bolt was 82 years of age and had been active in Pasadena banking and civic affairs for the last thirty years.

The following in regard to a change in the personnel of its Fullerton Branch was received from the Los Angeles-First National Trust & Savings Bank, of Los Angeles under date of Aug. 11:

An event, filled with human interest, occurred yesterday when the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles-First National Trust & Savings Bank appointed H. A. Krause, Assistant Manager of the Fullerton Branch, as Manager to succeed his father, F. C. Krause.

While the elder Mr. Krause resigned as Manager, he retains his official position as Vice-President and will continue to act as Chairman of the Executive Board of the Fullerton Branch. Although he will hand down many responsibilities of his work to his son he will, nevertheless, maintain a keen interest in the business and progress of the Fullerton Branch. Father and son have worked together during the past 10 years in the same bank and have made it one of the outstanding financial institutions in Southern California. The elder Mr. Krause, in 1918 became President of the First National Bank of Fullerton and the Fullerton Commercial & Savings Bank and held this position until the merger of these banks on Nov. 1 1924 with the Pacific-Southwest Trust & Savings Bank, now the Los Angeles-First National Trust & Savings Bank. At the time of the merger he became Fullerton Vice-Pres. and Manager. His son, who was with the Anaheim National Bank in 1915 and 1916, later going with the Merchants National Bank of Los Angeles, joined his father in 1918 at the Fullerton First National. He was Cashier and Asst. Secretary and upon the consolidation of the Pacific-Southwest Bank with the First National Bank of Los Angeles on Sept. 1 1927 became Assistant Branch Manager. The younger Mr. Krause was born at Hood River, Oregon and graduated from the Anaheim Union High School in 1913. He attended Pomona College during the following two years and then entered upon his banking career.

F. C. Krause was born in Iowa. He attended the Upper Iowa University, the Northwestern College and the Pacific Theological Seminary in Oakland. He was a Congregational minister until 1903 when he was appointed United States Commissioner at Cleary, Alaska, and also Manager of the Washington Alaska Bank, Cleary Branch from 1904 to 1907. He then moved to Newport, Washington and was Cashier of the Security State Bank until 1911.

During the period from 1912 to 1917 Mr. Krause was Cashier and then President of the Anaheim National Bank. In 1918 he became affiliated with and was a large stockholder in the First National Bank of Fullerton and the Fullerton Commercial and Savings Bank.

A new institution—the American & Security Insurance Corporation—has now been organized in San Francisco as a subsidiary of the National Bankitaly Co. to act as agent for insurance companies in connection with the Bank of Italy National Trust & Savings Association's activity in the insurance field, according to advices from San Francisco on Aug. 14 to the "Wall Street Journal."

We learn from the San Francisco "Chronicle" of Aug. 12 that the United Security Bank & Trust Co., with headquarters in San Francisco, announced the previous day (Aug. 11) purchase, through its subsidiary institution, the French-American Corp., of the Lassen Industrial Bank of Susanville, Cal., with its branches at Bieber and Fall River Mills. The acquired bank and its branches will continue to operate as an independent unit. The paper mentioned went on to say:

The Lassen Industrial Bank was organized in 1912 and has capital of \$150,000, surplus of \$31,500, and undivided profits of \$8,120. The Susanville office has deposits of \$582,146; the Bieber branch has deposits of \$183,485, and the Fall River Mills branch has deposits of \$347,607, giving total resources of \$1,572,864. Officers include J. Alexander, President, and G. H. Taylor, Cashier.

This is the second relatively large bank to be purchased in the north-eastern part of California by the United Security Bank and Trust Co. It announced the purchase of the Bank of Alturas in Modoc county, late in June. The Susanville buy gives the United Security Bank and Trust Co., 108 separate banking houses, and also extends its operations into 34 of California's 58 counties.

Susanville is a town of about 2,000 people, the county seat of Lassen county, and is at present accessible from California only by highway, but has rail service over a branch of the Southern Pacific Railway from Fernley, Nev. Construction of trackage to make this road link the Overland route and the Shasta route of the S. P. is also under way, and the people of Lassen county are expecting to see a very marked development in their principal resources of timber, live stock and agricultural products.

The Old National Bank & Union Trust Co., of Spokane, Wash., announces the resignation of George H. Greenwood, Vice-Pres., effective Sept. 1 1928, to become President of the Pacific National Bank of Seattle, Wash.

The death occurred in Seattle, Wash., on Aug. 1, of John Ewing Price, founder of the Marine Bancorporation, and one of the prominent citizens of Seattle. Mr. Price was 71 years of age.

The annual report of the Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd., (head office London), covering the fiscal year ended Mar. 31 1928, and presented to the proprietors at their 115th ordinary meeting on July 25, has just recently come to hand. It shows net profits for the period (after making full provision for bad and doubtful debts and contingencies) of £596,596, which when added to £128,315, representing balance to credit

of profit and loss brought forward from the preceding 12 months, made £724,911 available for distribution. Out of this sum, the report tells us, an interim dividend at the rate of 14% per annum for the half year ended Sept. 30 1927, calling for £156,042, was paid, and £100,000 credited to bank premises account, leaving a balance of £468,870. This amount the directors recommended be allocated as follows: £125,000 to officers' pension fund; £156,042 to pay a dividend at the rate of 14% per annum (subject to income tax), and £55,729 to pay a bonus of 2s. 6d. per share (subject to income tax), leaving a balance of £132,099 to be carried forward to the current year's profit and loss account. Total assets of the institution are shown in the report as £67,356,854 and its paid-up capital as £2,229,165, with reserve fund of £2,893,336.

Lloyds Bank, Ltd., London, announces that L. A. Stanley, formerly Deputy Chief Inspector, has been appointed an Assistant General Manager of the Bank.

THE WEEK ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

There has been further manifestation of strength in the New York stock market the present week and many prominent issues have moved upward to new high records for 1928 and in some instances in all time. On Monday and Tuesday industrial stocks and railroad shares were the leaders, but these were superseded during the latter part of the week by the mining stocks, steel securities and motor issues. On Monday call money, after early renewals at 6%, advanced to 7½% and the rate at no time dropped below 7% the rest of the week, but the stock market proceeded in disregard of that fact. During the short session on Saturday, many popular industrial shares moved briskly forward. Railroad shares displayed considerable strength, Mil. & St. Paul and Missouri-Pacific issues being the outstanding strong features. Other strong stocks included such issues as Gulf, Mobile & Northern, Missouri-Kansas-Texas, Wabash, Western Maryland and Texas & Pacific, the latter moving up to 180—the highest peak in the history of the road. Canadian Pacific crossed 210 with a gain of nearly four points and Baltimore & Ohio, St. Louis-San Francisco, Rock Island and Ches. & Ohio were in strong demand at improving prices. Columbia Gas was the feature of the public utility group and reached new high ground at 121¾. Eaton Axle was also noteworthy for its brisk advance of over three points to 48½, the demand for this issue developing as a result of the continued report that the earnings this year would exceed \$6 a share.

The market continued to rise on Monday, the advances including both railroad shares and industrial issues, though the real high spots were most numerous in the industrial stocks. International Tel. & Tel. closed with a gain of 2¾ points, followed by Continental Can which moved up 2½ points to 118½, Gold Dust up three points and Jewel Tea which improved four points. Cyrusler assumed the leadership of the motor group and sold up to 96¾, but finally closed at 95½ with a net gain of 2½ points. General Motors was inclined to sag and most of the independent issues were without noteworthy movement. Local traction stocks were in excellent demand, especially Interborough Rapid Transit which moved forward about two points and Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit which closed with a substantial advance over the preceding final. Railroad shares again moved to the front and St. Louis Southwestern reached a new top above 100. Industrial shares continued in strong demand, especially American Can which reached the highest peak in its history. Sears-Roebuck gained about three points as it crossed 133 for the first time. On Tuesday advances were again the rule and new peaks were reached by many speculative favorites. The best gains were made by such popular stocks as Commercial Solvents, Case Threshing Machine and Rossia Insurance, all of which registered gains ranging from six to eight points. Advances of two or more points were scored by Allis Chalmers, Crucible Steel, Atlantic Refining, Detroit Edison, General Electric, Republic Iron & Steel and American Power & Light. Other stocks showing gains of four or more points included American Smelting, Sears-Roebuck and Pressed Steel Car. In the closing hour American International advanced five points to 101. Railroad stocks were active all through the session. The strong stocks of the group included, among others, Balt. & Ohio which bounded forward more than four points to within a fraction of 112, New York Central which gained 3½ points to 169 and St.

which they are located and from this it appears that in the New York Reserve District (including this city) there is a trifling increase, it being only 0.1%, in the Boston Reserve District there is a loss of 5.9% and in the Philadelphia Reserve District of 8.1%. In the Cleveland Reserve District the clearings show a gain of 0.6% but the Richmond Reserve District records a decrease of 10.5% and the Atlanta Reserve District of 4.9%. In the Chicago Reserve District the totals are larger by 1.3%, in the St. Louis Reserve District by 6.0% and in the Minneapolis Reserve District by 7.7%. The Kansas City Reserve District discloses an improvement of 12.5%. The Dallas Reserve District of 11.3% and the San Francisco Reserve District of 16.3%.

In the following we furnish a summary by Federal Reserve districts:

SUMMARY OF BANK CLEARINGS.

Table with columns: Week End. Aug. 18 1925, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec., 1926, 1925. Rows: Federal Reserve Districts (1st Boston, 2nd New York, etc.), Total (120 cities), Outside N. Y. City, Canada (31 cities).

We now add our detailed statement, showing last week's figures for each city separately, for the four years:

Detailed table with columns: Clearings at, Week Ending Aug. 18, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec., 1926, 1925. Rows: First Federal Reserve District (Maine-Bangor, Portland, etc.), Second Federal Reserve District (N. Y.-Albany, Binghamton, etc.), Third Federal Reserve District (Pa.-Altoona, Bethlehem, etc.), Fourth Federal Reserve District (Ohio-Akron, Canton, etc.), Fifth Federal Reserve District (Va.-Hunt'n, W.-Norfolk, etc.), Sixth Federal Reserve District (Tenn.-Chatt'ga, Knoxville, etc.), Total (10 cities).

Table with columns: Clearings at, Week Ending Aug. 18, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec., 1926, 1925. Rows: Seventh Federal Reserve District (Mich.-Adrian, Ann Arbor, Detroit, etc.), Eighth Federal Reserve District (Ind.-Evansville, Mo.-St. Louis, Ky.-Louisville, etc.), Ninth Federal Reserve District (Tex.-Duluth, Minn.-Duluth, etc.), Tenth Federal Reserve District (Neb.-Fremont, Hastings, etc.), Eleventh Federal Reserve District (Tex.-Austin, Dallas, etc.), Twelfth Federal Reserve District (Wash.-Seattle, Spokane, etc.), Grand total (129 cities), Outside New York.

Table with columns: Clearings at, Week Ending Aug. 18, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec., 1926, 1925. Rows: First Federal Reserve District (Maine-Bangor, Portland, etc.), Second Federal Reserve District (N. Y.-Albany, Binghamton, etc.), Third Federal Reserve District (Pa.-Altoona, Bethlehem, etc.), Fourth Federal Reserve District (Ohio-Akron, Canton, etc.), Fifth Federal Reserve District (Va.-Hunt'n, W.-Norfolk, etc.), Sixth Federal Reserve District (Tenn.-Chatt'ga, Knoxville, etc.), Total (10 cities).

Detailed table with columns: Clearings at, Week Ending Aug. 18, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec., 1926, 1925. Rows: First Federal Reserve District (Maine-Bangor, Portland, etc.), Second Federal Reserve District (N. Y.-Albany, Binghamton, etc.), Third Federal Reserve District (Pa.-Altoona, Bethlehem, etc.), Fourth Federal Reserve District (Ohio-Akron, Canton, etc.), Fifth Federal Reserve District (Va.-Hunt'n, W.-Norfolk, etc.), Sixth Federal Reserve District (Tenn.-Chatt'ga, Knoxville, etc.), Total (10 cities).

Table with columns: Clearings at, Week Ending Aug. 18, 1928, 1927, Inc. or Dec., 1926, 1925. Rows: Canada (Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, etc.), Total (31 cities).

a Manager refuses to report weekly clearings. *Estimated.

THE ENGLISH GOLD AND SILVER MARKETS.

We reprint the following from the weekly circular of Samuel Montagu & Co. of London, written under date of August 8 1928:

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against notes amounted to £170,894,225 on the 1st inst. (as compared with £173,222,505 on the previous Wednesday), and represents an increase of £16,987,910 since the 29th April 1925—when an effective gold standard was resumed.

With the exception of about £50,000 taken for the Home and Continenta trade, the £680,000 South African gold offered in the open market today was bought on account of Germany.

The following movements of gold to and from the Bank of England have been announced, showing an influx of £750,000 during the week under review:

Table showing gold movements: Received, Withdrawn, Aug. 2, Aug. 3, Aug. 4, Aug. 7, Aug. 8.

The receipts on the 3d and 7th inst. were in sovereigns on South African account, the former being released from "set aside" and the latter an actual arrival.

The following were the United Kingdom imports and exports of gold registered from mid-day on the 30th July to mid-day on the 4th inst.:

Table showing gold imports and exports: Imports (British South Africa, British West Africa, Other countries), Exports (Germany, Austria, Other countries).

SILVER.

The market has been quiet during the week, sometimes with rather more supplies—Continental and otherwise—than the moderate demand could conveniently absorb. Prices receded therefore to 27 1-16d. on the 4th inst., but with better enquiry from bears and from the Eastern markets the tendency improved and the price rallied. America on the whole has not been much of a seller here.

The following were the United Kingdom imports and exports of silver registered from mid-day on the 30th ult. to mid-day on the 4th inst.:

Table showing silver imports and exports: Imports (France, Other countries), Exports (British India, Other countries).

The following figures compiled by the Yokohama Specie Bank throw some light on the continual flow of silver into China: "Chinese in the Malay Archipelago sent to China a total of \$45,950,000 in 1924 and \$43,100,000 in 1925, as follows:

Table showing silver figures for 1924 and 1925: Straits Settlements, Philippine Islands, Dutch East Indies.

"Thirty-six per cent of the above was sent through foreign banks, 32% by post, 16% through Chinese owned banks, and 16% taken to China by Chinese themselves. There were at the time of the report, 1,170,000 Chinese in the Straits Settlements, 810,000 in the Dutch Indies and 250,000 in the Philippines. Basing on the above figures, \$16 per head was sent from the Straits Settlements, \$13 from the Dutch Indies and \$53 from the Philippines. The average sent per head is about \$27. The above figures do not include the money sent from Annam, Burma and Siam, of which there is no reliable report. Based on population, with 1,800,000 Chinese in Siam, 360,000 in Annam, and 300,000 in Burma, totalling 2,460,000, this figure, at \$27 per head, the average for the Malay Archipelago, would give \$66,420,000 or a total altogether of \$109,520,000 for 1925. This figure, however, does not include remittances from Chinese in North or South America and Europe, who are estimated to remit at least fifty million dollars a year to the mother country."

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

Table showing Indian currency returns: Notes in circulation, Silver coin and bullion in India, Silver coin and bullion out of India, Gold coin and bullion in India, Gold coin and bullion out of India, Securities (Indian Government), Securities (British Government).

The stock in Shanghai on the 4th inst. consisted of about 47,500,000 ounces in sycee, 82,500,000 dollars, and 7,420 silver bars, as compared with about 47,500,000 ounces in sycee, 80,600,000 dollars, and 7,460 silver bars on the 28th ultimo. Quotations during the week:

Table showing silver and gold quotations: Bar Silver per Oz. Std. Cash, 2 Mos., Bar Gold Per Oz. Fine.

The silver quotations to-day for cash and two months delivery are each 1-16d. below those fixed a week ago.

ENGLISH FINANCIAL MARKETS—PER CABLE.

The daily closing quotations for securities, &c., at London, as reported by cable, have been as follows the past week:

Table showing English financial markets per cable: Silver, per oz. d., Gold, per fine ounce, Consols, British, French Renten, French War L'n.

The price of silver in New York on the same days has been:

Table showing silver price in New York: Silver in N. Y., per oz. (cts.), Foreign.

Commercial and Miscellaneous News

National Banks.—The following information regarding national banks is from the office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Treasury Department:

APPLICATION TO ORGANIZE APPROVED.

Table showing application to organize approved: Aug. 16—First National Bank in Prescott, Ariz., Correspondent, Charles C. Miller, Jr., Prescott, Ariz., Capital \$100,000.

CHARTERS ISSUED.

Table showing charters issued: Aug. 15—The National Bank of Wyoming, New York, Succeeds the Wyoming Banking Co., Wyoming, N. Y., President, F. J. Humphrey; Cashier, Wm. L. McCluskey. Aug. 17—The Pacific National Bank of Seattle, Wash., President, G. H. Greenwood; Cashier, Allan P. Hull. Aug. 17—Citizens National Bank of Point Pleasant, W. Va., President, Walter A. Windsor; Cashier, Harold Sayre.

CHANGES OF TITLES.

Table showing changes of titles: Aug. 13—The First National Bank of Saugerties, New York, to "The First National Bank & Trust Co. of Saugerties." Aug. 15—The Citizens National Bank of Pottstown, Pa., to "The Citizens National Bank & Trust Co. of Pottstown."

VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION.

Table showing voluntary liquidation: Aug. 13—The First National Bank of Gooding, Idaho, Effective June 26 1928. Liquidating Agent, First Security Bank of Gooding, Idaho. Succeeded by First Security Bank of Gooding, Idaho. Aug. 16—The American National Bank of Wagoner, Okla., Effective Dec. 15 1927. Liquidating Agent, R. M. Grimes, Wagoner, Okla. Succeeded by the American Bank of Wagoner, Okla. Aug. 17—The American National Bank of Spearfish, S. Dak., Effective Dec. 27 1927. Liquidating Agent, W. E. Dickey, Spearfish, S. Dak. Absorbed by Bank of Spearfish, S. Dak.

CONSOLIDATIONS.

Table showing consolidations: Aug. 13—The First National Bank of Tarpon Springs, Fla., and The Bank of Commerce & Tr. Co. of Tarpon Spgs., Fla., Consolidated to-day under Act of Nov. 7 1918, as amended Feb. 25 1927, under the charter of the First National Bank of Tarpon Springs, (No. 12274), and under the title of "The First National Bank of Commerce of Tarpon Springs," with capital stock of \$75,000. Aug. 18—Second Wisconsin Nat'l Bank of Milwaukee, Wis., and Merchants & Manufacturers Bank of Milwaukee, Wis., Consolidated to-day under Act of Nov. 7 1918, as amended Feb. 25 1927, under the charter and corporate title of "Second Wisconsin Nat'l Bank of Milwaukee," No. 13184, with capital stock of \$200,000.

Auction Sales.—Among other securities, the following, not actually dealt in at the Stock Exchange, were sold at auction in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Buffalo on Wednesday of this week:

By Adrian H. Muller & Sons, New York:

Table showing auction sales by Adrian H. Muller & Sons: Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh. 200 David P. Barry, Inc., \$25 lot, 1,687 Allied Packers, Inc., pr. pref., 1 1/2, 390 Wendell Coal Co., \$30 lot, 200 Standard Publishing Corp., class A, no par, 2, 50 Kan. City (Mo.) Joint Stock Land Bank, \$33 lot.

By Wise, Hobbs & Arnold, Boston:

Table showing auction sales by Wise, Hobbs & Arnold: Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh. 8 First National Bank, 460 1/4, 13 Arlington Mills, 35 1/2, 26 Naumkeag Steam Cotton Co., 128 1/2, 1 Brookside Mills, 55, 10 Nashua Mfg. Corp., 17 1/4, 51 Sharp Mfg. Co., pref., 84 1/2 & div., par \$15., 4,500 U. S. Worsted Corp., com., 14c-19c., 50 Ballou Yarn Co.; 3 Methow Trading Co.; 45 Advance Gin & Mill Co., \$280 lot, 100 U. S. Machine Gun Co., cl. 3 trust certificates, \$2 lot, 45 Eastern Util. Associates, com., 41, 121 New England Power Assn., 6% preferred, 99 1/2 & div., par \$20., 5 Thomson Electric Welding Co., par \$20., 90 Shawmut Assn., part paid, 52, 200 Fall River Gas Works Co., par \$15., 58 1/4, 30 Merrimac Hat Corp., pref., par \$50., 47.

By Barnes & Lofland, Philadelphia:

Table showing auction sales by Barnes & Lofland: Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh. 13 Philadelphia National Bank, 750, 1 Queen Lane National Bank, 150, 1 Queen Lane National Bank, 145, 10 Overbrook National Bank, 180, 4 Nat. Bank of North Philadelphia, 355, 2 Nat. Bank of North Philadelphia, 355, 10 Nat. Bank of Nor. Philadelphia, 352, 1 (Union Bank & Trust Co., 390, 5 Oxford Bank & Tr. Co., par \$50., 300, 12 Mitten M. & M. Bank & Trust Co. (stamped), 117, 5 Northwestern Tr. Co., par \$50., 1,010, 4 Guarantee Tr. & Safe Dep. Co., 461, 8 Guarantee Tr. & Safe Dep. Co., 461, 19 Guarantee Tr. & Safe Dep. Co., 460, 90 Colonial Tr. Co., par \$50., 250 1/2, 6 Tacony Trust Co., 495, 5 Broad St. Tr. Co., par \$50., 95, Bankers Trust Co., par \$50., as follows: 25 at 134, 25 at 133 1/4, 25 at 132 1/2, 25 at 132 1/4, 9 at 130 1/2, 5 Fidelity Tr. Co., Wildwood, N. J., 102.

By A. J. Wright & Co., Buffalo:

Table showing auction sales by A. J. Wright & Co.: Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh. 10 Assets Realization Co., \$1 lot, 1,000 Kirkland Hunton, par \$1., 6c., 5 Ketter Quallto, Inc., par \$20., 50c., 1,000 Canadian Lorrain, par \$1., 10c.

By R. L. Day & Co., Boston:

Table listing various stocks and bonds with columns for Shares, Stocks, \$ per sh., and \$ per 100. Includes items like 5 First National Bank, 100 Champion International Co., and various municipal bonds.

DIVIDENDS.

Dividends are grouped in two separate tables. In the first we bring together all the dividends announced the current week. Then we follow with a second table, in which we show the dividends previously announced, but which have not yet been paid.

The dividends announced this week are:

Main dividends table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed Days Inclusive. Includes sections for Railroads (Steam), Public Utilities, Banks, Trust Companies, Fire Insurance, and Miscellaneous.

Miscellaneous (Concluded) table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed Days Inclusive. Lists various companies like Florence Stove, Florsheim Shoe, and others.

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 of dividends announced in previous weeks with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed Days Inclusive. Includes Railroads (Steam) and other companies.

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. It lists various companies under categories like Railroads (Steam) (Concluded), Public Utilities, and Banks.

Table with 4 columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed Days Inclusive. The table is split into two sections: 'Miscellaneous (Continued)' and 'Miscellaneous (Continued)'. It lists numerous companies such as Internat. Agricul. Corp., Internat. Business Machines, and various oil and manufacturing firms, along with their respective financial details and closure dates.

Weekly Return of the Federal Reserve Board.

The following is the return issued by the Federal Reserve Board Thursday afternoon, Aug. 23, 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 appear on page 1037, 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 AUG. 22 1928.

Table with 9 columns for dates: Aug. 22 1928, Aug. 15 1928, Aug. 8 1928, Aug. 1 1928, July 25 1928, July 18 1928, July 11 1928, July 3 1928, Aug. 24 1927. Rows include RESOURCES (Gold, Reserves, Bills, Securities, etc.) and LIABILITIES (Deposits, Total Liabilities, etc.).

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 Federal Intermediate Credit bank debentures, was changed to "Other securities," and the caption "Total earning assets" to "Total bills and securities." The latter term was adopted as a more accurate description of the total of the discount 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 AUG. 22 1928

Table with 13 columns for banks: Boston, New York, Phila., Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneap., Kan. City, Dallas, San Fran. Rows include RESOURCES (Gold, Reserves, Bills, Securities, etc.) and LIABILITIES (Deposits, etc.).

Bankers' Gazette.

Wall Street, Friday Night, Aug. 24 1928.

Railroad and Miscellaneous Stocks.—The review of the Stock Market is given this week on page 0000.

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 of stock market data including columns for Stocks, Sales for Week, Range for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1. Lists various stocks like Railroads, Indus. & Miscellaneous, and Bank, Trust & Insurance Co. Stocks.

Quotations for U. S. Treas. Cfts. of Indebtedness, &c.

Table showing bond quotations with columns for Maturity, Int. Rate, Bid, and Asked prices for various U.S. Treasury certificates.

New York City Banks and Trust Companies. (All prices dollars per share.)

Table listing New York City Banks and Trust Companies with columns for Bid, Ask, and other financial metrics.

*State banks. †New stock. ‡Ex-dividend. §Ex-stock div. ¶Ex-rights.

United States Liberty Loan Bonds and Treasury Certificates on the New York Stock Exchange.—Below we furnish a daily record of the transactions in Liberty Loan bonds and Treasury certificates on the New York Stock Exchange.

Table titled 'Daily Record of U. S. Bond Prices' showing sales data for various Liberty Loan bonds and Treasury certificates from August 18 to August 24, 1928.

Note.—The above table includes only sales of coupon bonds. Transactions in registered bonds were:

Small table showing registered bond transactions with columns for bond type and sales volume.

Foreign Exchange.—

To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for sterling exchange were 4.84 15-16 @ 4.85 3-32 for checks and 4.85 9-32 @ 4.85 13-32 for cables. Commercial on banks, sight, 4.84 1/2 @ 4.84 15-16; sixty days, 4.80 1/2 @ 4.81 1/2; ninety days, 4.79 1/2 @ 4.79 3/4, and documents for payment, 4.80 1/2 @ 4.81 1/2; cotton for payment, 4.85, and grain for payment, 4.85.

Exchange at Paris on London, 124.23 francs; weeks range, 124.23 francs high and 124.22 francs low.

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies including Sterling, Paris Bankers' Francs, Amsterdam Bankers' Guilders, and Germany Bankers' Marks.

The Curb Market.—The review of the Curb Market is given this week on page 0000. A complete record of Curb Market transactions for the week will be found on page 1090.

*No par value. †Shillings.

New York City Realty and Surety Companies.

Table listing New York City Realty and Surety Companies with columns for Bid, Ask, and other financial metrics.

For sales during the week of stocks not recorded here, see third page preceding

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for dates (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) and price ranges for various stocks.

Table with columns for 'Sales for the Week', 'NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE', and 'Indus. & Miscell. (Con.)' listing various companies and their share prices.

Table with columns for 'PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1. On basis of 100-share lots' and 'PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1927' listing price ranges for various stocks.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. x Ex-dividend. s Ex-rights. Ex-warrants.

New York Stock Record—Continued—Page 4

1077

For sales during the week of stocks not recorded here, see fourth page preceding

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday); Sales for the Week; STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE (Indus. & Miscel. (Con.), Par); PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1. (Lowest, Highest); PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1927 (Lowest, Highest). Rows list various stocks like Electric Auto, Electric Boat, etc., with their respective prices and ranges.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Ex-dividend. ‡ Ex-rights.

For sales during the week of stocks not recorded here, see fifth page preceding

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Aug. 18-24); Sales for the Week; NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE; PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1. On basis of 100-shares lots (Lowest, Highest); PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1927 (Lowest, Highest). Rows list various stocks like Interpipe Corp., Island Creek Coal, Jewel Tea, etc.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day; z Ex-dividend; a Ex-rights.

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with 7 columns: Saturday, Aug. 18., Monday, Aug. 20., Tuesday, Aug. 21., Wednesday, Aug. 22., Thursday, Aug. 23., Friday, Aug. 24., \$ per share. Contains daily price ranges for various stocks.

Table with columns: STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1. On basis of 100-shares lots, PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1927. Lists stock names and their price ranges.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Ex-dividend. ‡ Ex-rights. § Ex-dividend and ex-rights.

For sales during the week of stocks not recorded here, see seventh page preceding

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) and STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE (Indus. & Miscel., Par, Shares for the Week, PER SHARE Range Since Jan. 1., PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1927). Rows list various companies like Studebaker Corp, Sun Oil, Superior Oil, etc.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Ex-dividend. ‡ Ex-rights. * No par value.

BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE. Week Ended Aug. 24.

Table of bond listings for the left column, including Railroad, Ala Gt Sou 1st cons A 5s, and various other bond types with columns for Price, Week's Range, and Range Since.

BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE. Week Ended Aug. 24.

Table of bond listings for the right column, including Chic Milw & St P, Chic & West Ind gen g 3 1/2s, and various other bond types with columns for Price, Week's Range, and Range Since.

! Due Feb. e Due May. p Due Dec.

Main table containing bond listings with columns for Bond Name, Interest Period, Price, Week's Range, Range Since Jan 1, and various other details. Includes sections for N.Y. Stock Exchange and Bonds.

Due Feb. 1.

Table with columns for Bonds, N. Y. Stock Exchange, and various bond details including prices, ranges, and dates. The table is organized into two main sections: 'BONDS' and 'N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE'.

d Due May. e Due June. f Due August.

Main table containing bond listings for 'N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE' and 'BONDS'. It includes columns for bond descriptions, interest periods, prices, and ranges. The table is organized into two main sections: 'BONDS' and 'INDUSTRIALS'.

Main table with columns: N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ended Aug. 24, Bond Description, Interest Period, Price Friday Aug. 24, Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1, Bond Description, Interest Period, Price Friday Aug. 24, Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1.

Outside Stock Exchanges.

Boston Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at the Boston Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks—, Par., Friday Last Sale Price., Week's Range of Prices. (Low, High), Sales for Week. (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Rows include Railroad, Miscellaneous, Galveston Hous Elec., National Leather, Mining, etc.

Table with columns: Bonds—, Friday Last Sale Price., Week's Range of Prices. (Low, High), Sales for Week. (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Rows include East Mass Street RR, Europ Invest 7 1/2, Hood Rubber 7s, etc.

Chicago Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Chicago Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, both inclusive compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks—, Par., Friday Last Sale Price., Week's Range of Prices. (Low, High), Sales for Week. (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Rows include Acme Steel Co., Adams Royalty Co., All-Amer Mohawk, American Colortype, etc.

Table listing various stocks (concluded) with columns for Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

* No Par Value.

Philadelphia Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table listing various stocks (concluded) with columns for Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Table listing various stocks (concluded) with columns for Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

* No par value.

Baltimore Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Baltimore Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table listing various stocks (concluded) with columns for Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

* No par value.

Cincinnati Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Cincinnati Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table listing various stocks (concluded) with columns for Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

* No par value.

Table of stock transactions for San Francisco Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, 1928. Columns include Stock Name, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

San Francisco Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at San Francisco Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock transactions for San Francisco Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, 1928. Columns include Stock Name, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Cleveland Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Cleveland Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock transactions for Cleveland Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, 1928. Columns include Stock Name, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

St. Louis Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at St. Louis Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock transactions for St. Louis Stock Exchange, Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, 1928. Columns include Stock Name, Par, Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), and Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

* No par value.

Table with 2 columns: 'Stocks (Concluded) Par.' and 'Stocks (Continued) Par.'. Each column contains financial data including 'Friday Last Sale Price', 'Week's Range of Prices', 'Sales for Week Shares', and 'Range Since Jan. 1.' for various stocks and bonds.

New York Curb Market—Weekly and Yearly Record

In the following extensive list we furnish a complete record of the transactions on the New York Curb Market for the week beginning on Saturday last (Aug. 18) and ending the present Friday (Aug. 24). It is compiled entirely from the daily reports of the Curb Market itself, and is intended to include every security, whether stock or bonds, in which any dealings occurred during the week covered:

Main table listing 'Stocks (Continued) Par.' with columns for 'Friday Last Sale Price', 'Week's Range of Prices', 'Sales for Week Shares', and 'Range Since Jan. 1.' for a wide variety of securities including stocks, bonds, and preferred shares.

Table with columns: Stocks (Concluded) Par., 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. Includes various stock entries like Hires (Chas E) Co, Holland Furnace Co, etc.

Table with multiple columns: Public Utilities (Concl.), Other Oil Stocks, Other Oil Stocks (Concluded), Mining Stocks, Bonds, Former Standard Oil Subsidiaries, and other oil stocks. Columns include share counts, prices, ranges since Jan. 1, and dates.

Quotations of Sundry Securities

All bond prices are "and interest" except where marked "P".

Table with multiple columns listing various securities including Public Utilities, Railroad Equipments, Chain Store Stocks, Standard Oil Stocks, Sugar Stocks, and Tobacco Stocks. Each entry includes the security name, its price, and other relevant details like par value and interest.

* Per share. † No par value. ‡ Basis. § Purchaser also pays accrued dividend ¶ Nominal. †† Ex-dividend. ‡‡ Ex-rights. ††† Canadian quotation †††† Sale price.

Inventories of finished goods and goods in process were written down, as to the rubber content therein, to the basis of 20 cents a pound. This necessitated a devaluation of \$6,337,380, covering all merchandise at factories and domestic and foreign branches. This does not represent a loss of value, inasmuch as the actual cost of production, before adjustment, indicates a profit at the current selling value of these goods after allowing for all selling and operating charges. Notwithstanding this fact, the adjustment was made in order to state the company's financial position with all elements of rubber at 20 cents a pound.

RESULTS FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS.

Table with 4 columns: 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925. Rows include Sales, Net inc. before interest, Interest on funded debt, Depreciation, Net profit after int. &c., Balance surplus, Shs. com. out., Earnings per share on com.

STATEMENT OF CURRENT ASSETS AND CURRENT LIABILITIES JUNE 30.

Table with 4 columns: 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925. Rows include Current Assets (Cash & accts. receivable, Inventory), Current Liabilities (Bank loans, Current accts. pay.), Total, x Of which \$8,378,521 cash.—V. 126, p. 2983.

Illinois Power & Light Corporation.

(Report for 12 Months Ended June 30 1928.)

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR TWELVE MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30.

Table with 4 columns: 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925. Rows include Gross earnings from operation, Operating expenses and maintenance, Taxes, Earnings from operation, Rentals, Other income, Total net earnings, Prior charges of Iowa Power & Light Co., Twelve months interest on Illinois Power & Light Corp. mortgage debt.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR CALENDAR YEARS.

Table with 4 columns: 1927, 1926, 1925, 1924. Rows include Gross earnings from oper., Electric light & power, Interurban lines, City lines, Gas, Heat, Ice, water & miscell., Inter-company items, Total earnings, Operating expenses, Maintenance, Local taxes, Federal taxes, Net earnings, Other income.

Table with 4 columns: 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925. Rows include Total income, Interest charges, Bonds disc't amortized, Divs. on pref. stocks, & subsidiaries, Approp. for depr., retir., replacements, Balance, Surplus Jan. 1, Adjustments, Divs. pd. on com. stk., Surp. per bal. sheet, Shares of com. stock outstanding, Earnings per sh. on com.

COMPARATIVE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET.

Table with 4 columns: June 30 '28, Dec. 31 '27, June 30 '28, Dec. 31 '27. Rows include Assets (Fixed capital, Cash, Cash & due from banks, Notes & accts. rec., Materials & supplies, Prepayments, Miscell. invest., Sinking fund, Special deposits, Unamortized bond discount, Miscell. def. debts, Accounts with affil. companies, Treasury securities), Liabilities (7% pref. stock, 6% cum. pref. stk., 6% participating pref. stock, 6% pref. stock, Common stock, Underlying bds., Ist & ref. mtgts., Bonds, Underlying pref. stocks, Debenture bonds, Notes payable, Accts payable, Affil. cos. accts., Consum. depos., Accrued taxes, Accrued interest, Deferred accounts, Advs. on preferred stock sales, Unadj. credits, Retiree's res'v., Miscell. reserve, Surplus).

United Paperboard Co., Inc.

(15th Annual Report—Year Ended May 26 1928.)

President Sidney Mitchell reports in brief:

The earnings were less during the last half of the year, owing to lower prices for the products, although mill costs were somewhat lower. Directors have declared a dividend of 6% on the preferred stock, payable quarterly during the ensuing year, in addition to which the earnings on the common stock amounted to 1.88%.

The pulp mills were appraised at about 40% of the total property of the company and probably can never be operated again profitably. As the newspapers are so much more politically than pulp mill manufacturers and their employees, there is little likelihood of securing a tariff to sufficiently protect the industry on pulp. There are many other idle pulp mills throughout the country, some of which have been for sale for a long time, and we feel that there is little prospect of being able to sell our pulp mills for any amount commensurate with their value, although there should be some benefit from the sale or use of water power; in fact, since the close of the year the company has completed the sale of a portion of its water rights at Lockport, N. Y., for \$210,000, after our engineer reported that this property could not be developed hydro-electrically and operated profitably at prices prevailing for electric power at Lockport, N. Y.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDED.

Table with 5 columns: May 26 1927-28, May 28 1926-27, May 29 1925-26, May 30 1924-25. Rows include Total sales, Mill earnings, Taxes and insurance, Administration exp., Depreciation, Reserve for Federal taxes, Net income, Preferred divs. (6%), Common dividends, Balance surplus, Shs. com. out., Earnings per sh. on com.

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET.

Table with 4 columns: May 26 '28, May 28 '27, May 26 '28, May 25 '27. Rows include Assets (Real estate, plants, equipment, Real securities, Cash, Notes & accts. rec., Mds. & supplies, Deferred charges, Suspended assets), Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, Accounts payable, Pref. div. payable, Reserve for accrued taxes, Surplus), Total.

American Chic Company.

(Semi-Annual Report—6 Mos. Ended June 30 1928.)

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30.

Table with 4 columns: 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925. Rows include Gross profit from sales after deducting cost of mat'l, labor & mfg. exps, Other income, Total income, Selling & adm. expense, Profit on operations before int. charges, Prov. for Fed. taxes, Interest charges, Balance surplus, Sur. at begin'g of period, Adj. of sur. through re-capitalization, Other surplus adjustm'ts, Sur. through re-capital'n, Prior preferred divs., Preferred dividends, Common dividends.

Table with 4 columns: 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925. Rows include Sur. at end of period, a Includes \$35,215 back dividends and regular dividends of \$4,143. b Also after depreciation, \$2,185,079. c Dividend for second quarter only, the dividend for the March quarter amounting to \$204,599, having been charged against the surplus at Dec. 31 1927.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30.

Table with 4 columns: 1928, 1927, 1928, 1927. Rows include Assets (Land, bldgs., &c., Good-will, patents, &c., Cash, Loans on call, Accts. & notes rec., Inventories, Marketable secs., Invest. notes rec., Prepayments), Liabilities (Prior pref. stock, Preferred stock, Common stock, Sen Sen bonds, Accounts payable, Accruals, Res. for taxes, Surplus through re-capitalization, Earned surplus).

Represented by 186,595 shares of no par value. z After deducting \$1,866,376 reserve for depreciation. a After deducting \$38,478 for reserve.—V. 126, p. 2479.

Algoma Steel Corporation, Ltd.

(Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30 1928.)

Table with 4 columns: 1927-28, 1926-27, 1925-26, 1924-25. Rows include Net earnings from oper'ns, Dividend (sub. cos.), Total net income, Interest charges, less int. on investment, &c., Balance, sur. for year, Balance at debit of p. & l. acct., brought forward, Adj. of inc. tax (pr. yrs.), Provision for deprec., Loss on invest. of S. S. Marie Traction Co., Bal., def., carried for'd.

BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30.

Table with 4 columns: 1928, 1927, 1928, 1927. Rows include Assets (Property account, Moneys invested in subsidiary and other companies, Funds in trustees' hands, Products on hand, Material and supp., Miscellaneous, Advance payments on contracts, Accts. receivable, Cash, Suspense accounts, Profit & loss deficit), Liabilities (Capital stock, Pref. 7% cum. x, Purch. money 5% bonds, First & ref. M. 5% gold bonds of city, Deb. bonds of city of S. S. Marie, Advance from Lake Superior Corp., Accounts payable, Acct. int. on bonds, Suspense account, Reserve for depreciation, &c.), Total.

x Dividends in arrears from March 30 1916. z First and refunding mortgage 5% gold bonds, authorized issue, \$30,000,000; outstanding, \$22,147,459; less pledged as security for city debentures and temporary loans, \$2,550,169, and bonds held in sinking fund, \$4,244,057.—V. 127, p. 108.

Mexican Light & Power Co., Ltd.

(16th Annual Report—Year Ended Dec. 31 1927.)

EARNINGS FOR YEARS ENDED DEC. 31 (MEXICAN CURRENCY) Table with columns for 1927, 1926, 1925, 1924 and rows for Fed. Govt. & Mun. Earns., Public lighting, Office lighting, etc.

Net inc. from oper... \$10,075,566 \$9,529,742 \$9,091,940 \$8,938,278 Note.—The gross earnings in 1927 amounting to \$20,427,468, include uncollected accounts for services rendered to the municipal and Federal Government departments during the year 1927, representing a sum of approximately \$1,220,000.

BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31 (INCLUDING SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES)

Assets— Properties, plant, equipment, etc., Rights, franchises, good-will, etc., Cost of invest. in & adv. to subsid., Stores in hand and in transit., etc. Liabilities— Ordinary shares, 7% cum. pref. shs., 4% cum. pref. shs., Funded debt, 10-year notes, etc.

The Lake Superior Corporation.

(Annual Report—Year Ended June 30 1928.)

President Robert Dodd reports in substance:

The operations of the subsidiary companies for the year show the following results: Net earnings from operations of the subsidiary companies, excluding Algoma Central & Hudson Bay Ry. Co., were... \$2,118,683 Interest on bonds of subs. companies, on bank and other advances, and rentals (less int. earned on bank balances & invest.) 1,308,486

Table showing subsidiary company results for Algoma Steel Corp., Ltd., Cannelton Coal & Coke Co., Fiborn Limestone, and Lake Superior Coal.

In the year just closed there was a marked increase in production and earnings. Following completion of the extension to Rail Mill Finishing Department July 31 1927, to permit rolling of 39 ft. rails, the mill operated on single turn to Sept. 12. Rolling was resumed on Nov. 14th and single turn operation continued until the mill was put on double turn Feb. 19 1928.

Orders on hand at the close of the fiscal year were valued at \$3,277,183 compared with \$3,150,932 on June 30 1927. These include coke, pig iron, ammonium sulphate, bars, rail fastenings and sufficient rails to keep the rail mill operating during July and August. Further bookings of rail orders for winter rolling are expected to be made in the near future.

Chicago Rock Island Pacific Ry. Increases Wages.—Official announced Aug. 20 completion of a wage agreement with 6,000 employees, granting an increase of \$450,000 annually, which is retroactive to June 1 1928.

Surplus Freight Cars.—Class 1 railroads on Aug. 8 had 257,212 surplus freight cars in good repair and immediately available for service, the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association announced Aug. 20.

Since 1904 the efforts of the directors of the Lake Superior Corp. have been directed toward the gradual disposal of all industries represented by the securities, except the Steel Corporation and the two Railways.

During all the intervening years since 1904, while industries have been disposed of no adjustment has ever been made in the book value of the investment account, although the question has been considered by the directors from time to time.

The stockholders lose nothing by the proposed change, but rather will be put in possession of a statement which more accurately reflects the present financial status of the corporation.

Directors believe that, in taking action along the lines indicated herein, they will be able to give the stockholders a more accurate statement of the affairs of the Lake Superior Corp., and that they will be placing the corporation in a position where in the near future the earnings of the subsidiary companies will more than justify the suggested capitalization.

Directors, having in mind the fact that the income bonds of the corporation mature during 1929, propose to ask the shareholders during the current fiscal year, to sanction an issue of \$5 no par value non-cumulative preferred stock of the Lake Superior Corp., which preferred stock will be offered to the income bondholders in exchange for their bonds.

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDED JUNE 30 (LAKE SUPERIOR CORP.) Table with columns for 1927-28, 1926-27, 1925-26, 1924-25 and rows for Int. & div. on secur. of sub. cos., Other income, Total, Net income, etc.

Total deficit as per balance sheet... \$7,251,433 sur\$953,168 sur\$959,973 sur\$967,606

INCOME OF SUB. COS. (EXCL. ALGOMA CENT. & HUDSON BAY RY.)

Table showing income of subsidiary companies for Algoma Eastern Ry., Algoma Steel Corp., British-Amer. Exp. Co., Cannelton Coal & Coke, Fiborn Limestone, and Lake Superior Coal.

BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30 (LAKE SUPERIOR CORP.)

Assets— Invest'ts & secur's, Real estate, &c., Due by sub. cos., Proc. of sale of inv., Cash, Miscellaneous, Accrued int. receiv., Cash for unclaimed interest coupons, Cash on temporary loans secured, Demand loans, Temporary invest., Div. rec'd sub. cos. Liabilities— Capital stock, First mtge. bonds, Income bonds, Accounts payable, Accrued interest, Coupons unclaimed, Profit and loss.

The company has (as of June 30 1928) contingent liabilities in respect of the guarantees of bonds of the following subsidiary companies: Algoma Central & Hudson Bay Ry., Algoma Eastern Ry., Algoma Steel Corporation Ltd., and Algoma Central Terminals, Ltd.—V. 127, p. 116.

GENERAL INVESTMENT NEWS

STEAM RAILROADS.

Trainmen Voting to Strike.—Members of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen on lines west of Chicago whose wage increase demands were recently rejected, are voting heavily to strike, according to A. F. Whitney, Brotherhood President.

Chicago Rock Island Pacific Ry. Increases Wages.—Official announced Aug. 20 completion of a wage agreement with 6,000 employees, granting an increase of \$450,000 annually, which is retroactive to June 1 1928.

Locomotives in Need of Repairs.—Locomotives in need of repair on the class 1 railroads of this country on Aug. 1, totaled 8,310 or 14% of the number of line, according to reports filed Aug. 20 by the carriers with the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association.

Surplus Freight Cars.—Class 1 railroads on Aug. 8 had 257,212 surplus freight cars in good repair and immediately available for service, the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association announced Aug. 20.

Exchange Buffet Corporation.—Consol. Income Account. 3 Mos. End. July 31—1928. 1927. 1926. 1925. Gross operating profits—\$146,831 \$131,861 \$113,369 \$120,817

Fedders Manufacturing Co.—Earnings.—6 Months End. June 30—1928. 1927. Net earnings before res. for taxes—\$298,673 x\$181,636

Federated Metals Corp. (& Subs.).—Earnings.—The corporation reports for the 6 months ended May 31 1928, profit of \$288,863 after interest and depreciation compared with profit of \$10,732 in the corresponding period of the previous year and with net loss of \$729,729 in 1926.

Comparative Consolidated Balance Sheet May 31. Assets—1928. 1927. R. E. plants, &c., (less reserve)—\$4,772,807 \$4,913,328

Financial & Industrial Securities Corp.—National Liberty Group Increase Surplus.—

The National Liberty group of insurance companies, in their combined statement, made public this week show that after payment of all dividends on stocks of the National Liberty Insurance Co. of America, the Baltimore American Insurance Co. of New York and the Peoples National Fire Insurance Co. of Delaware, surplus increased from Jan. 1 1928 to July 1 1928 \$5,417,011, making the total net surplus \$25,127,338.

Firestone Cotton Mills.—Exchange of Bonds.—The company's 20-year 5% sinking fund gold bonds, carrying the coupon due Sept. 1 1928, in permanent form, are being exchanged, upon presentation of interim receipts, at the transfer department of the National City Bank of New York.—V. 126, p. 1207.

Fisk Rubber Co. (& Subs.).—Earnings.—Period—6 Mos. End. 8 Mos. End. 6 Mos. End. 6 Mos. End. June 30 '28 June 30 '27. Apr. 30 '26. Apr. 30 '25.

Consolidated Balance Sheet June 30. Assets—1928. 1927. Property account x23,404,309 19,995,947

Galena Signal Oil Co. of Texas.—Receiver Discharged.—McDonald Meacham has been discharged as receiver. He was appointed receiver Feb. 6 by Judge Monteith on the application of the Galena Signal Oil Co. of Pennsylvania. (See also latter company in V. 127, p. 829).—V. 125, p. 3204.

Galesburg Coulter-Disc Co.—Sales—Orders.—It is reported that the company's sales for July 1928 amounted to over \$500,000, the largest single month's business in the history of the company and an increase of 91% over the corresponding month in 1927.

Gardner Motor Co.—Sales Increase.—Retail sales of cars for July, and especially for the last half of the month, showed a marked increase over the same period of 1927, according to Russell E. Gardner, Jr., President, who says in part:

"A significant thing about this sales increase in the month of July is the fact that automobile sales as a rule slow up in midsummer, the period when many automobile manufacturers either have new models under way or are planning new offerings for the public."

"In July, however, sales increased, in spite of the fact that a number of manufacturers brought out new models. And sales for the last half of July showed the largest increase in the last three years, for this period."

"An analysis of our retail sales for the past six weeks also shows an unusual increase in the cars sold in that period over any similar period during the past three years."

Earnings 6 Mos. Ended June 30—1928. 1927. Car sales—\$3,270,382 \$3,079,354

Profit from operations—\$196,149 \$141,716 Income credits—5,424 Dr. 758

Comparative Balance Sheet June 30. Assets—1928. 1927. Land, buildings & equipment—\$358,448 \$342,596

General Motors Corp.—Sales Overseas.—During the first half of 1928 General Motors cars sold to overseas dealers totaled 137,470, according to an announcement made by Pres. Alfred P. Sloan, Jr. This compares with 92,452 cars and trucks sold to overseas dealers in the first half of 1927, an increase of 45,018 units or 48.7%.

Number of Cars and Trucks Sold. Period—1928. 1927. 1926. 1st quarter—56,937 39,443 31,936

General Vending Corp. of Va.—New Officer.—Albert M. Chambers of F. J. Lisman & Co. has been elected a director and chairman of the executive committee.—V. 127, p. 830.

(Adolf) Gobel, Inc.—Capital Increased, etc.—The stockholders on Aug. 22 approved the proposal to increase the authorized capital stock from 100,000 shares now authorized and issued to 600,000 shares, and to change such 100,000 shares of common stock without par value now issued into 300,000 shares of such new common stock without par value.

The stockholders also approved the proposal to offer to all or any of the holders, other than the corporation, of stock of George Kern, Inc., Merkel, Inc. and (or) B. Meier & Son, Inc., in each of which companies the corporation now owns at least a majority of the outstanding common stock, the right to exchange stock as follows, respectively:

(a) 2 shares of common stock of George Kern, Inc. for 3 shares of such new common stock without par value, and 2 shares of preferred stock of George Kern, Inc. for 5 shares of such new common stock without par value, without any adjustment for any dividends accumulated and unpaid on the preferred stock to date of such exchange.

(b) 1 share of 6% convertible preferred stock of Merkel, Inc. for 3 shares of such new common stock without par value.

(c) 2 shares of preferred stock of B. Meier & Son, Inc. for 5 shares of such new common stock without par value.

President F. Firor in a letter dated, Aug. 4, said in part: The corporation was incorporated a little less than two years ago to acquire the meat packing and provision business which had been started in a modest way by Adolf Gobel in 1891. From time to time, during the past year, opportunities have been presented to the management to acquire, directly or through subsidiary companies which it has caused to be organized, a number of concerns engaged in lines of business similar to that of Gobel and in localities where Gobel Products could be advantageously marketed.

The directors have felt that the business of the corporation could be expanded more quickly and economically by the acquisition of established businesses in new territory than through the slow and expensive process of building direct sales in the same territory. In carrying out this program of expansion, the corporation, a year ago, obtained a controlling interest in the common stock of George Kern, Inc., operating a large packing house at 11th Ave. and 40th Street, N. Y. City, with complete equipment for killing and dressing live hogs as well as processing and curing meat products, and later obtained all of the common stock of B. Meier & Son, Inc., operating a small provision plant in the Bronx, N. Y. City.

Subsequently, in furtherance of this expansion, the corporation has caused certain subsidiaries to be formed in which it now owns the following interests: all of the stock of Hertz Bros., Inc., which acquired the assets and business of the partnership of Hertz Brothers, operating a small provision house with a fine local reputation at Milton, Pa.; also a controlling interest in the common stock of Keane-Löffler, Inc., which acquired and consolidated the assets and business of three meat and provision companies and a modern abattoir in Washington, D. C.; and all of the common stock of Merkel, Inc., which owns a large modern provision plant at Jamaica, Long Island, with a chain of 17 retail stores.

Corporation is also completing arrangements to acquire the assets and business of United Sausage Co. and the plant and lease-hold of Pearl Sausage Co., both of Boston, Mass., and the plant and business formerly of C. Lehmann Packing Co., Inc. of Brooklyn, New York.

This expansion has been brought about to establish the sale of Gobel Products along the entire Atlantic Seaboard from Boston, Mass., to Richmond, Va., where a large proportion of the total population of the United States is concentrated. The directors believe that it would now be beneficial to the corporation and its stockholders to bring about a more complete consolidation with certain of the controlled companies, by an exchange of stock of the corporation for the minority interests in these certain companies, thereby making possible a greater consolidation of manufacturing operations and sales as well as financing, with all of the economies which are expected to result therefrom. To this end, it has seemed wise to the directors to recommend an increase in the authorized number of shares of stock; an exchange of the present shares for new shares in the ratio of 3 new shares for each 1 share of present stock; and an offer to the holders of minority interests in certain of the controlled companies of an exchange of the new stock for their minority holdings on a fair and equitable basis.

When this consolidation is effected, the corporation and its subsidiaries will have an annual volume of sales of approximately \$25,000,000, which the management confidently believes can be substantially increased. It will own a number of modern packing and provision houses strategically located and should be in a position to earn a very satisfactory return on the outstanding capitalization.—V. 127, p. 555.

Acceptance Corp. and former President of the Cosmopolitan Bank and Federal Land Bank; Morris Rothenberg, Attorney-at-Law; Jacob Ginsburg, President and Editor of 'The Jewish World,' Philadelphia; Morris Eiserman, Pres. of the Metropolitan News Co., New York; Solomon Cruso, Pres. of the Columbia Finance Corp.; Leon Moisseff, Consulting Bridge Engineer, New York; Jacob Fishman, Managing Editor, 'The Jewish Morning Journal,' New York; Baruch Zuckerman, New York insurance man, and Harry Cruso, Sec. of Columbia Finance Corp., N. Y.

Sperry Flour Co.—Annual Report.—

Year Ended June 30— 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925. Sales: \$34,592,438, \$32,805,834, \$33,158,704, \$34,046,617. Operating, admin. & sell. expenses: 1,968,220, 2,070,054, 2,178,220, 2,203,886.

Net profit on sales: \$1,895,227, \$1,856,092, \$1,170,895, \$2,162,996. Gross income: \$2,256,217, \$2,115,046, \$1,526,991, \$2,391,694. Deductions from income: 233,869, 242,589, 330,315, 399,760.

Consolidated Balance Sheet June 30. Assets— Total oper. prop.: 5,724,894, 6,802,177, 3,280,500, 3,430,500. Cash: 649,417, 586,794, 5,400,000, 5,400,000.

Stewart-Warner Speedometer Corp. (& Subs.)—Earnings. Period End. June 30— 1928—3 Mos.—1927, 1928—6 Mos.—1927. Profit and income: \$2,510,252, \$1,714,906, \$4,093,236, \$2,909,966.

Consolidated Balance Sheet June 30. Assets— Land, bldgs., mach. & equipment: 14,199,845, 14,090,495. Pats., g'd-will, &c.: 1, 1.

Stollwerck Chocolate Co.—Stockholders Meeting Adjourned.— The special meeting of stockholders has been adjourned again to Sept. 18, due to lack of a quorum to vote on the plan of reorganization dated May 31 1928.—V. 110, p. 269.

Stutz Motor Car Co. of America, Inc.—Earnings.— Ernst & Ernst, official certified public accountants, have just finished their usual semi-annual audit of the books of the company. Their audit shows the net profit of the company for the first six months of this year was \$417,004, after deductions of every kind and provision for Federal income taxes.—V. 127, p. 425.

Swiftsure Petroleum Co.—Receivership.— A \$240,000 mortgage bond foreclosure action against the company and the Terminal Oil & Refining Co., filed in United States District Court at Houston, Texas, Aug. 7, by the Chase National Bank and C. B. Hibbing of New York City, resulted in Judge J. C. Hutcheson, Jr. making an order appointing Colonel H. B. Moore of Texas City receiver of the plants, property and assets of the two corporations pending settlement of the suits.

Taunton-New Bedford Copper Co.—Extra Dividend.— The company has declared the regular quarterly dividend of \$2 and an extra dividend of \$25 per share on the outstanding \$1,200,000 capital stock (par \$100), both payable Aug. 31 to stock of record Aug. 16.—V. 127, p. 122.

Terminal Oil & Refining Co.—Receivership.— See Swiftsure Petroleum Co. above.

Thatcher Manufacturing Co.—Earnings.— 6 Mos. End. June 30— 1928, 1927. Gross profit from operations: \$659,644, \$576,734. Net income for period: 505,947, 398,636.

The balance sheet of June 30 1928 shows current assets of \$1,826,887 compared with current liabilities of only \$379,207, a quick asset position of 4.55 to 1. Cash alone of \$757,321 is almost exactly twice total current liabilities.—V. 126, p. 1057.

Three Millers Co., Boston.—Bankrupt.— The company, manufacturer of confectioner's supplies and equipment and of soda fountain products, filed a bankruptcy schedule in the Federal Court at Boston, Aug. 10. Liabilities total \$128,446; assets \$174,732. There are secured claims of \$7,772 and unsecured of \$119,830. There are 400 unsecured creditors.

Tooke Bros., Ltd.—Earnings.—

Years Ended June 30— 1927-28, 1926-27, 1925-26. Net profits: \$104,896, \$112,345, \$116,777. Other income: 4,800. Total income: \$109,696, \$112,345, \$116,777.

Transue & Williams Steel Forging Co.—Earnings.—

Month End. July 31— 1928, 1927. Net income after charges: \$30,034, \$13,013.

Trinity Buildings Corp.—Tenders.— The Guaranty Trust Co. of New York will until Sept. 4 receive bids for the sale to it of 1st mtge. 20-year 5 1/2% s. f. gold loan certificates due June 1 1939 at a price not exceeding 103 and int. to an amount sufficient to exhaust \$126,724.—V. 125, p. 3075.

Triplex Safety Glass Co. of North America.—To Increase Capital—40,000 Shares of Additional Common Stock To Be Offered at \$25 Per Share.—

To provide additional capital of \$1,000,000 for expansion of manufacturing facilities, directors have authorized the issuance of 40,000 shares of additional common stock at \$25 per share. Present stockholders will be given preference in allotments, which will be made on Sept. 14 on the basis of stock owned of record at the close of business on Sept. 1. Payment for the stock allotted is to be made on or before Sept. 21.

Tung-Sol Lamp Works, Inc.—Earnings.— Period End. June 30— 1928—3 Mos.—1927, 1928—6 Mos.—1927. Operating profit: \$285,357, \$270,440, \$551,201, \$543,720. Other income: 13,702, 9,707, 25,317, 20,346.

Ulen & Co.—To Move Staff to Indiana.— The company it is announced is to move the majority of its executive staff from the present offices at 120 Broadway N. Y. City to Lebanon, Ind.—V. 127, p. 837.

United Carbon Co.—Earnings.— The company reports for the six months ended June 30, 1928, net earnings of \$350,587, after deducting \$624,941 for depreciation and depletion and after all interest and estimated Federal taxes. This compares with a deficit of \$36,202, after depreciation and depletion deductions of \$496,386, in the corresponding period of 1927.

United Cigars Stores Co. of America.—Increases Cash Div.—Omits Div. Payable on Common Stock.— The directors of the company have declared a quarterly div. of 25c a share, payable Sept. 29 to holders of record Sept. 12, thus placing the stock on a \$1 annual basis. Previous quarterly distributions had been at the rate of 20c. a share in cash and 1 1/4% in stock.—V. 127, p. 123.

Earnings for Six Months Ended June 30. 1928, 1927, 1926. Net profits aft. Int., Fed. taxes, &c.: \$3,250,814, \$2,717,251, \$3,712,477, \$2,853,860.

United Fuel & Supply Co.—Receivership.— A receiver for the company was appointed by Judge Guy A. Miller in circuit court at Detroit, Aug. 18, on petition of the board of directors of the company. Charles H. Havill and Thomas W. Murray, Sec.-Treas. and Sales Manager, respectively, of the company, were named temporary co-receivers, with power to carry on the business, and Judge Miller issued an order, returnable Oct. 1 before Henry G. Nicol, circuit court commissioner, to show cause why the corporation should not be dissolved.

United States Dairy Products Corp. & Subs.—Corrected Earnings Statement.— The earnings figures as published in our issue of Aug. 11, last, page 837, are erroneous. We stated that the net profits before depreciation and Federal taxes for the six months ended June 30 1928, 1927 and 1926 were \$488,844, \$691,532 and \$629,599, respectively. The correct figures for the periods before depreciation and Federal taxes are \$965,397 for 1928, \$712,301 for 1927 and \$643,397 for 1926. We give herewith the consolidated income account

ASSOCIATED GAS and ELECTRIC COMPANY



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO THE STOCKHOLDERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1927.

Organization of the
ASSOCIATED GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
(Incorporated under the laws of the State of New York in 1906)

OFFICERS

J. I. Mange, *President*-----New York
H. C. Hopson, *Vice-President and Treasurer*-----New York
S. J. Magee, *Vice-President and General Manager*-----New York
H. D. Fitch, *Vice-President*-----Bowling Green, Ky.
J. M. Daly, *Vice-President*-----New York
O. E. Wasser, *Comptroller and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer*-----Ithaca, N. Y.
M. C. O'Keefe, *Secretary and Assistant Treasurer*-----New York
G. M. Michel, *Assistant Treasurer*-----New York

DIRECTORS

Charles W. Beall-----New York
Harris, Forbes & Company
Henry D. Fitch-----Bowling Green, Ky.
Vice-President
Sanford J. Magee-----New York
Vice-President and General Manager
Frederick S. Burroughs-----New York
Harris, Forbes & Company
Frederick T. Hepburn-----New York
F. T. Hepburn & Company
John I. Mange-----New York
President
John M. Daly-----New York
Vice-President
Howard C. Hopson-----New York
Vice-President and Treasurer
Faris R. Russell-----New York
Vice-President
National Bank of Commerce in New York

Financial Office, 61 Broadway, New York City
Principal Office-----Ithaca, New York
The J. G. WHITE MANAGEMENT CORPORATION
Operating Managers
33 Liberty Street, New York City

To the Stockholders of

Associated Gas and Electric Company:

The Board of Directors herewith submits the annual report for the year ended Dec. 31 1927, with statement of income for the year and balance sheet showing the financial condition at the close of the year.

FOREWORD.

The Associated Gas and Electric System had its inception with the establishment of the Ithaca Gas Light Company in Ithaca, New York, in 1852. This was an isolated company for over fifty years, when its owners became interested in and secured control of, several other electric and gas properties in the south central part of New York State. The group of properties thus united in a common ownership came to be known as "The Associated Gas and Electric Companies," and these properties formed the nucleus around which the Associated Gas and Electric System has grown. The Original Associated Companies are still part of the Associated System. In 1906 the owners of these properties organized the Associated Gas and Electric Company under the laws of New York State. The Associated Companies were thus among the earliest public utility companies in the country to adopt centralized management.

PROPERTIES AND TERRITORY SERVED.

The two principal units of the Associated System are the Associated Gas and Electric Company and the New England Gas and Electric Association. The public utility properties, of which substantially 100% actual ownership is held within the System, are grouped, for administrative convenience, as follows:

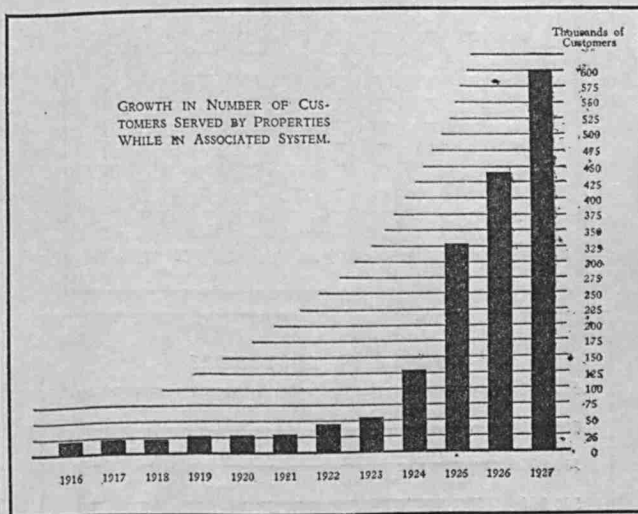
New York State Long Island (New York)
Staten Island (New York) Pennsylvania
Maritime Provinces (Canada) New England
Kentucky-Tennessee Gas Utilities
Philippine Islands

These properties provide electric light and power, gas, water, and transportation service to over 600,000 customers in territories having a population in excess of 2,700,000. The territories served include more than 1,000 communities located in the States of New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, and South Dakota. A number of communities in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island in the Maritime Provinces of Canada are also served and an important unit in the System is the group which renders electric power and light and transportation service in the city and suburbs of Manila and elsewhere in the Philippine Islands.

The extended territory in which service is rendered gives a notable diversification not only in geographical distribution but also as to classes of population and kinds of service. It includes well-established industrial and residential cities,

rural communities, and summer resorts. The industrial demand is from widely different sources such as mining, manufacturing, and agriculture. This diversity, both in territory served and in nature of service, has always had a stabilizing effect upon the business and the earnings of the System.

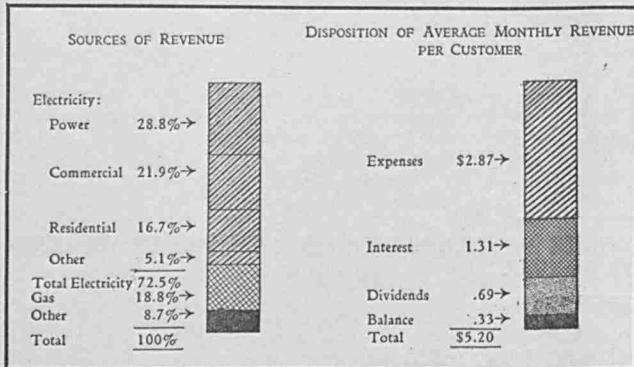
The following chart shows the number of consumers served by the properties of the Associated System at the close of each of the years 1916 to 1927. The consumers of acquired properties are first included in the year the property was acquired.



The most recent comparative earnings statement available (in the form in which it is published each month), is given below for twelve months ended May 31 1928 and 1927:

	1928.	1927.	Increase Amount.	%
Gross Earnings and Other Income	\$42,006,909	\$31,831,775	\$10,175,134	32
Operating Expenses, Maintenance, all Taxes, etc.	23,839,007	17,163,967	6,675,040	39
Net Earnings	\$18,167,902	\$14,667,808	\$3,500,094	24
Preferred Dividends of Underlying Companies and All Interest	10,051,175	8,231,756	1,819,419	22
Balance for Dividends and Depreciation	\$8,116,727	\$6,436,052	\$1,680,675	26
Provision for Replacements, Renewals and Retirement of Fixed Capital (Depreciation)	2,014,835	1,710,891	303,944	18
Balance for Dividends and Surplus	\$6,101,892	\$4,725,161	\$1,376,731	29

The following charts show the sources of revenue and the disposition of the average monthly revenue per customer:

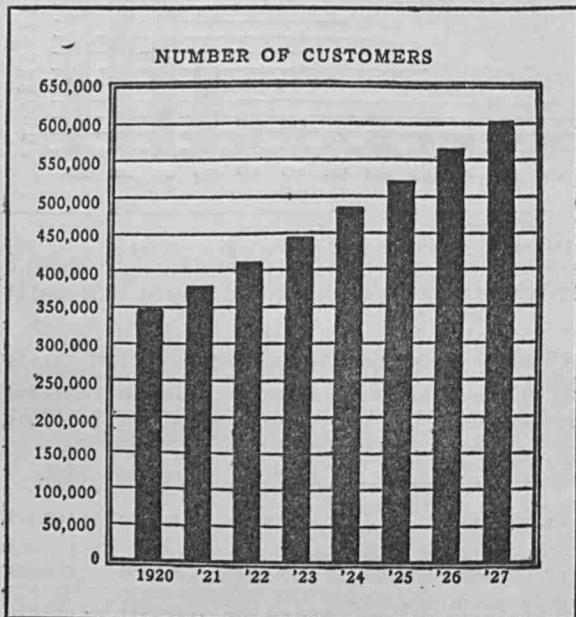
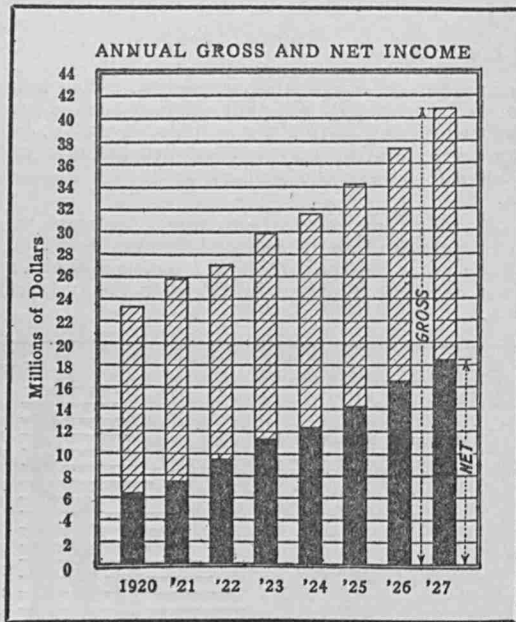


GROWTH OF BUSINESS.

The business done by the combined operating units of the Associated Gas & Electric System has shown at all times a rapid and remarkably constant growth. A statement showing earnings and other statistics of all properties now comprising the Associated Gas and Electric System, including the New England Gas and Electric Association Group, and irrespective of the dates when they were first included as part of the System, is shown below:

Dec. 31—	—Annual Income—		Sales, K. W. H.	—Number of Customers.—	
	Gross	Net		Electric.	Gas, Water, etc.
1920	\$23,315,011	\$6,457,680	323,942,577	171,610	177,184
1921	25,864,850	7,452,519	312,949,728	195,342	183,841
1922	27,101,259	9,552,373	362,740,051	221,257	190,358
1923	29,920,919	11,384,101	436,143,206	250,603	195,586
1924	31,626,399	12,357,575	477,918,719	284,530	202,067
1925	34,103,785	14,333,047	556,294,890	313,217	209,629
1926	37,423,008	16,618,149	656,516,875	344,218	220,949
1927	40,958,873	18,561,732	707,749,409	375,318	226,763

The following charts show graphically the growth in annual gross and net earnings and the number of customers of properties in the Associated System, irrespective of the dates of acquisition, from 1920 to 1927, as set forth in the above tabulation.



ACQUISITIONS DURING YEAR.

During the past year, the Associated Gas and Electric Company acquired through subsidiaries several properties which were near those already owned and which could be advantageously operated in connection therewith. These purchases did not include any particularly large additions. They were for the most part comparatively small properties in territories adjacent to those of the Pennsylvania, Kentucky-Tennessee, and New York groups. Such acquisitions have materially aided the process of consolidation and unification in those territories with resulting gains in net earnings immediately or in prospect of early realization.

NEW ENGLAND GAS AND ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION.

A noteworthy accession to the Associated System during the year was the inclusion of the New England Gas and Electric Association. This is a Massachusetts voluntary association, formed under a Declaration of Trust dated Dec. 31 1926, which owns very nearly 100% of the stock of Cambridge Electric Light Company, Cambridge Gas Light Company, Worcester Gas Light Company, and the entire capital stock of Cape and Vineyard Electric Company, New Hampshire Gas and Electric Company (formerly Portsmouth Power Company), and Middlesex County Electric Company. The last 3 corporations named were included in the "New England group" of operating properties in the report for 1926 but have since been transferred to the New England Gas and Electric Association.

The above mentioned operating subsidiaries of the New England Gas and Electric Association distribute gas and electric service to a territory having a population of approximately 500,000 in 90 communities, of which the most important are Cambridge and Worcester, Massachusetts, and Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

The New England Gas and Electric Association is owned and controlled by interests affiliated with the Associated Gas and Electric Company. While the Association is not owned or controlled by the Associated Gas and Electric Company or its subsidiaries, the Trustees of the Association have established and maintain close contact in operation and management with the Associated Company Group, in order that the former may also receive the advantages of group management.

CONSTRUCTION.

The more important construction projects completed in 1927 were the following:

Pennsylvania Group.

Additional 25,000 horse power steam turbine in the Erie plant.

Installation of the third hydro-electric unit, 12,000 horse power, in the Piney station.

Completion of a new warehouse and garage in Erie.

New 110,000 volt transmission line, 40 miles long, between Glory and Philipsburg.

A ten-inch gas line in Johnstown constructed to improve pressure conditions for gas distribution in the Johnstown territory and to supply gas to the Lorain Steel Works.

New York Group.

Additional 25,000 horse power steam turbine and also a 1,385 horse power boiler in the Staten Island plant.

Completion of a new gas plant for Ithaca.

A new 44,000 volt transmission line, 40 miles long, connecting the Colliers plant with Richfield Springs.

New England Group.

A new 22,000 volt transmission line, 20 miles long, from the sub-station at Bourne to Hyannis along the north shore of Cape Cod and the Buzzards Bay Canal.

A new 33,000 volt transmission line from the Portsmouth generating station to the Massachusetts state line, to connect with the distribution lines of the Amesbury Electric Light Company, serving Amesbury, Massachusetts. It is 16 miles long.

Maritime (Canada) Group.

Installation of a new 1,500 horse power steam turbine and a 500 horse power boiler in the Fredericton, New Brunswick, plant.

In addition there were throughout the system numerous other extensions of and connections to existing lines, and other large expenditures for miscellaneous extensions and additions, including poles, wire, mains, meters, transformers, etc.

The capital assets, as shown by the attached consolidated balance sheet of the Associated Gas and Electric Company and subsidiary and affiliated companies in the accounts "Plant, Property, Franchises, and Cost of Acquiring Capital" and "Investments in Affiliated Companies" amounted to \$295,270,066.33 at Dec. 31 1927.

Operations.

A condensed comparative consolidated income statement showing the operating results of the Company and subsidiaries for the calendar years 1927 and 1926, is shown below:

	Year Ended Dec. 31		Increase.	
	1927.	1926.	Amount.	%
	\$	\$	\$	
Gross Earnings (including Other Income).....	35,296,741.19	29,283,287.96	6,013,453.23	21
Operating Expenses, Maintenance, all Taxes, etc.....	18,264,654.74	15,521,978.16	2,742,676.58	18
Net Earnings.....	17,032,086.45	13,761,309.80	3,270,776.65	24
Fixed Charges and Other Deductions from Income:				
Subsidiary and Affiliated Companies.....	5,650,613.48	5,615,965.27	34,648.21	1
Associated Gas and Electric Company.....	3,424,089.47	2,318,506.80	1,105,582.67	48
Total Fixed Charges and Other Deductions from Income.....	9,074,702.95	7,934,472.07	1,140,230.88	14
Net Income Available for Renewals and Replacements Reserve, Dividends and Surplus.....	7,957,383.50	5,826,837.73	2,130,545.77	37
Dividends on Preferred Stock.....	3,453,507.02	1,662,153.57	1,791,353.45	108
Balance.....	4,503,876.48	4,164,684.16	339,192.32	8
Provision for Renewals, Replacements, and Retirements of Fixed Capital (Depreciation).....	1,698,731.00	1,627,193.10	71,537.90	4
Balance Available for Class A and Other Dividends and Surplus.....	2,805,145.48	2,537,491.06	267,654.42	11

As shown in the foregoing statement, 1927 was a very successful year for your company. Gross earnings increased \$6,013,453.23 or 21% over those of 1926, and after deduction of operating expenses, maintenance, and taxes, the net earnings available for fixed charges showed an increase of \$3,270,776.65 or 24% over the year 1926. After the deduction of fixed charges of Parent and Subsidiary Companies (including all interest and dividends on subsidiary preferred stocks), the net income available for renewals and replacements reserve, dividends on capital stocks of the Associated Gas and Electric Company, and surplus, showed an increase of \$2,130,545.77, or 37% over 1926. After the deduction of dividends on preferred stock and provision for renewals and replacements, the earnings available for other dividends and surplus for the year amounted to \$2,805,145.48.

The electric department, as in previous years, contributed the greater portion of gross earnings, approximately 73% for the year 1927. Detailed income statements are included in a succeeding section of this report.

EMPLOYEES' STOCK INVESTMENT AND SAVINGS PLAN.

The management early in 1927 developed the idea of establishing a stock investment and savings plan for the benefit of the employees of the Associated Gas and Electric System. Provision was made that all employees of the company and subsidiary and affiliated organization, might subscribe for class A stock at the approximate current market price, for which payment might be made only by deduction from the employee's compensation at the rate of one dollar per month for each share subscribed, with the addition by the company of one dollar for each three dollars paid in by the subscribing employee. The maximum amount of stock for which any employee may subscribe is fixed with relation to his current rate of pay in such a way that at the price per share of the initial offer the monthly deduction from his pay could not exceed 10% of his total compensation for the month. Interest on the balances credited to each employee, pending the accumulation of an amount sufficient to purchase at least one full share for the employee's account, is paid annually at the rate of 5% per annum.

The above plan was placed in operation in May, 1927, and at the close of the year approximately 87% of all eligible employees had subscribed to a total of over 51,000 shares, having an aggregate value at present market quotation of nearly \$2,500,000.

PUBLIC RELATIONS.

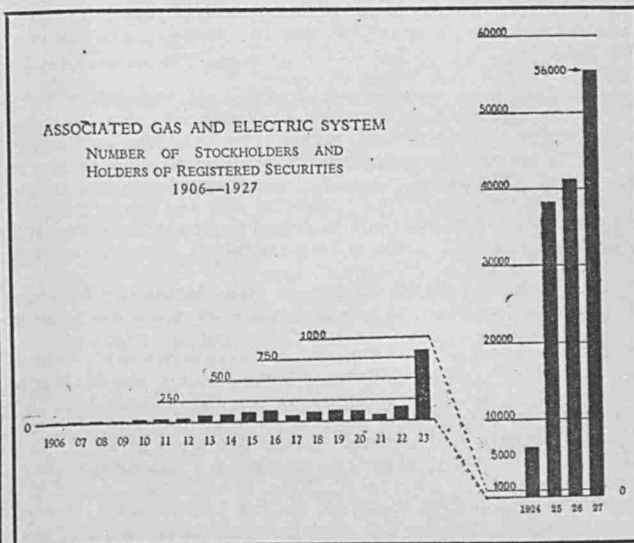
The relations of the Associated System properties with the public served are satisfactory. The properties have always been maintained at a high degree of efficiency, in order that the best possible service could be given the consumers. During the year a considerable expenditure was made for bettering connections between existing lines and systems and for improving the facilities of the various plants. These improvements, resulting in greater efficiency for the various properties of the System, help to maintain good will between the Associated System and the public served by it.

SHAREHOLDERS.

Further evidence of the satisfactory relations with consumers is indicated by the results of the Customer Ownership campaigns carried on during the past year for the sale of securities of the Associated Gas and Electric Company. Preferred stocks were sold in the several operating districts

during the early part of 1927, and Convertible Debenture obligations during the greater portion of the year. The campaigns carried on for the sale of these securities were very successful, resulting in the addition of 12,000 customer investors during the year, making a total of 36,000 customer owners.

The following chart graphically shows the growth in the number of shareholders since the organization of the company, and in more marked form the increase since the policy of the present management which was instituted in 1923, of enlarging the company and distributing its securities among a large number of investors.



FINANCING.

At the date of writing this report your company has nearly completed another stage in a comprehensive plan which was initiated in November, 1927, for improving and simplifying its capital structure. The enormous capital investment of public utility enterprises and the huge increase each year in the demand for new capital to supply the needs of the rapidly growing light and power industry create a financial problem of the first magnitude. This seems an opportune time to review the methods by which the Associated System has met its particular problem, with some indication of its plans for the future.

PRINCIPLES OF ASSOCIATED FINANCING.

The financial policy of the Associated management has been characterized by a radical departure from the practice that had hitherto prevailed among nearly all the large public utility groups. This practice was based on the theory that loan financing, that is, the issue of bonds or other long term obligations, whether secured or unsecured, should be confined to obligations of the local operating units. The central financing company, commonly called the "Parent" company, usually in the earlier stage of group management issued only its common stock backed by its holdings of equity interests in the local companies. Later, as the demands for new capital became more insistent, the parent company issued preferred stock but generally tried to avoid incurring any debt except as a last resort. As a result of this policy the local operating properties of many public utility groups came to be covered to the limit with mortgage bonds, debentures and preferred stock, with the parent company often holding only a bare majority of the voting common stock.

Under such conditions the securities of the local operating company, which were then the principal source of capital funds, usually could find their market only in the comparatively small community which the operating company served. The parent company might issue preferred stock of its own to be absorbed by the general financial markets of the country, but because of the slender equity which it too often represented, this stock was generally put out only at a large discount, and with a wide spread for selling costs and for profit to cover the marketing risk of the stock dealers. The common stocks of such public utility investment companies were usually considered highly speculative and in some cases sold for not more than five times the earnings reported as applicable to them.

That such a policy had its weakness became very evident during the trying period of war changes from 1917 to 1921. Notwithstanding the fundamental soundness of the light and power industry it seemed for a time that it would require (but for very different reasons) as drastic and long drawn out a period of financial readjustment as that from which the railroads were then suffering.

MANAGEMENT CLEARED AWAY OLD FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

The Associated management was one of the first to perceive the possibilities that lay in a different financial plan. The essence of this plan was the restriction to the minimum of the issue of underlying bonds and preferred stocks of

local operating companies and the building up in every possible way of the credit of the parent company to a point where it could obtain all the new money needed for its operating properties, whether by loan or share capital, through the issuance of its own securities.

In 1921 the Associated Gas and Electric Company came under its present financial management. This management was resolved to put into effect the financial policy described above, but was unable to do so immediately because of the existing financial structure and the, perhaps, ultra-conservative attitude of its bankers at that time. In fact, the first move made by the new management in its effort to break the shackles of financial tradition was a step in a direction contrary to the policy described above in which, nevertheless, the management was convinced, lay ultimately the best possibilities for the free development of the industry.

This first step was necessitated by the fact that your Company at that time controlled a group of comparatively small utility corporations, none of which had sufficient credit to permit the successful marketing of its own bonds or stocks. Each of these small operating units had a mortgage on its own plant and property, and the bonds secured by such mortgages had been gathered together and deposited under a Collateral Trust Mortgage which in turn secured bonds in the hands of the public.

The Collateral Trust Mortgage was drawn for bankers who had incorporated in the Indenture as many limitations and restrictions as the borrowing corporation would accept, with the sole purpose of enhancing the security and, hence, the salability of the Collateral Trust bonds issued thereunder, but with little thought to the future needs of the Company in raising new capital to meet demands for additional or extended service. Such demands in 1922, just after the abnormal conditions created by the Great War, were very heavy. To meet them the Company had recourse, in the first instance, to the public marketing of bonds secured directly by the strongest of its then owned underlying properties, the present New York State Electric Corporation.

Because of the Company's low earnings and the relatively poor credit and reputation, which, in common with many other public utility companies, it then had, no other means of raising the capital necessary for expansion seemed possible at the time, and such expansion in turn seemed to be the only way of enabling the company to rid itself of the restrictive Collateral Trust Mortgage which was throttling it and preventing its natural development.

The proceeds of the New York State company mortgage bonds were used in building up the property with resulting increased earnings. This increase soon permitted a second issue of such bonds, the proceeds of which were used to call and redeem the Collateral Trust bonds, thereby releasing all the properties from the restrictions of the Collateral Trust Indenture.

FIRST STEP IN FINANCIAL POLICY.

As soon as the old Collateral Trust Mortgage Bonds were called, the credit of the Parent Company improved tremendously. This action thus made possible the first permanent step toward putting into effect the new financial policy of the Associated Gas and Electric System which has since been consistently followed and developed.

This step was the sale of Associated Gas & Electric Company Preferred Stock to the customers of the various operating companies. That first issue of Parent Company preferred stock is now known as the Original Series Preferred Stock, with a liquidation or preference value of \$50 per share callable at \$60, paying dividends of \$3.50 annually, equivalent to a rate of 7% per annum on the preference or liquidation value. Beginning with that issue practically no financing, except of a temporary nature, has been done with securities of the local operating companies which make up the Associated System.

All the requirements of the great expansion that has taken place since the first issue of Original Series Preferred Stock have been met principally through Parent Company issues of various types. Because, however, this policy was new, the management felt that it should not rely entirely on its own judgment as to its soundness and practicability but should keep in a position where it would be able to resort to the older and customary, though fundamentally less sound and satisfactory, plan, of financing through underlying operating company securities, if that should become necessary. There has, therefore, been kept ready for offering at all times, if emergency should rise, a large amount of bonds secured by direct mortgage lien on the various operating properties.

To this end there was created the First and Refunding Mortgage of Kentucky-Tennessee Light and Power Company about the time the Associated Gas and Electric Original Series Preferred Stock was put on the market. Similar indentures, authorizations and approvals have been obtained, where required by law, from the regulatory commissions of New York and other states, for substantial amounts of mortgage bonds of many other operating companies which have never been actually issued for distribution to the public.

The first major financing undertaken after the policy of issuing only Parent Company securities had been definitely

adopted, was the offering of \$3,500,000 Secured Gold Bonds bearing 6½% interest which were sold to the public at about 95. The comparatively high interest rate was due in part to lack of confidence of security dealers in the new policy of Parent Company financing. The management, however, felt certain that its policy was sound and that a lower rate of interest could be realized in subsequent financing.

Within a short time numerous opportunities for growth through acquisition and extensions offered themselves, which the Company was able to take advantage of through the rapid improvement of its credit. The amount raised by that issue consequently was found to be insufficient for the rapidly expanding needs of the Company. Accordingly a new issue of \$14,000,000 similarly secured but bearing only 6% interest was successfully offered and sold to the public at the same price—about 95. With such improvement in its credit, the Company also found it advantageous to retire the \$3,500,000 issue of 6½% on Jan. 1 1927, although it was not due until 1955.

"OVER-ALL" EARNINGS LIMITATION

A notable feature of the Indenture securing these two issues of bonds, which is worthy of more extended discussion than is possible within the limits of this report, was that for the first time it gave reasonably complete recognition to the logical method of framing earnings restrictions when the indenture applies to security issues of investment or holding companies controlling one or more subsidiary corporations. Investment bankers in testing the intrinsic worth of security issues by such corporations, apply the so-called "over-all" test, that is, they compare the total consolidated net earnings applicable to all interest charges with the total interest charges on the proposed issue and all interest and dividends ranking senior.

While this test has been in general use by investment bankers to aid them in forming their own individual opinions as to the relative merits of securities, it had become the almost universal custom in published descriptions of securities, and in the clauses of their indentures which specifies the earnings rule to limit the issue, to use the so-called "times after" basis—that is, to compare the amount of consolidated net earnings remaining after deducting prior fixed charges, with the interest requirements of the particular issue and to state how many times such interest was earned.

It is now generally conceded that the "over-all" comparison gives the only sound basis for determining the true merits of an investment issue. The indenture for these Associated issues was, it is believed, the first to make this test, using the relation of the consolidated earnings to the consolidated debt charges, an essential feature of its restricting clauses.

GROWTH OF SYSTEM AND RELATION TO FINANCING.

By this time the credit of what had become widely known as the Associated System was advanced so far that the management was able to enlist the support and active cooperation of a banking group with strong and far-reaching affiliations, larger than any with which it had previously been associated. This banking group which is now the sponsor for the debt financing of the Associated System is headed by Harris, Forbes & Co.

With its financial plans successfully developing, and its credit steadily improving, the Associated System constantly acquired new properties until it became one of the country's larger light and power groups. While this process of unification went on the business of the individual properties expanded with the increase in the population and demands for service in their respective territories.

LARGEST BOND ISSUE

The development of the System, however, made evident the necessity for consolidating as well as refunding numerous obligations. The next important financial step, therefore, was the issue of \$65,000,000 Associated Electric Company 5½% Convertible Gold Bonds which were sold to the public at 95¼. The offering was an outstanding achievement in the history of public utility financing. It still remains the largest single offering of debenture bonds ever sold by any light and power enterprise in the world.

The sale of the 5½% Debentures marked an important advance over the marketing of the previous issue of \$14,000,000 6% bonds, and the still earlier issue of \$3,500,000 6½% bonds, all at approximately the same price to the public, about 95. However, even this \$65,000,000 issue proved to be merely an intermediate step toward the desired financial position, where the basic issues of the System's financial structure would be permanent, and of a nature giving reasonable certainty that they would not have to be called and redeemed or otherwise retired within a comparatively short time after their issue.

The indenture for the Associated Electric Debentures likewise measured the earnings and amount of bonds which might be issued and the charges against them, by the so-called "over-all" rule.

In addition it contained a further improvement from the standpoint of safe and conservative financing which had not theretofore appeared in any debenture indenture, in that

it contained a limitation upon the amount of underlying or prior debt and stocks as compared with the amount of debt issuable under the Indenture itself.

With these two principles established the investor has before him a method of ready and easy comparison between apparently similar issues to determine their investment merit from the standpoint of earnings and rank. A more extended description of this issue, for those interested, may be found in the 1926 report of Associated Electric Company.

The next major piece of financing looking toward a permanent financial structure was the issue of \$40,000,000 Associated Gas and Electric Company 5½% Convertible Gold Debentures due 1977, unsecured and unrestricted. Although these debentures are in some important respects junior to the Convertible 5½s of Associated Electric Company, it soon became evident that the later issue due 1977 was equally attractive to investors, undoubtedly because it is the direct obligation of the better known Associated Gas and Electric Company, the Parent Company itself.

The convertible feature of the 5½s of 1977 was also largely responsible for their popularity with investors, but this obviously depended upon the attractiveness of the junior or equity securities into which they were convertible.

BUILDING UP THE EQUITY.

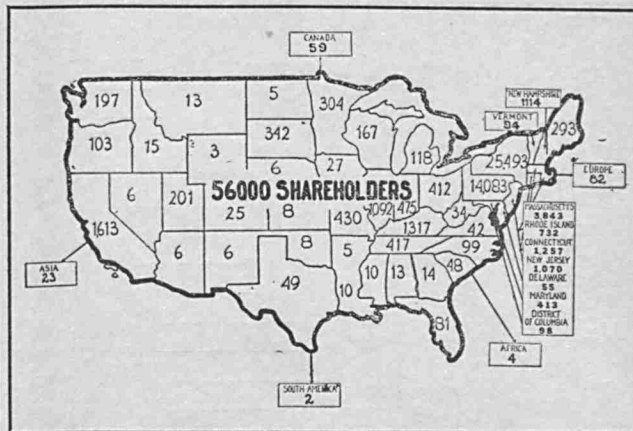
A cardinal point in the management's financial policy has been the effort to build up, maintain, and extend the equity financing in proportion as the debt increased, thereby increasing the equity behind the long term debt. Originally the Associated Gas and Electric Company had only Common and Preferred stock. In 1925 the Common stock was divided into "Class A" and "Class B" stock, and later the "Class B" was further subdivided into "Class B" and Common. These issues, with their carefully graded rights to share in the general prosperity of the Company, permit of junior financing which appeals to all classes of investors. Two hundred thousand shares of the then new "Class A" stock were originally marketed through a group of investment bankers. Thereafter this was increased through stock dividends and sales directly by the Company to consumers and others to about 400,000 shares by the early part of 1927.

The class A stock was originally offered at \$26 a share. The growth of the light and power industry and the confidence of the investing public in the financial policy of the Associated System have been evidenced by the gradual rise in the market value of the stock to a maximum price of over \$52 per share, and, at the date of writing this report, to about \$48 per share.

While the class A stock was thus finding favor with investors, the company was selling through its "Customer Ownership" department to its customers, considerable amounts of preferred stock and debentures convertible into preferred stock at the company's option. In addition to these sales and, more or less as a result of them, interest was aroused among investment bankers in the rapid growth of the company and the confidence of the public in its securities was greatly enhanced when it became apparent that the management's policy of expansion and financing was sound and was meeting the approval of investors, offering a safe security with a wider market than securities of many similar enterprises which persisted in financing through small issues of underlying securities. This led to an issue of 100,000 shares of preferred stock carrying a preferential dividend of \$6.50 per annum, which was distributed through security dealers all over the country.

The wide distribution of holdings resulting from the foregoing is graphically illustrated by the following chart:

domestic banks and bankers. A tabulation of the geographical distribution of shareholders appears on the last page.



PERMANENT FINANCIAL STRUCTURE.

The early part of 1927 may be said to mark the beginning of the program for the permanent financial structure of the Associated System, which, when completed, it is hoped will endure, at least in its general outline, for a great many years to come. The preliminary step toward carrying out this program was the marketing through bankers in February, 1927, of additional 100,000 shares of class A stock. The purpose of the offering was not primarily the raising of additional capital—about \$4,000,000 was derived therefrom—but chiefly to bring the class A stock to the attention of a greater number of prospective investors in this class of securities. The sale of the 100,000 shares of class A stock which was carried out successfully, brought the total amount of this stock outstanding up to 500,000 shares.

By the summer of 1927 all was in readiness for the final steps in the process of consolidating the System's security issues and further simplifying the financial structure which was begun in the fall of 1927 and is now just drawing to a successful conclusion. The first of these was an offering to Company security holders of 200,000 additional shares of Class A stock, which brought the total amount of such stock outstanding up to 700,000 shares. The response to this offering was most gratifying as the stock was quickly oversubscribed. The success of this offering demonstrated the favorable opinion of their investment held by the Company's own security holders.

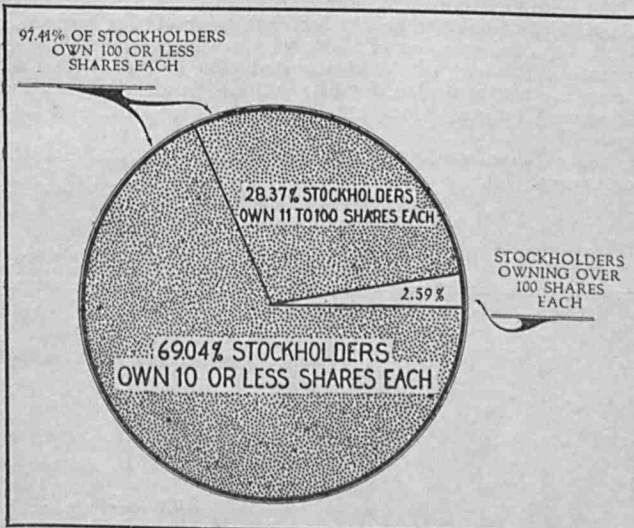
The second step in this financial program was the issue through the Company's bankers of \$20,000,000 Associated Electric 4½% bonds at 94¼. These bonds were on a parity with the first Associated Electric Convertible bonds which bore the coupon rate of 5½% and had been put out at 95¼. The great decrease in the cost of capital to the borrowing Company is due in some measure to the difference in the general market for such securities between the two dates, but to a greater extent it represents the enhanced credit of the Associated System.

The third step was a public offering of Gold Debenture Bonds, Consolidated Refunding 5% Series due 1968, of Associated Gas and Electric Company, in exchange for outstanding funded debt of the Associated Gas and Electric System. As a result of this offer approximately \$32,500,000 of underlying securities were exchanged for these bonds, thus saving to a large extent the expenses incident to a public sale of the bonds for cash and the use thereof for the redemption of the underlying securities. The bonds issued by way of exchange and a small additional amount sold to the Company's bankers brought the total issue of this series to \$35,000,000.

The fourth step was the offering to the Company's security holders of the Convertible 4½% Gold Debentures due 1948, which was oversubscribed immediately. The total amount of bonds of this issue was \$63,000,000.

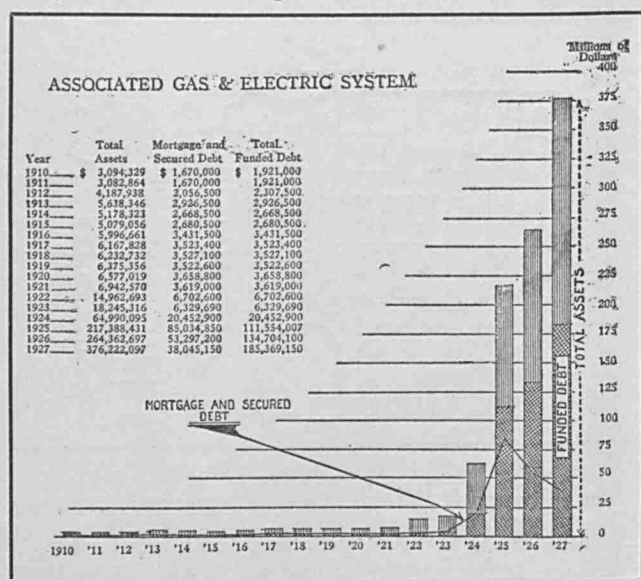
At the time the Consolidated Refunding 5% Bonds of Associated Gas and Electric Company were authorized, it was expected that this issue, together with the Convertible 4½% Debentures, would be used as a vehicle for the completion of the consolidation and refunding of the outstanding funded debt of the Associated Gas and Electric System. The improvement in the Company's financial structure as a result of these issues was so obvious, however, and the enhancement of its credit was so immediate, that the management concluded that the remainder of the program could be accomplished through the medium of a 4½% Series of Consolidated Refunding Bonds. Accordingly, the Board of Directors authorized a 4½% Series, due 1958, which are now being offered in exchange for outstanding securities of the System senior thereto. It is believed when the cost of money resumes its generally expected lower trend, that an issue of approximately \$50,000,000 of this series will complete the financial plans of the management as at present developed.

The decrease in the amount of mortgage and secured debt resulting from the financial policy followed is clearly illustrated in the following chart, showing its very pronounced relative and actual downward tendency since 1925. The chart also shows graphically the sound relationship of the



That the shareholders of the Associated System are not residents alone of the financial sections of the eastern States nor of the territories served by the system is graphically illustrated in the following map which shows the shareholders by States throughout the United States, as well as the number of holders in foreign countries, indicating a wide geographical distribution. Many hundreds of foreign holders also, of course, keep their holdings in the names of

total funded debt to total assets, proper relationship of these being most essential to a good financial structure.



FINANCIAL STRUCTURE—RECAPITULATION.

When this final step has been taken and the perpetual debentures converted into stocks, the financial structure of your Company will have the following form:

1. Junior stocks—Class A, B and Common.
2. Preferred stocks—All with equal rights except as to rate of dividends.
3. 5½% Convertible Gold Debentures due 1977, which are being converted into Class A and Common stock.
4. 5% Consolidated and Refunding bonds due 1968.
5. 4½% Consolidated and Refunding bonds due 1958.
6. 4½% Convertible Gold Debentures due 1948.
7. Associated Electric Company Gold Bonds 4½% Series due 1953.
8. A few non-callable underlying issues which either mature or become callable within a comparatively few years and/or which may be called for redemption from time to time.

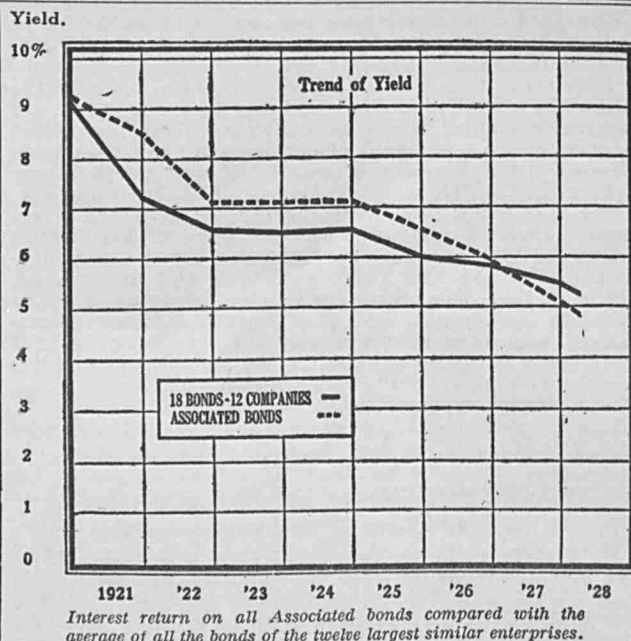
The earliest maturity for any of the above debt issues (excluding the small underlying issues referred to in the 8th classification) is 1948. As far as can be foreseen at this time, the bonds now outstanding or to be issued under the indentures securing the long term debt described in the preceding paragraph or similar issues will, for a long time to come, provide adequately for such part of the Associated System's capital requirements as good financial judgment suggests should be met by borrowing money.

The extent to which additional stock can be issued is limited, of course, by the earnings of the system. These have been, and give prospect of continuing to be, large enough to insure as favorable markets as heretofore for both the dividend paying and the, as yet, non-dividend paying stock.

FINANCIAL POLICY RESULTS IN LOWERING COSTS OF BORROWED CAPITAL.

That the policy of financing wholly through parent company securities has been justified in its results is evidenced by the following chart which gives a comparison of yield trends between Associated System bonds and the bonds of a dozen other large public utility groups.

The downward tendency of both curves also illustrates the improvement in credit conditions during the period, for business generally and for public utilities in particular. The fact that Associated bonds have since early in 1927 been selling on a yield basis decreasing more rapidly than that for the average of other similar bonds, is the best indication of the success of your company's financial policies.



The most obvious next step to consider is the possibility of substituting for the present outstanding preferred shares, securities carrying a lower charge against earnings. The preferred shares, all of equal rank, now include shares which carry preferential dividends of \$3.50 on shares with a preferential value of \$50, redeemable at \$60; and shares which carry preferential dividends of \$7.00, \$6.50, and \$6.00 on shares with a preferential value of \$100, redeemable at \$105. It now seems probable that, with the present credit of the company and, perhaps, by taking advantage of a slight further reduction in the cost of long term capital which appears to be ultimately in prospect, all these preferred stocks can be redeemed and the necessary refunding capital obtained by securities having no greater preference in their claim on earnings than the preferred stock now outstanding, but with a fixed charge of not much over 5% on the money thus procured. If and when this is accomplished the resulting balance of earnings for the class A and common stocks will, of course, be considerably increased.

FINANCIAL CONDITION AND COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

The books of account of the company (as has been customary for many years heretofore) have been audited by Messrs. Haskins & Sells, Certified Public Accountants, whose certificate is appended hereto as part of this report.

Immediately following the certificate are set forth the condensed consolidated income account of the company and its subsidiary and affiliated companies for the year ended Dec. 31 1927, showing the earnings for the year, and a condensed consolidated balance sheet at Dec. 31 1927, which reflects the financial condition at that date, both as referred to in the certificate.

As is customary, on the opposite page immediately following the text of this report there will be found comparative consolidated income accounts for the five years 1923 to 1927 inclusive.

The report contains, for the first time, comparative consolidated balance sheets for each year of this period.

For the information of those who are interested in a corporate statement of the Associated Gas and Electric Co., there are also included, for like periods, Associated Gas and Electric Company Comparative Income Accounts and Balance Sheets.

All of these statements reflect the rapid growth of the company.

Respectfully submitted,
For the Board of Directors,
J. I. MANGE, President.

HASKINS & SELLS
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Offices in the Principal Cities of the United States of America and in London, Paris, Berlin, Shanghai, Manila, Montreal, Havana, Mexico City
Cable Address "Haskells"

37 West 39th Street
NEW YORK

Associated Gas and Electric Company,
61 Broadway, New York.

We have audited the accounts of the Associated Gas and Electric Company for the year ended December 31, 1927, and have been furnished with the balance sheets and income accounts of its subsidiary and affiliated companies as of that date and certify that the accompanying Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet as at December 31, 1927, and the Condensed Consolidated Income Account for the year ended that date are in accord therewith.

Yours truly,
HASKINS & SELLS.

August 7 1928.

COMPARATIVE CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT OF COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARY AND AFFILIATED COMPANIES ONLY SINCE DATES OF ACQUISITION.

	Calendar Years				
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.
Gross Earnings:					
Electric.....	\$2,561,156.15	\$4,496,650.05	\$14,358,261.14	\$21,504,148.71	\$23,302,139.58
Gas.....	639,569.54	668,857.95	1,209,817.34	2,188,593.13	4,147,801.08
Water, Transportation, Heat and Miscellaneous.....	62,631.09	147,109.71	3,108,809.30	4,370,284.09	3,873,346.21
Total.....	\$3,263,356.78	\$5,312,617.71	\$18,676,887.78	\$28,063,025.93	\$31,323,286.87
Operating Expenses, Maintenance and Taxes.....	2,154,740.43	3,497,206.47	11,080,384.03	15,521,978.16	18,264,654.74
Net Earnings.....	\$1,108,616.35	\$1,815,411.24	\$7,596,503.75	\$12,541,047.77	\$13,058,632.13
Other Income.....	213,710.30	345,955.33	774,259.09	1,220,262.03	3,973,454.32
Gross Income.....	\$1,322,326.65	\$2,161,366.57	\$8,370,762.84	\$13,761,309.80	\$17,032,086.45
Less Fixed Charges and Other Deductions of Subsidiary and Affiliated Companies.....	387,330.95	820,468.27	3,101,883.03	5,615,965.27	5,650,613.48
Balance.....	\$934,995.70	\$1,340,898.30	\$5,268,879.81	\$8,145,344.53	\$11,381,472.97
Fixed Charges and Other Deductions of Associated Gas and Electric Company:					
Interest on Funded Debt.....	\$78,459.40	\$148,568.46	\$971,924.71	\$1,904,988.85	\$2,893,426.54
Interest on Floating Debt.....	42,698.43	79,486.60	505,322.27	413,517.95	530,662.93
Total Fixed Charges of Associated Gas and Electric Company.....	\$121,157.83	\$228,055.06	\$1,477,246.98	\$2,318,506.80	\$3,424,089.47
Net Income Available for Renewals and Replacement Reserves, Dividends and Surplus.....	\$813,837.87	\$1,112,843.24	\$3,791,632.83	\$5,826,837.73	\$7,957,383.50
Dividends on Preferred Stock.....	119,459.09	284,371.75	828,673.77	1,662,153.57	3,453,507.02
Balance.....	\$694,378.78	\$828,471.49	\$2,962,959.06	\$4,164,684.16	\$4,503,876.48
Less—Reserved for Renewals and Replacements.....	179,822.10	289,414.19	1,036,112.55	1,627,193.10	1,698,731.00
Balance for further Dividends and Surplus.....	\$514,556.68	\$539,057.30	\$1,926,846.51	\$2,537,491.06	\$2,805,145.48
Deduct—Class A Priority Dividend \$2.00 per Share.....	*	*	456,496.19	607,760.13	975,714.08
Remainder of Income for Other Dividends and Surplus.....			\$1,470,350.32	\$1,929,730.93	\$1,829,431.40

* Class A not issued.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT ASSOCIATED GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARY AND AFFILIATED COMPANIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 1927.

Income for Companies acquired during the year is included only from approximate dates of acquisition to December 31 1927.

Operating Revenue:	
Electric.....	\$23,302,139.58
Gas.....	4,147,801.08
Water, Transportation, Heat and Miscellaneous.....	3,873,346.21
Total.....	\$31,323,286.87
Operating Expenses, Maintenance and Taxes (including Companies' Accruals for 1927 Federal Income Taxes).....	18,264,654.74
Operating Income.....	\$13,058,632.13
Other Income.....	3,973,454.32
Gross Income.....	\$17,032,086.45
Less—Fixed Charges and Other Deductions:	
Subsidiary and Affiliated Companies:	
Interest on Funded and Unfunded Debt (less Interest During Construction).....	\$5,329,310.85
Preferred Stock Dividends.....	318,757.41
Deduction by Company for Income applicable to Common Stocks of Subsidiary and Affiliated Companies held by the Public.....	2,545.22
Balance.....	5,650,613.48
Associated Gas and Electric Company:	
Interest on Funded and Unfunded Debt.....	3,424,089.47
Balance.....	\$7,957,383.50
Preferred Stock Dividends.....	3,453,507.02
Balance.....	\$4,503,876.48
Provision for Renewals, Replacements and Retirements (Depreciation).....	1,698,731.00
Balance.....	\$2,805,145.48
Deduct—Class "A" Priority Dividends, \$2.00 per share.....	975,714.08
Remainder of Income for other Dividends and Surplus.....	\$1,829,431.40

No charge for amortization of bond discount, premiums and expense has been included in the above statement, the entire amount thereof having been written off against Capital Surplus. However, there was charged to Corporate Surplus through credit to Capital Surplus, the pro rata amount of bond discount, premiums, and expense that would ordinarily have been charged to income for the year 1927.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET OF ASSOCIATED GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARY AND AFFILIATED COMPANIES, DECEMBER 31 1927.

ASSETS SIDE.

Plant, Property, Franchises and Cost of Acquiring Capital.....	\$236,312,524.24
Investments (Including Investments in and Advances (net) to Subsidiary and Affiliated Companies not included in the Consolidation).....	58,957,542.09
Current Assets:	
Cash.....	\$5,290,275.24
Special Deposits.....	427,235.70
Notes Receivable.....	\$5,717,510.94
Accounts Receivable:	589,254.58
Consumers, less reserve.....	\$2,853,844.96
Miscellaneous.....	704,531.58
Due from Subscribers for Preferred Stocks and for Obligations Convertible into Preferred Stock (less reserve).....	3,558,376.54
Materials and Supplies.....	3,077,525.00
Total Current Assets.....	2,926,419.38
Sinking Funds for Retirement of Bonds.....	15,869,086.44
Deferred Charges:	81,356.48
Prepaid Expenses.....	\$457,283.20
Miscellaneous Items in Suspense.....	1,023,889.72
Total Deferred Charges.....	1,481,172.92
Total.....	\$312,701,682.17

COMPARATIVE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET ASSOCIATED GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARY AND AFFILIATED COMPANIES, DECEMBER 31 1923 TO 1927 INCLUSIVE.

LIABILITIES SIDE AND CAPITAL.

Table showing Liabilities Side and Capital. Categories include Capital Stock and Surplus, Obligations Convertible into Stock, Funded Debt, Property Purchase and Stock Contract Obligations, Current Liabilities, Consumers' Deposits, and Reserves.

* Include Capital Surplus arising from revaluation of assets, contracts, &c., less \$10,027,099.96 discount, premiums, and expenses on bonds retired and on those still outstanding. a Called for redemption July 1 1928.

ASSETS SIDE.

Table showing Assets Side. Columns represent years 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927. Rows include Capital Assets, Current Assets, Sinking Funds for Retirement of Bonds, and Deferred Charges.

LIABILITIES SIDE AND CAPITAL.

Table showing Liabilities Side and Capital. Categories include Capital Stock and Surplus, Subsidiary and Affiliated Companies' Stocks Outstanding, Obligations which are convertible into stock, Funded Debt, Property Purchase and Stock Contract Obligations, Current Liabilities, Consumers' Deposits, and Reserves.

Table showing Income and Charges. Rows include Gross Income (Excluding non-recurring income items), Income Charges (Interest on Funded Debt, Interest on Unfunded Debt, Interest on Convertible Obligations), Total Income Charges, and Net Income Transferred to Surplus.

* Includes interest on Obligations convertible into stock at Company's Option.

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, August 24 1928.

COFFEE on the spot was dull with 23³/₄c. to 24c. quoted for Santos 4s, 17¹/₄ to 17¹/₂c. for Rio 7s and 16¹/₂ to 16³/₄c. for Victoria 7-8s. On the 20th inst. cost and freight offers from Santos were unchanged to slightly lower, the market remaining quiet. For the first time, the stock of Rio coffees in regulating warehouses was officially given on the 23rd inst. The figures as of July 31st were 1,012,000 bags. With the stock at the port, the total supply amounts to 1,285,000 bags. It has been generally estimated that the stock in Government warehouses amounted to about 2,000,000 bags. On the 21st inst. cost and freight offers were generally 10 to 15 points lower. On the 22d inst. cost and freight offers from Santos were unchanged or slightly lower. They included prompt shipment Santos Bourbon 3's at 23.05c. to 23.80c; 3-4s at 22.90c.; 3-5s at 22.60 to 22.80c.; 4-5s at 22.35c. to 22.65c.; 5s at 22¹/₄ to 22³/₄c.; 5s.-6s at 21.95 to 22.50c.; 6s 21.55 to 21.80c.; 6-7s at 21.10c. to 21¹/₄c.; 7s at 21¹/₄c.

On the 23d inst. cost and freight offers from Santos were scarce and about unchanged. The Rio and Victoria offers were somewhat irregular but not lower. For prompt shipment, Santos Bourbon 3-4s were offered at 23c.; 3-5s at 22³/₄c.; 4-5s at 22.45 to 22.55c.; 5-6s at 22 to 22.15c.; 6s at 21³/₄ to 21.80c.; 6-7s at 21.10 to 21.55c.; 7-8s at 18.35 to 19.20c.; peaberry 4s at 22.55c.; 5-6s at 21.95c. There were no reported offerings of part Bourbon or flat bean Santos descriptions. Rio 7-8s were firm here at 15.90 to 16c. and colory 3s at 18.95c. The range of Victoria 7-8s was 15.95 to 16.10c. Later spot trade was dull at somewhat weaker prices or 23³/₄ to 24c. for Santos 4s, 17¹/₄ to 17¹/₂c. for Rio 7s and 16¹/₄ to 16¹/₂c. for Victoria 7-8s. Fair to good Cucuta, 24 to 24¹/₂c.; Colombian, Ocana, 22¹/₄ to 23³/₄c.; Bucaramanga, Natural, 24³/₄ to 25³/₄c.; washed, 27³/₄ to 28c.; Honda, Tolima and Giradot, 27³/₄ to 28c.; Medellin, 29 to 29¹/₄c.; Manizales, 28 to 28¹/₄c.; Mexican washed, 26¹/₂ to 28¹/₂c.; Surinam, 25 to 27¹/₂c.; Ankola, 35 to 38c.; Mandheling, 36¹/₂ to 39c.; genuine Java, 34 to 35c.; Robusta, washed, 20c.; Mocha, 27¹/₂ to 28c.; Nicaragua, washed, 25 to 25¹/₂c.; Guatemala, prime, 27¹/₂ to 28c.; good, 26¹/₂ to 27c.; Bourbon, 25¹/₂ to 26c.; San Domingo, washed, 26¹/₂ to 27c. Advices from Haiti say that as a result of last week's tropical storm, the crop was badly damaged.

Futures on the 20th inst. were quiet and 3 to 8 points lower for Rio on sales of 10,000 bags and 5 to 10 points lower for Santos with sales of 12,500 bags. Cost and freights were in some cases a bit lower for Santos. Rio exchange was off to 5 63-64d. Futures on the 21st inst. opened lower on many deliveries despite higher Brazilian cables, especially from Rio where first prices showed advances of 300 to 475 reis. The opening decline was due to scattered liquidation and selling by Europe. The trading was small especially in the Santos contract. Prices in the end fell 5 to 20 points net, with sales of 26,500 bags of Rio No. 7, and 19,500 of Santos No. 4. The decline was due to lower firm offers and long liquidation. Rio cabled on the 22d instant that the Defense Committee was buying there at \$29,025. Santos cabled on the same day that the Committee was likely to support the market at any moment.

Some thought Santos showed more anxiety to sell early in the week than for some time. The position is so different from that of other years. It was added that prices this year are so high that buyers all over the world are determined to carry out a hand to mouth policy exclusively. They are forcing primary markets to carry the heavy stocks. In former years, Santos had by this time marketed a goodly portion of their early allotments on the future shipment basis and when the time came to make delivery. Sellers were forced to enter the market and bid prices up on themselves. This is not the case this year. Santos holders have been talking 25c. for Santos 4s and regarding it merely as

a matter of time. It now looks as though they had abandoned this theory and wanted to move some coffee. Some contend that the speculative interest is small and that the market is easily influenced by slender orders and pending further developments, no pronounced price change seems probable. On the 23d inst. futures were 10 points lower to 13 points higher. Private cables from Brazil said that the Defense Committee was buying. To-day Rio futures ended 6 to 12 points higher with sales of 30,000 bags. Santos ended 13 to 17 points higher with sales of 23,000 bags. Final prices show a rise for the week in September Rio of 7 points while December 1 point lower. Santos ended 14 to 20 points lower for the week.

Rio coffee prices closed as follows:

Spot (unofficial) --- 17 ³ / ₄	December --- 16.02 @ 12.03	May --- 15.65 @ ---
September 16.03 @ 16.04	March --- 15.80 @ ---	July --- 15.39 @ ---

Santos coffee prices closed as follows:

Spot (unofficial) --- 22.06	December --- 22.06	May --- 21.57 @ ---
September --- 22.35	March --- 21.80	July --- 21.20 @ nom.

SUGAR.—Prompt Cuban was quiet early in the week at 2 13-32. or 4.18c. Shipment sugars were offered at 2 7-16c. c. & f. or 4.21c. delivered. It was rumored that 2³/₄c. was paid on the 20th inst. Futures on the 20th inst. closed one to four points lower except on December and March which ended unchanged; the sales were 36,250 tons of which 20,300 tons were exchanges. Europe sold. Liquidation from other sources was moderate. London was weaker owing to August tenders. On the 20th inst. 20,000 bags Cuba for September shipment sold at 2 13-32c. c. & f. Refined was 5.65c. with good withdrawals and little new business.

Recent sales of Hawaiian sugars to the National are said to have been 13,400 tons, of which 3,500 tons is to be due in New York Sept. 1st, and the balance not later than the 20th. The Western refinery of San Francisco was the seller. Receipts at Cuban ports for the week were 24,261 tons, against 40,898 in the same week last year; exports 64,449 tons, against 76,945 last year; stock (consumption deducted) 897,898 tons, against 862,167 last year; centrals grinding none against none last year. Of the exports 27,612 were destined for Atlantic ports, 13,198 to New Orleans, 193 to interior United States; 1,990 to Galveston; 3,434 to Savannah; 193 to South American, and 17,892 to Europe. On Aug. 21st, it was reported that a meeting was to take place this afternoon at the President's palace in Havana with all American owners of sugar lands in Cuba represented, together with 60 Cuban producing plantation owners, the combined meeting to represent 82% of the producing interests in Cuba. They were to present to President Machado a request that no further limitations or restrictions be placed on the Cuban sugar crop by the Government, and that producers be allowed a free hand in the selling and marketing of their sugar. The telegram reporting the above expresses the opinion that there will be no further restrictions to the Cuban sugar crop after the first of Jan., 1929, and that the request to do away with restrictions in future, as well as with the Export Corp., is too nearly unanimous for President Machado to ignore.

Rumors were afloat that Cuban restriction will be lifted some time next week. The purpose was to signify their desire to have a free hand in the producing and selling of the next crop one comment was. If the above rumor is true they hope to dispose of the remainder of their crop in the near future and it is believed that at least 50,000 tons will go to Europe. This sale combined with recent sales of warehouse stocks should cause a decrease in the visible supply enough to give considerable strength to the market and some would not be surprised to see appreciably higher prices before the end of the year. As to the future, weather reports from the Continent are more favorable and some would not be surprised to see a high record crop after all. This together with the large Java crop and the probable raising of restriction in Cuba makes some look for an extremely large crop next year.

Prague cabled that there were scattered rains in most parts last week. An analysis according to the same cable

Speculation in cotton for future delivery has been as a rule rather quiet at irregular prices in a market which has been described as unsatisfactory to everybody. Traders say they have been unsuccessful, whichever side they took, owing to the extremely erratic fluctuations.

Worth Street has sold print cloths and sheetings rather more readily, but tire and duck goods have had the most attention. Manchester has reported a better business with India.

To-day prices advanced some 22 to 29 points, owing to unfavorable crop reports and fears of wet weather over Sunday. Oklahoma had 5 1/4 inches of rain, but it was in the eastern and central sections whereas the western portion of that State is suffering from drouth.

The following averages of the differences between grades, as figured from the Aug. 23 quotations of the ten markets designated by the Secretary of Agriculture, are the differences from middling established for deliveries in the New York market on Aug. 30:

Table of cotton grades and their differences from middling. Columns include grade names (e.g., Middling fair, Strict good middling) and their respective price differentials (e.g., .84 on, .60 on).

The official quotations for middling upland cotton in the New York market each day for the past week has been:

Summary table of official quotations for middling upland cotton from Aug. 18 to Aug. 24, showing prices for Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

FUTURES. The highest, lowest and closing prices at New York for the past week have been as follows:

Large table showing futures prices for various months from August to July. Columns represent days of the week and specific dates. Rows show price ranges and closing prices for each month.

Range of future prices at New York for week ending Aug. 24 1928 and since trading began on each option:

Table showing the range of future prices at New York for various options from Aug. 1928 to July 1929, listing the range for the week and the range since the beginning of the option.

On the other hand, prices have at times advanced noticeably. Rains in the Atlantic section and hot dry weather in much of Texas and Oklahoma have injected noticeable firmness into the situation from time to time. The reports of damage by weevil, boll worms, and shedding have been persistent.

The mills have called to some extent, but only, it must be added, on reactions. Liverpool has bought and also on some days the Southwest. Spot firms have bought October in transferring hedges to more distant months.

THE VISIBLE SUPPLY OF COTTON to-night, as made up by cable and telegraph, is as follows. Foreign stocks as well as afloat, are this week's returns, and consequently all foreign figures are brought down to Thursday evening.

Export sales in all positions were estimated at 250,000 bushels, including hard winter at the Gulf. The Chicago Trade Bulletin says the world's supply of breadstuffs decreased 16,967,000 bushels during July, following a decrease of 38,971,000 in June. The reduction in July last year was only 1,590,000 bushels. The primary receipts showed arrivals so far this season as 5,000,000 bushels larger than for the corresponding period last year, while the Canadian movement continued much larger than a year ago. Low prices evidently caused an increase in wheat consumption. Early in the week it was stated that the open interest in the wheat market at Chicago had increased approximately 10,534,000 bushels since Aug. 1 and is now 112,995,000 bushels. There was a net gain in oats of 5,147,000 bushels to 27,443,000 bushels, while rye decreased 63,000 bushels and at the close of business Aug. 17 was figured at 9,151,000 bushels. Commercial stocks of wheat increased nearly 10,000,000 bushels last week according to the Department of Agriculture figures, with spring wheat movement beginning to increase and no big export demand. There are 270,000,000 bushels available for export and carry-over in this country it is figured.

On the 21st inst. prices after an early rise of 1 to 1½c. declined 2½ to 3¼c. with no evidence of apprehended frost damage in Canada. There was a little in western Canada, but it was seemingly unimportant, as the harvest was making good progress. The world's wheat crop, according to Washington figures, is likely to be 4% larger than last year's. Export sales were only 400,000 to 500,000 bushels, including some hard winter. The spring wheat movement is beginning. Hedging pressure may shortly increase. On the other hand, rather large sales of flour at the West are reported.

On the 22d inst. prices declined early with Liverpool ¾ to ⅞d. lower, good weather in the American Northwest, and some selling believed to be hedging sales. September touched a new low for the season. A good demand appeared on the break, however, and offerings were quickly taken. Prices rallied and wound up for the day 1 to 1½c. higher. Winnipeg was 1½ to 1¼d. up. The prediction of light frost in Alberta, Canada, was the most telling factor in the rise here. Shorts covered. Foreign and eastern interests were buying. On the 23d inst. reports of frost in Alberta, Canada, put up prices 3¼c. Liverpool advanced 1¼ to 2d. The export sales were 1,000,000 bushels mostly Manitoba. To-day prices ended 2 to 2¼c. lower at Chicago and 3¼c. lower at Winnipeg. Crop advices from abroad were more favorable. Cables were disappointing. Export demand was poor. The weather was more favorable in Canada. Hedge selling appeared in some volume, together with rather large receipts. This helped to weaken prices. Light frosts in Canada are not believed to have done any harm. Much harvesting had already been done. Manitoba will have a good crop. Argentine is said to have an exportable surplus of 55,125,000 bushels after deducting 9,100,000 bushels for consumption for the next thirteen weeks. Final prices show a decline for the week of 2½ to 2¾c. The export sales to-day were only 300,000 bushels, mostly Manitoba.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT IN NEW YORK.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
No. 2 red.....	153 3/8	149 3/8	148 3/8	149 1/2	152	152

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
September delivery.....	111 3/8	109 3/8	108 3/8	109 3/8	111 3/8	109 3/8
December delivery.....	116 3/8	114 3/8	113 3/8	114 3/8	117	115
March delivery.....	121 3/8	119 3/8	119 3/8	119 3/8	122 3/8	119 3/8
May delivery.....	123 3/8	121 3/8	120 3/8	121 3/8	124 3/8	122 3/8

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN WINNIPEG.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
October delivery.....	112	109 3/8	108 3/8	109 3/8	113 3/8	110 3/8
December delivery.....	112 3/8	110 3/8	109 3/8	110 3/8	114	110 3/8
May delivery.....	117 3/8	115 3/8	115 3/8	116 3/8	119 3/8	116 3/8

Indian corn declined on beneficial rains, reports of frost in Iowa having little or no effect as the forecast was for higher temperatures. On the 20th inst. prices ended ¼c. lower to ⅝c. higher. September at one time on that day was nearly 3c. higher. It lost most of the rise later, when the cash premium declined and realizing of profits set in. Yet some adverse crop advices came from Kansas and Missouri, which tended to brace up later months. The receipts were still small in the central belt and had decreased in the West and Southwest. The recent sales for shipment out of Chicago have been large, resulting in a decrease in local stocks of 1,321,000 bushels, and a total decrease in the visible supply of 940,000 bushels, against a decrease, however, of 2,137,000 in the same week last year. The total visible stock is now 12,483,000 bushels against 26,025,000 a year ago. The Iowa weather and crop report said that the crop has made good to excellent progress, that firing in Missouri River counties and a few other localities was generally relieved by showers, although more rain is needed in those limited areas. Practically all corn had reached or

passed roasting ear stage, much has reached hard dough and a little early corn in northern half of State has begun to dent. There is about the usual complaint of barren stalks, but little more than usual complaint of a small or abortive ears and suckering. Hogs cholera has broken out in a number of counties, but vaccination has been active so that an epidemic is not probable."

On the 21st inst. prices fell 2½c. on September and ¾ to 2c. on other months with good weather and other grain lower. Western offerings were rather larger and crop news from the Central West and the Northwest was highly favorable and had its natural effect. The Central West had beneficial rains. September led the decline. Traders sold both near and distant months. Buying power was slight. The receipts of old corn were small everywhere at the West. Premiums were high. Liverpool reported a break of 13c. due to offerings of a full cargo of Argentine at that port. On the 22d inst. prices after declining about 2c. early, quickly rallied and closed for the day ½ to ¾c. higher. The early weakness was due to good rains in Missouri and Indiana and predictions of further showers. South Dakota and Missouri sent favorable private reports. On the decline, however, the market met some good buying orders and offerings were readily absorbed. The weekly Government report stated that rains were needed in the Ohio Valley and Nebraska. Cash premiums were well maintained with the demand good. Country offerings increased slightly. Western receipts were smaller than recently. On the 23d inst. prices advanced ½c., after an early decline of ⅝ to 1c. on beneficial rains. Iowa reports were very favorable; also those from Kansas. Drought is complained of in South Dakota. European crop news was not favorable. But in Liverpool there was a pressure of Argentine corn. Country offerings on this side were small of the new crop.

To-day prices ended ¼c. lower owing to the weakness in wheat, beneficial rains, and general liquidation. At one time, it is true, corn was ⅞ to 1¼c. higher on covering and reports of frost in parts of Iowa. But the later forecast was for warmer weather. Iowa to-day sent good crop reports. There was some dry weather talk from Nebraska. The cash demand was excellent. September was sold on estimates of 97 cars to Chicago, and increased notices of consignments from the country. Final prices show September up for the week 1⅝c. while other months were off about ½c.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN IN NEW YORK.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
No. 2 yellow.....	121 3/8	123 3/8	121 3/8	122 3/8	121 3/8	121 3/8

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
September delivery.....	89 3/8	91 3/8	88 3/8	89 3/8	89 3/8	89 3/8
December delivery.....	73 3/8	73 3/8	72 3/8	72 3/8	73 3/8	72 3/8
March delivery.....	75 3/8	75 3/8	74 3/8	75	75 3/8	75 3/8

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OAT IN NEW YORK.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
No. 2 white.....	51	51	51	51	51	51

Oats have been in the main steady, with some export demand, moderate receipts and a steady cash demand, while hedge pressure has been nothing great. On the 20th inst. prices ended unchanged to ¼c. lower, with trading small in futures, but export demand fair. The United States visible supply increased last week 3,156,000 bushels against a decrease in the same week last year of 44,000 bushels. The total is now 6,656,000 bushels against 11,541,000 a year ago. On the 21st inst. prices ended ½ to ¾c. lower, with some hedge sales and other grain lower. On the 22d inst. prices closed ½ to ⅝c. higher. Cash demand was good. Rather large shipments are expected to be made to the seaboard for export. On the 23d inst. prices ended 1 to 1½c. higher with exporters good buyers. Offerings were light, the movement smaller, the domestic cash demand better and the tone in general was stronger.

To-day prices closed unchanged to ¼c. lower. Early prices were higher with country offerings small, exporters buying, less hedging pressure and fears of frost in Canada. The weakness of wheat and general liquidation and selling by some who bought yesterday caused the set-back. Receipts were moderate and cash markets steady. Final prices, however, show an advance for the week of ⅝ to ⅞c.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
September delivery.....	36	35 3/8	35 3/8	36	37 3/8	37
December delivery.....	39 1/8	39	38 3/8	38 3/8	40 3/8	40
March delivery.....	41 3/8	41 3/8	41 3/8	41 3/8	42 3/8	42 3/8

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN WINNIPEG.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
October delivery.....	44 3/8	44 3/8	44 3/8	45	48	47 3/8
December delivery.....	42 3/8	42 3/8	42 3/8	42 3/8	45 3/8	45 3/8
May delivery.....	46 3/8	46 3/8	46 3/8	46 3/8	49 3/8	49

Rye has declined on favorable weather. On the 20th inst. prices closed 1½ to 2c. lower in response to the decline in wheat and the absence of any important export demand. The United States visible supply decreased last week 448,000 bushels against 175,000 in the same week last year. The total is now 1,594,000 bushels against 1,152,000 a year ago. On the 21st inst. prices ended 1⅝c. lower to ¼c. higher with some export business through crop reports from northern Europe were better. At one time prices on that day were 1 to 1⅝c. higher on some months, the latter for September. On the 22d inst. early prices were down 1 to 1⅝c., but rallied later with wheat and a better export demand. On the 23d inst. prices advanced 2 to 3c. with reports of a good

ssippi Valley. Flax did well, with showers beneficial in South Dakota. Rice harvest was begun in Louisiana, and good progress was reported in development in Texas and California. Grain sorghums were favored generally in the Southwest.

CORN.—The weather of the past week was not quite so favorable for corn as previously, and progress varied from fair to excellent in the main producing sections. Moisture is needed in the Ohio Valley and the crop is firing locally; it is mostly in the roasting-ear stage in this section, with some hardening in the southern part. In Iowa progress and condition were fair to very good, with nearly all in or past the roasting-ear stage, much in hard dough, and some early dented in northern parts. In parts of the Great Plains, especially in Nebraska, the hot, dry weather has caused some damage, but rain and cooler at the close of the week were beneficial; much corn was in hard roasting ears in Kansas and some denting while the early crop has matured in Oklahoma. Late corn is poor in the drier areas of Texas, but fair to good elsewhere; the crop is mostly fair in the central Gulf sections, with moisture needed in parts. In the East, from Florida to Pennsylvania, much corn was beaten down by the heavy rain and wind. In northern sections, from the Great Lakes to Montana, the crop was doing well generally, with some denting reported locally.

COTTON.—In most of the Cotton Belt the week was rather warm and rainfall irregular, with heavy to excessive amounts in much of the eastern portion and very little in more western districts. In the Carolinas and Georgia the storm did considerable damage by flooding lowlands and washing soil, and the continued wetness was generally favorable for weevil activity, especially in Georgia where shedding has greatly increased, bolls are rotting, and plants overgrown and sappy. In Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi the weekly progress of the crop varied considerably, ranging from deterioration in parts of Alabama to good in much of Tennessee. Shedding was reported in the southern portion of this area, with the weather favoring weevil activity.

In Louisiana cotton deteriorated badly in localities, especially in the northwest, with shedding reported and weevil favored. In Arkansas progress was very good, except there was deterioration or only poor advance in some central-eastern and southern sections because of shedding; otherwise, plants are blooming and bolls forming rapidly in most parts, and some opening locally. In Oklahoma warmth and sunshine were generally favorable, with weekly progress mainly good, though considerable shedding was noted; the general condition is spotted, ranging from poor to very good, depending largely on insect infestation. In Texas progress was spotted, ranging from poor in the drier sections of the west-central and southern parts to very good in much of the north, with the general condition poor in the drier sections, and elsewhere fair to good and fruiting fairly well; warmth and dryness favored rapid opening of bolls.

The Weather Bureau also furnishes the following resume of the conditions in the different States:

Virginia.—Richmond: Heavy rains in interior first part of week improved condition of growing crops, but caused considerable damage to corn, tobacco, and meadows by flood water; rainfall light over Tidewater where most farm crops need rain. Cotton good; peanuts and truck crops fair to good.

North Carolina.—Raleigh: Heavy to excessive rain in west and central, with high winds, flooded streams and rivers and cottonland nearly destroyed. Growth of crops good in east, though too much rain in many localities. Tobacco nearly all housed in east, but considerable damage in upper section, where harvesting or ready to harvest. Cotton damaged in west, but progress mostly fair to good in east; considerable shedding, especially in south.

South Carolina.—Columbia: Excessive rains and high floods in central and north, with large areas damaged by washing rains, squally winds, and inundations. Aside from storm stress, progress of cotton fairly good, with squares, bloom, and bolls forming rather freely, but shedding complaints increasing and crop sappy, with conditions favorable for increased insect activity. Corn badly blown down in many sections of central and north. Sweet potatoes and lesser crops made rapid growth.

Georgia.—Atlanta: A second storm passed northward along Alabama and Georgia boundary line on Aug. 15, with sales and beating rains, caused much damage to crops and flooded farm lands badly over much of eastern half. Week was favorable only in northwestern portion. Cotton deteriorated badly and shedding greatly increased; bolls rotting and plants overgrown and sappy with prospects for top crop very unfavorable; opening and picking progressing very slowly. Much corn blown down and fodder split. Peanuts beginning to sprout in ground and many pecans blown from trees.

Florida.—Jacksonville: Practically a dry week in central, although lowlands continue too wet, and daily local rains in portions of northern division accentuated unfavorable conditions, where some streams in flood stage. Much corn still on ground and rotting; too immature to harvest. Cane, sweet potatoes, seed beds, and strawberries unfavorable on lowlands; improving on uplands. Citrus fruit and trees good, except in storm area where damage probably not as great as has been feared.

Alabama.—Montgomery: Progress of corn, truck and minor crops poor to very good; cotton firing badly locally in north. Progress of pastures and sweet potatoes mostly fair to good. Progress of cotton varied from very poor to very good, but mostly fair; considerable shedding of bolls and squares in central and south—bad in places, especially in central portion; blooming at top locally in north; picking beginning in south and first bales reaching markets; weather favorable for weevil activity in central and south.

Mississippi.—Vicksburg: Rainfall mostly light in southern third and locally light to rather heavy elsewhere. Progress of cotton fair to good, but considerable shedding, and some premature opening. Progress of late corn mostly poor; lacking moisture, but generally fair on lowlands. Progress of pastures fair.

Louisiana.—New Orleans: Numerous showers in south, but mostly fair in central and north. Cotton deteriorated in some localities, especially in northwest, due to various causes, including shedding and premature opening, and weather continued favorable for weevil activity; general condition of crop poor to only fairly good; picking begun in all sections. Much corn mature. Cane continues excellent progress, and rice harvest begun. Minor crops and pastures generally doing well.

Texas.—Houston: Progress and condition of pastures, late corn, truck, and seed crops poor in drier sections; fair to good elsewhere. Progress of cotton spotted, ranging from poor in dry sections of south and west-central to very good in much of north; condition poor in drier portions of lower coast, southwestern, and west-central parts, where bolls small and complaints of shedding and premature opening; elsewhere condition fair to good and fruiting fairly well; picking and ginning progressed very well in south and started elsewhere, except in extreme west and northwest; warmth and mostly light showers causing rapid opening.

Oklahoma.—Oklahoma City: Hot and mostly clear. Good rains in north and east, but droughty in central and southwest. Early corn matured very good crop; progress of late fair in north and east, but poor in central and southwest account warmth and dryness. Progress of cotton generally good; blooming and fruiting, but considerable shedding reported; condition spotted, ranging from poor to very good, depending largely on extent of insect damage; picking just beginning in south.

Arkansas.—Little Rock: Progress of cotton very good due to showers in practically all portions, but deteriorated or progress poor, due to shedding, in some central-eastern and southern localities; blooming and putting on bolls rapidly in most portions and opening in a few southern and western localities. Early corn about matured; very favorable for late corn and all other crops.

Tennessee.—Nashville: Progress of corn very good generally, but poor in large areas of west account dryness; heavy rains at end of week very beneficial, especially in west; early crop mostly matured. Progress of cotton good; bolls plentiful; poor stands in some western areas. Cultivation of crops in east interrupted by rains, and flood damage serious in French Broad Valley.

Kentucky.—Louisville: Frequent showers in east and central, but light and scattered in west where droughty locally. Progress and condition of corn fair to very good in central and east; mostly poor in west. Tobacco good progress, except where too dry; topping proceeding rapidly; plants, spreading satisfactorily in east and central. Cotton needs rain.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE

New York, Friday Night, Aug. 24 1928.

Broader buying activities featured most divisions of the textile markets this week. The undertone is undoubtedly

firmer and prospects favor further expansion during the coming season. Most factors are disposed to believe that the worst of the prolonged dullness is behind them, and that the future holds prospects of better business and profits. This has been particularly noticeable in the cotton goods division where firmer quotations and larger sales are encouraging more confidence in the future. However, developments in the floor covering division was one of the features of the week. It was announced by the majority of the leading manufacturers that current prices will be guaranteed against declines until Nov. 1, and by some until the end of the year. These efforts of the principal producers to stabilize the industry prior to an active selling period are expected to result in very satisfactory business as, with stocks in distributing channels believed to be well depleted and an active consumer demand near at hand, the trade is claimed to be in an excellent statistical position. Confidence has been imparted throughout the trade and already orders are being received for future shipment, and it is confidently expected that an active season will be experienced. Conditions in the other various branches of the textile industry continue much the same as they have during recent weeks. In the silk section, for instance, while prices for the raw product have declined, business in finished fabrics has maintained satisfactory proportions.

DOMESTIC COTTON GOODS.—Although the markets for domestic cotton goods continue more or less irregular, increasing activity and growing firmness in values are noted in many directions. The situation in finished goods is, perhaps, the most satisfactory, while the gray goods section remains rather lethargic. Prices for the majority of finished fabrics have been more satisfactory, chiefly owing to the better undertone of raw cotton. Naturally, the latter has made fabric quotations appear more attractive, especially those previously established on a lower staple basis. At present, prospects favor higher cloth levels within the near future, but business is not expected to assume sizable proportions until buyers feel that they can disregard any fluctuations in prices for the staple. The latter have shown a disposition to seek higher levels during the current week, owing to uncertain crop prospects based upon reports of unfavorable weather conditions and increasing boll-weevil activities. As a result, buyers were more disposed to consider the placing of a larger volume of business, and in some cases a part of their future requirements. For instance, one of the most encouraging factors in this week's developments has been the sustained demand for print cloths. Although the month of August is usually a dull one for these fabrics, sales are now said to be reaching record proportions with prospects favoring continued large distribution until after the Labor Day Holiday. Tire fabrics are also improving with conditions better than they have been for some time past. Business is reported to be steadily expanding, with some mills sold up for several weeks ahead on a number of constructions. Prices are firmer with some deliveries running through to the end of the year. Concerning curtailment of production, reduced output schedules have been furthered, which should materially assist in stabilizing prices and sales as the season progresses. Print cloths 28-inch 64 x 60's construction are quoted at 6 $\frac{1}{8}$ c., and 27-inch 64 x 60's at 5 $\frac{7}{8}$ c. Gray goods in the 39-inch 68 x 72's construction are quoted at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and 39-inch 80 x 80's at 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ c.

WOOLEN GOODS.—Markets for woolsens and worsteds failed to show much improvement this week, as buyers continue temporarily uninterested, awaiting the openings of men's wear fancy goods scheduled to be shown uniformly by the trade immediately after Labor Day. Furthermore, it is not expected that much business will develop before that time as operators are inclined to withhold commitments until style and price comparisons can be made. An unusual amount of interest centers in the question of prices this season, in view of the softening tendency of raw wool and the reductions recently announced for the staple lines. Concerning the retail trade, the current August clearance sales are reported to be making satisfactory progress, as is indicated by the fact that many re-orders have been received.

FOREIGN DRY GOODS.—Conditions in the linen markets have shown further improvement, and prospects over the coming weeks are considered bright. One of the most heartening developments has been the disposition among buyers to anticipate future requirements, especially on the better grade fabrics. As to the cheaper ones, these have sold well during the recent "dollar day" sales and stocks are not considered very large. At the present time, however, interest in the latter is not very active, as retailers have shown a preference to carry the better priced class of merchandise. Doubtless, the best buying centers around domestic such as luncheon sets, although the situation in toweling shows steady improvement, even though competition for business is very keen. Manufacturers continue to bring out new spring dress goods, but business is not expected to develop in any volume until later in the season. Bur-laps are easier, but factors report a moderate demand for merchandise chiefly for immediate shipment. Light weights are quoted at 8.10c., and heavies at 10.55-10.60c.

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