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## The Financial Situation

A WEEK ago in this column we pointed out that Federal Reserve policy of large-scale purchases of United States Government securities, with the view to releasing Federal Reserve credit to a corresponding degree, had apparently reached the climax of absurdity in the sale of \$75,000,000 of 91-day Treasury bills on a bank discount basis of only 0.43% per annum. The reason for coupling the two things was that these Treasury bills as issued from week to week have been rapidly finding their way into the vaults of the Federal Reserve banks, with the result that in the end the Federal Reserve banks have been found making investments at the abnormally low figure of 0.43 of 1% per annum—in fact, even lower than this, since the Federal Reserve banks must be supposed to be making their purchases from the dealers in bills, who naturally would expect to make some profit from their re-sale of the bills, and this profit hence would have to be deducted from the low figure mentioned.

It happens, however, that we were too confident in assuming that the height of absurdity had been reached in last week's sale of Treasury bills at 0.43 of 1% per annum on a bank discount basis. On Monday of the present week the Treasury disposed of another block of these 91-day Treasury bills, the offering this time consisting of \$60,000,000 of such bills, and the United States Treasury did even better for itself on that occasion, realizing a price which left a return to the purchaser of the bills of only 0.29 of 1% per year on a bank discount basis. Presumably these Treasury bills in great part were repurchased by the Reserve banks, as the latter show expansion during the week in their holdings of "certificates and bills" (the two classes of Treasury obligations being lumped together in the weekly returns of the Federal Reserve banks) in the sum of \$41,717,000, and it is quite possible that the whole of the new issue of bills, of which the Treasury disposed of \$60,050,000, were taken over by the Reserve banks, since a considerable amount of the old holdings of certificates and bills must have reached maturity during the week and been paid off. Allowing for the profit of the dealers in reselling to the Reserve banks, it can easily be imagined at what a ridiculously low yield the Reserve banks took over the bills. Yesterday there was another sale of 91-day bills, this time of \$100,022,000, and these were disposed of on a discount basis of 0.32 of 1%.

What is happening is perfectly plain. The Reserve banks are engaged in putting out huge masses of Reserve credit, and with that end in view are indulging in large-scale purchases of United States Govern-

ment securities. The present week the further acquisition of United States securities has been much smaller than in the weeks preceding, and reached \$58,793,000. This, added to the previous acquisitions, which have averaged in recent weeks \$100,000,000, makes the total purchases in the period from April 6 to May 25 \$640,182,000, the total of the holdings of United States securities in this period of seven weeks having risen from \$835,014,000 April 6 to \$1,525,196,000 May 25. The holdings of United States bonds in this period of seven weeks increased from \$318,690,000 to \$374,784,000, the holdings of Treasury notes from \$84,395,000 to \$166,372,000, and the holdings of "certificates and bills" from \$481,929,000 to \$984,040,000. The addition, in this last instance, it will be observed, has been well in excess of half a billion dollars—in exact figures, \$502,111,000. This indicates how striking has been the part played by the Reserve banks in augmenting the demand for bills, until a point has been reached where the Federal Reserve authorities are netting a return of only 0.29 of 1% per annum on a bank discount basis, less whatever profit the dealers in bills make on their re-sales to the Treasury. The whole operation is plainly farcical, and except for its manifest absurdity one might imagine the time (if large-scale purchases are to be continued) when the Reserve banks will be paying a bonus or premium for the privilege of taking over new volumes of bills as they are issued from week to week.

The purpose of these large purchases of Government securities is to put additional Reserve credit at the command of the member banks with a view to easing the general credit situation, and thereby aiding business recovery. But there is no dearth of banking credit, and therefore these extra supplies of Reserve credit (the stagnation in business being due to other causes) congest in the financial centers, where, in the absence of other means for employing banking credit, bankers and dealers compete with one another for the new supplies of bills coming on the market. As a measure of relief no good is apparently resulting, and in the meantime foreign banks and bankers are withdrawing balances here and closing out their investments out of a fear that the condition of our Reserve institutions may eventually become seriously impaired. Gold exports are the inevitable result.

These exports of the metal are now proceeding on an unexampled scale. For the week ending Wednesday, May 25, the further engagements of gold for export from New York have aggregated no less than \$73,348,000, of which only \$2,419,000 represented gold

previously earmarked for foreign account, the gold going to virtually every leading European country—\$23,561,000 to France, \$23,225,000 to Holland, \$12,069,000 to Switzerland, \$7,585,000 to Belgium, \$5,108,000 to England, and \$1,800,000 even to Germany. This week's huge shipments of the metal come on top of exports of \$43,059,000 the preceding week, \$41,099,000 the week before, \$15,872,000 the week ending May 4; \$18,817,000 the week ending April 27; \$9,203,000 the week ending April 20, and \$20,156,000 in the week ending April 13. Nor does the movement appear to have entirely exhausted itself even yet. On Thursday \$1,087,800 further was withdrawn for export, \$1,050,500 being destined for Holland and \$37,300 for Peru, besides which \$4,999,800 was further earmarked for foreign account, making \$6,087,600 together. It is hard to believe, but yesterday an additional \$31,323,800 was withdrawn for export (\$20,193,200 going to France, \$5,550,000 to Holland, \$4,175,200 to Belgium, \$1,002,600 to Switzerland, and \$402,800 to England), in addition to which \$5,929,100 more was earmarked for foreign account, making the loss for this single day \$37,252,900.

As the purchases of United States Government securities are so disturbing in their effects, as reflected in these gold exports, and are obviously not needed as measures of banking relief, and no good is discernible from them in any way, it would seem that the time has arrived for discontinuing them. This view is well expressed in the daily article written by H. Parker Willis, former Secretary of the Federal Reserve Board, which appeared in the "World-Telegram" for Thursday, and in which Mr. Willis is moved to say: "It is time for a fresh start in our efforts to check the depression and improve business. We have given inflation a fair trial, and it has failed. Indeed, it has done much worse than fail. It has created a situation that is daily becoming more hazardous. Much further continuance of the export of gold and of concomitant expansion of the liabilities of the Reserve System could easily bring very serious trouble. Meantime confidence has not been restored, but, on the contrary, has been further impaired. The trouble throughout has been that we have been clinging to the "new era" philosophy that all ills of the business world could be cured, or at least much mollified, by tinkering in some way with money and credit."

Yet strange doctrines are being proclaimed and many economic idols heretofore supposed to be free from hallucinations of any kind are yielding to the thoughtless clamor for inflation. Carter Glass, always looked up to as our High Priest of Sound Finance, now finds his feet slipping from under him. According to a Washington dispatch appearing in the New York "Times" on May 25, "temporary currency inflation based on United States Government bonds" has been "tentatively" suggested by Senator Glass as a substitute for the Goldsborough bill to stabilize the dollar on a 1926 purchasing level. Vigorously opposing the Goldsborough program as "futile and ineffective," Mr. Glass, we are told, urged the Senate Banking and Currency Committee to consider some "feasible" substitute, and therefore suggested "the bond platform to which, he explained, he was by no means absolutely committed." Briefly, this correspondent says, Mr. Glass has in mind a scheme of "diffusive" inflation whereby some series of outstanding Government bonds could be desig-

nated for the same circulation privilege now enjoyed by the 2% consols of 1930, or "Panama 2s," as they are known. It is added: "Under this plan a National bank possessing \$100,000 worth of bonds might, 'for a restricted period of time' be able to obtain \$95,000 in bank notes, as may be done with the Panama 2s." Mr. Glass further said:

"If inflation of credit and currency is the real cure for the existing situation and we must have inflation," he told the Committee, "we should proceed about it in a direct and unmistakable way and not in the indirect and utterly futile, if not dangerous, way now being employed by the Federal Reserve authorities," he went on.

"In short, I suggest that it would be infinitely better to authorize a plan of 'diffusive' inflation by designating some series of outstanding United States bonds for the same circulation privileges which Panama 2s now have. This would enable National banks throughout the country, for such restricted period of time as might be determined, to increase the volume of bank notes in order to meet the requirements of legitimate business.

"According to my notion, this would be vastly preferable to the threatening scheme now being employed by the Federal Reserve System of concentrating relief in the great money centers with the vain hope and expectation that it will trickle down into the smaller communities throughout the country. The plan suggested, purely to tide over the existing emergency, would enable every National bank to utilize its holdings of United States bonds for such controlled inflationary purposes as current business would justify and it would put all National banks in all sections of the country upon equal terms in the matter of expansion.

"I do not pretend to say that this would be an absolute cure for the existing situation, but I do insist that it is more equitable than anything which has been proposed or that is being attempted.

"My own orthodox view is that when an individual, community or nation embarks upon the era of wicked extravagance it must eventually pay the penalty. This cannot be avoided by fictitious devices, legislative or otherwise."

While Mr. Glass thus puts his suggestion forward with more or less misgiving, as indicated by the foregoing excerpts from his remarks, the proposition is nothing more or less than a return to a bond secured currency from which it had been supposed the country had forever taken its departure with the creation of the Federal Reserve System, and to have such an advocate of sound finance as Mr. Glass even "tentatively" espouse a proposition of that kind is calculated to make the ordinary man, who has not yet come under the sway of the noxious doctrines that find such wide acceptance, pause with doubt and fear. If the former militant upholder of the cause of sound finance is willing to lend a ready ear to the wild schemes of inflation which apparently are carrying everything before them, upon whom are we to depend hereafter?

GOVERNOR FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, in an address delivered last Sunday night at the commencement exercises of Oglethorpe University, at Atlanta, Ga., indulged in utterances which cannot be regarded as otherwise than preaching the doctrine of discontent, and we need hardly say that in times like the present, when the business activities not only of the United States, but of the whole world, are paralyzed as perhaps never before, and when, as a result, idleness and unemployment exist on an unparalleled scale, engaging in talk of that kind is

a perilous undertaking. Mr. Roosevelt is an active candidate for the Presidential nomination at the hands of the Democratic party, and his utterances, therefore, command more attention than would otherwise be the case. In the past he has always displayed great level-headedness and shown a thorough understanding of underlying economic principles, ever stressing their importance, besides which he has exercised his duties and functions as Governor of this State with credit and distinction. Latterly, however, he has developed a disposition to wander in strange by-paths. And this has happened more than once of late. One illustration of the kind was when, in a radio address on April 7, he spoke of Federal neglect of the "little fellow," declared that depression relief must go to "pyramid bottom," and charged, according to the New York "Times," that the "little fellow" was entirely beyond the range of vision of the Hoover Administration in its effort to rebuild the nation economically and lift the country out of the present period of depression—a statement which former Governor Alfred E. Smith was quick to turn to his own advantage by saying: "I will take off my coat and vest and fight to the end against any candidate who persists in any demagogic appeal to the masses of the working people of the country to destroy themselves by setting class against class and rich against poor. In his address of last Sunday Mr. Roosevelt laid himself open to the same strictures."

Like all thoughtful and observing students, Mr. Roosevelt is appalled by the magnitude of the distress which he finds on every side, and as to the underlying causes of which he appears to have a perfect understanding. It is this that makes his meanderings all the more strange. His analysis of the situation makes it entirely plain that there has been a departure from sound principles, and the remedy, accordingly, would appear to be a return to these principles—principles which have governed society and economics through all the ages. But Mr. Roosevelt does not see the force of his own words or appear in any way impressed with the country's experience of recent years, and which have eventuated in such a sad affliction. It would be impossible to depict with greater force and perspicacity the causes which have brought on the country's present trouble than Mr. Roosevelt does in the following paragraphs from his address of last Sunday:

"The year 1928 does not seem far in the past, but since that time, as all of us are aware, the world about us has experienced significant changes. Four years ago, if you heard and believed the tidings of the time, you could expect to take your place in a society well supplied with material things and could look forward to the not too distant time when you would be living in your homes, each (if you believed the politicians) with a two-car garage; and, without great effort, would be providing yourselves and your families with all the necessities and amenities of life, and, perhaps in addition, assure by your savings their security and your own in the future.

"Indeed, if you were observant you would have seen that many of your elders had discovered a still easier road to material success—had found that once they had accumulated a few dollars they needed only to put them in the proper place and then sit back and read in comfort the hieroglyphics called stock market quotations which proclaimed that their wealth was mounting miraculously without any work or effort on their part.

"How sadly different is the picture which we see around us to-day. If only the mirage had vanished,

we should not complain, for we should all be better off. But with it has vanished, not only the easy gains of speculation, but much of the savings of thrifty and prudent men and women, put by for their old age and for the education of their children. With these savings has gone, among millions of our fellow citizens, that sense of security to which they have rightly felt they are entitled in a land abundantly endowed with natural resources and with the productive facilities to convert them into the necessities of life for all our population. More calamitous still, there has vanished with the expectation of future security the certainty of to-day's bread and clothing and shelter."

Now, what deduction can be made from the foregoing except that the country engaged in a speculative debauch without parallel in the history of mankind when men were completely swept off their feet and lost all sense of proportions and threw caution to the winds, thinking that the speculative bubble and bauble would carry them to a haven where no one any longer need trouble himself about the future and where labor and hard work might be relegated to limbo. In a word, the country was chasing phantoms whose unreality has now become sadly apparent and the whole population is now suffering the unfortunate consequences. But Governor Roosevelt will not see it in that way. In that form the story would be altogether too prosaic, and Mr. Roosevelt would simply have added to his reputation as a close student of events, which he undoubtedly is. Mr. Roosevelt's conclusions, hence, carried him to further extremes and we find him saying:

"Do what we may have to do to inject life into our ailing economic order, we cannot make it endure for long unless we can bring about a wiser, more equitable distribution of the national income. It is well within the inventive capacity of man, who has built up this great social and economic machine, capable of satisfying the wants of all, to insure that all who are willing and able to work receive from it at least the necessities of life. In such a system, the reward for a day's work will have to be greater, on the average, than it has been, and the reward to capital, especially capital which is speculative, will have to be less."

The Governor argues, it will be seen, in favor of "a wiser, more equitable distribution of the national income," and asserts that "the reward for a day's work will have to be greater on the average than it has been and the reward to capital, especially capital that is speculative, will have to be less." This implies that the country is suffering so acutely to-day because of the inequitable distribution of the national income and because the reward for a day's work has not been as great as it should be, when the Governor has already so clearly demonstrated that the national collapse has followed inevitably as a result of the speculative debauch in which the whole country, and, in fact, the whole world engaged. In the unreal prosperity which terminated so abruptly and so disastrously in the autumn of 1929 the laboring classes shared as fully as other classes and certainly labor had greater "reward for a day's work" than ever before. Most assuredly, union labor shared in it to an extraordinary degree, and the labor leaders even to-day are resisting most strenuously attempts to bring labor pay back to normal conditions, a step which would be more effective in bringing about a revival of trade than all the panaceas and quack remedies that are being furthered and discussed in Washington. Take the building trade in this city for illustration, and which every

one seems so desirous of starting on a new plain of activity. In the speculative heyday the bricklayer got \$15 a day, making \$75 a week working only five days. Not only that, but he often received a premium of \$3 a day above the union scale of \$15 a day, thus making \$18 a day, or \$90 for a five-day week. And all the others in the buildings trades fared equally well. Quite obviously, it cannot truthfully be said that these laborers did not receive ample reward for their work. The present month building contractors have insisted on a reduction from the unprecedentedly high scale, but even after this reduction the bricklayer will still be getting \$12 a day, or \$60 for a week of five days, which certainly cannot be considered had pay.

Or we may cite conditions in the printing trades in this city as a further illustration. There the wage scale has further increased year by year even through all the years of depression since 1929, the workers having refused to waive a further increase on Jan. 1 1932, notwithstanding the intensity of the business depression prevailing. To speak of a "more equitable distribution of the national income," to say that in "such a system the reward for a day's work will have to be greater on the average than it has been," partakes of the farcical when it is recalled that book and job trades in this city find themselves wholly without any income at all because of these high wages, and also find their trade drifting to numerous places outside of this city because of the lower rates of pay prevailing there.

Mr. Roosevelt is also unfortunate and most unconvincing in his characterization of what he terms the Wall Street group. At one point Mr. Roosevelt indulges in the remark that "many of those whose primary solicitude is confined to the welfare of what they call capital have failed to read the lessons of the last few years and have been moved less by calm analysis of the needs of the nation as a whole than by a blind determination to preserve their own special stakes in the economic order." At another point he delivers himself of the following: "We cannot allow our economic life to be controlled by that small group of men whose chief outlook upon the social welfare is tinged by the fact that they can make huge profits from the lending of money and the marketing of securities—an outlook which deserves the adjectives 'selfish' and 'opportunist.'"

The Wall Street group, which Mr. Roosevelt here has in mind, needs identification, but assuming that Mr. Roosevelt refers to the financial interests centered in this city, nothing stands out more clearly than that in the general collapse, in which the whole country has become involved, the financial interests have enjoyed no exemption. They were carried away in the unnatural speculative mania, the same as everyone else, but the reverses which have come to them are worse than those suffered by any other class of the community. That is the reason why Wall Street is now the gloomiest spot on the face of the universe. Wall Street is paying the penalty for its recklessness, no less than the rest of the population, all of which entertained the common delusion that riches could be obtained without work and by means of a speculative craze. It will ever remain one of the distinctive features of the times that when the end of the debacle came no class escaped in the resulting disaster.

As to the road for recovery, Mr. Roosevelt makes one point which deserves noting, even though he

does not himself cite it as a way to recovery. The Governor said that after "the experience of the last three years" the average person would rather receive "a smaller return upon his savings in return for greater security for the principal than experience for a moment the thrill of the prospect of being a millionaire, only to find the next moment that his fortune, actual or expected, has withered in his hand because the economic machine has again broken down."

In the last analysis this simply means that "the average person" has learned well the lesson of experience, and that he is not likely soon to forget it. In other words, there is coming to be a realization that what is needed above everything else by the country in its economic life is that we must get back to first principles. There is no easy road to success, and something cannot be created out of nothing. Thrift and economy must be the watchwords, and artificial aids and panaceas, such as find such wide favor in the legislative world, must be eschewed. The country must adapt itself to a new state of things now that the speculative bubble has burst. That alone is the sure road to recovery. We say this notwithstanding that Mr. Roosevelt at one point speaks of experimentation as the means out of our dilemma. That point he enlarges in the following remarks. "The country needs, and unless I mistake its temper, the country demands, bold, persistent experimentation," he said. "It is common sense to take a method and try it; if it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something. The millions who are in want will not stand by silently forever while the things to satisfy their needs are within easy reach."

The truth is we have had altogether too much experimentation, as witness our attempt to maintain farm prices for wheat and cotton and the equally futile efforts that are being made to force Federal Reserve credit upon banks that have no need of it and for which they cannot find employment except in wholly abnormal ways. "Experimentation," as it is being witnessed to-day in legislative halls and by the politicians is only another name for bungling and for setting at defiance fundamental laws. We repeat it is time for getting back to first principles.

IN OUR remarks above reference has been made to some of the changes in this week's condition statement of the Federal Reserve banks. A more detailed examination, however, of the returns as a whole is called for. The figures will be studied mainly with a view to seeing what the effect has been of the continued heavy exports of gold, the extent of the new purchases of United States Government securities, and also the extent to which the Reserve authorities have been obliged to avail of the powers granted by the Glass-Steagall Bill permitting the use of United States Government securities as collateral for Federal Reserve notes to the extent of 60% of the face value of such notes, the other 40% consisting of the legal cash reserves which the Reserve banks are required to hold. With the Reserve institutions still engaged in acquiring new holdings of United States securities, even though in diminished amounts, and with the gold exports continuing unchecked, it is obvious that further resort must be had to the new privileges conferred by the Glass-Steagall Act. An offsetting advantage, however, is to be found in the reduction in the volume of

Federal Reserve notes in circulation, the significance of which should not be overlooked. If, on the one hand, the volume of Reserve credit outstanding is being steadily increased, as is actually the case, on the other hand a favorable feature is to be found in the circumstance that there is no concurrent expansion in the amount of Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation.

Indeed, there have been several weeks recently where the total of the Reserve notes outstanding has shown a decrease. The week ending Wednesday night, and now under consideration, is one of these. In this week the amount of Reserve notes afloat shows \$25,393,000 contraction. Nevertheless, it has been necessary under the authority of the Glass-Steagall Act to substitute United States securities in the further sum of \$48,100,000 as collateral behind the Reserve notes in place of an equal amount of gold. This makes the total of Government securities now held as backing for Federal Reserve note issues \$196,400,000, the amount of Government securities set aside for the purpose having been \$97,300,000 in the week ending May 11 and \$51,000,000 in the week ending May 18. As already noted further above, the 12 Reserve banks during the week acquired \$58,793,000 more of Government securities, bringing the total of such holdings up to \$1,525,196,000, which compares with \$598,368,000 12 months ago on May 27 1931. As against the increase this week in these holdings of Government securities there has been a further reduction in the holdings of acceptances, already at an extremely low figure, from \$40,643,000 May 18 to \$38,373,000 May 25, but, on the other hand, the discount holdings have risen from \$464,943,000 to \$471,267,000.

The final result is that the total of the bill and security holdings, and which constitute a measure of the volume of Reserve credit outstanding, stands at \$2,040,056,000 May 25 against \$1,977,012,000 May 18, showing an addition for the week in amount of \$63,044,000. As compared with May 27 1931, when the volume of Reserve credit outstanding was no more than \$876,489,000, there has been an expansion of \$1,163,567,000. The expansion during the same 12 months in the Federal Reserve notes in circulation, which, as already stated, diminished in amount of \$25,393,000 during the week, has been close to a billion dollars, with the amount now for May 25 at \$2,532,714,000, comparing with only \$1,551,808,000 on May 27 1931. The gold holdings during the week as a result of the further outflow of the metal have been reduced by \$61,951,000 to \$2,857,081,000.

At the New York Reserve Bank the gold reserves have actually increased during the week in amount of over \$103,000,000, while at the same time the holdings of United States Government securities have been reduced in amount of \$67,488,000 in face of the large addition by the 12 Reserve banks as a whole. But these changes in the holdings of the different Reserve institutions are devoid of significance, since they merely mark reapportionment and redistribution of both the gold holdings and the holdings of United States securities among the different Reserve institutions, and hence call for no special mention. As a result of the diminution in gold reserves by reason of the large outflow of the metal, the ratio of total reserves to deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined has been further reduced during the week by 1.3%, but still stands

at 63.1%, which, while comparing with 85.3% on May 27 1931, nevertheless stands far in excess of legal requirements regarding reserves, only 40% reserves being required against the outstanding note circulation and 35% against the deposit liabilities.

We have already remarked that the acceptance holdings of the 12 Reserve institutions have been further reduced during the week from \$40,643,000 to \$38,373,000, and, as a matter of fact, if allowance be made for the circumstance that this includes foreign bills as well as domestic bills, the foreign bills tied up abroad at latest dates having been \$30,736,000, the domestic bill holdings are found to be down close to the vanishing point. There has also been during the week a further diminution in the holdings of acceptances held by the Reserve banks for account of foreign central banks, the total of these the present week being reported at \$216,402,000 against \$239,948,000 last week. The deposits of foreign banks with the Federal Reserve banks have also been reduced, being reported at \$40,706,000 May 25 as against \$45,578,000 May 18.

THE stock market this week continued in its downward course, interrupted only by occasional upward reactions induced by a covering of outstanding short contracts. A strong rally of that kind occurred on Thursday, when, after a further severe breakdown in the morning, during which a big list of new low prices for the year was established, a sharp rally occurred. On Friday, however, the trend was again strongly downward. The upward reaction on Thursday was occasioned by advices from Washington indicating a disposition on the part of the Senate to expedite the pending tax bill for balancing the Federal budget. This induced a covering movement by the short interests and reversed the course of the market after its further downward plunge in the morning. There have been no new developments to affect the course of prices, but general conditions have been depressing, and this has served to keep the market weak. Gold exports have continued, and on an increasing scale, and the foreign exchanges generally have been against the United States, thus favoring the outflow of the metal. This week's review of the iron and steel trade showed a falling off in the operating schedules of the steel mills from 25% of capacity to 24%, after the moderate increase in the weeks immediately preceding, and news regarding the condition of general trade has continued gloomy in the extreme. In addition, the earnings statements of the railroads have begun to come in for the month of April, and with scarcely any exceptions they showed very little improvement over the poor returns of other recent periods. Nearly every week now some group of stocks displays special weakness, and the present week the tobacco stocks have held the palm in that respect. Reynolds Tobacco was under liquidation and suffered a sharp decline, Liggett & Myers, Lorillard and American Tobacco joining in the downward movement. The New York traction stocks were also under pressure and suffered severe declines. Many other public utilities were under like pressure, Consolidated Gas belonging in that class.

The bond market also has continued under pressure and moved lower, though an exception must be made in the case of British Government 5½s, which were strong all through the week, reaching a high point of 106¼ on Thursday, and yesterday

closed at 104½ against 103⅔ the close Friday of last week. On Thursday nearly all the commercial markets were weak, wheat prices dropping about 2c. a bushel, rubber breaking on heavy offerings of rubber from Singapore in the London market, with the result of establishing a new low record both there and on the New York Rubber Exchange. The price on the board declined to 2.70c. a pound, a drop of 13 points, which compares with the previous low record of 2.75c. a pound. In the cotton market some weakness was occasioned, though with subsequent recovery by the news from Liverpool that Hornby-Hemelryk & Co., cotton and general produce brokers, and one of the oldest cotton firms in Liverpool, had announced its suspension. On the New York Stock Exchange 533 stocks established new low records for the year during the week, while only three stocks attained new high levels. Call loans on the Stock Exchange were again continued unchanged at 2½%, though less and less borrowing is being done on the Exchange, many dealers availing of the lower rates prevailing outside the Stock Exchange, where loaning the present week has been most of the time at 1½% per annum.

Dividend reductions and omissions by the different corporations have continued an adverse feature. Among the omissions may be mentioned the Atlantic Coast Line Co., which omitted the quarterly dividend on its capital stock; the International Cement Co., which omitted the quarterly dividend on the common stock; Devoe & Reynolds, which omitted the quarterly dividend on the class A and class B common stocks; the Warner Co., which omitted the quarterly dividend on the \$7 cumul. 1st pref. stock; the George A. Fuller Co., which passed the quarterly dividend on the \$6 cumul. part. prior pref. stock and on the \$6 cumul. part. pref. stock; Lane Bryant, Inc., which omitted the dividend on common, and the Bendix Aviation Corp., which passed the quarterly dividend on the common stock. The General Electric Co. reduced its quarterly dividend on the no-par common stock from 25c. a share to 10c. a share. Previously a quarterly dividend of 40c. a share was paid on this issue from April 25 1930 to and including Jan. 25 1932. The Union Carbide & Carbon Corp. reduced the quarterly dividend on common from 50c. a share to 30c. a share, after having the previous April reduced from 65c. a share to 50c. a share. The Standard Oil Co. of Kentucky reduced the quarterly dividend on the capital stock from 40c. a share to 10c. a share. The Todd Shipyards Corp. decreased the quarterly dividend on the capital stock from 50c. a share to 25c. a share. Prior to Dec. 21 1931 quarterly dividends of \$1 a share were paid on this issue. The Commercial Credit Co. reduced the quarterly dividend on its no-par common stock to 12½c. a share as against 25c. a share paid on this stock on March 31 last. Bell Telephone Co. of Canada reduced the quarterly dividend on its capital stock from 2% to 1¾%. The Hercules Powder Co. reduced its quarterly dividend on common from 75c. a share to 50c. a share. The Mathieson Alkali Works (Inc.) reduced the quarterly dividend on its common stock from 50c. a share to 37½c. a share, and the General Railway Signal Co. cut its dividend from 75c. a share to 25c. a share.

The volume of trading has been somewhat heavier as liquidation has proceeded, closely approaching 2,000,000 shares on Thursday. At the half-day session on Saturday last the sales on the New York

Stock Exchange were 305,170 shares; on Monday they were 557,840 shares; on Tuesday, 983,297 shares; on Wednesday, 1,302,142 shares; on Thursday, 1,853,160 shares, and on Friday, 900,595 shares. On the New York Curb Exchange the sales last Saturday were 54,630 shares; on Monday, 135,280 shares; on Tuesday, 141,900 shares; on Wednesday, 195,704 shares; on Thursday, 253,490 shares, and on Friday, 141,935 shares.

As compared with Friday of last week, prices are again quite generally lower. General Electric closed yesterday at 10 against 13¼ on Friday of last week; North American at 15⅔ against 19⅔; Standard Gas & Elec. at 9¼ against 11⅔; Pacific Gas & Elec. at 20 against 21½; Consolidated Gas of N. Y. at 40 against 45⅔; Columbia Gas & Elec. at 6 against 7½; Brooklyn Union Gas at 62 against 67; Electric Power & Light at 3½ against 5¼; Public Service of N. J. at 36¼ against 41; International Harvester at 16 against 17½; J. I. Case Threshing Machine at 19 against 19¼; Sears, Roebuck & Co. at 15 against 17¾; Montgomery Ward & Co. at 4¼ against 6⅔; Woolworth at 26½ against 29¼; Safeway Stores at 38 against 43¾; Western Union Telegraph at 18¼ against 19¾; American Tel. & Tel. at 92 against 95½; International Tel. & Tel. at 27⅔ against 3¾; American Can at 35½ against 38; United States Industrial Alcohol at 137⅔ against 15⅔; Commercial Solvents at 2 against 5¼; Shattuck & Co. at 5¼ against 6½, and Corn Products at 29¼ against 32½.

Allied Chemical & Dye closed yesterday at 50¼ against 53⅔ on Friday of last week; E. I. du Pont de Nemours at 26⅔ against 29½; National Cash Register "A" at 7½ against 8½; International Nickel at 3⅔ against 5; Timken Roller Bearing at 12⅔ against 14; Mack Trucks at 12¼ against 13; Yellow Truck & Coach at 17⅔ against 17⅔; Johns-Manville at 10½ against 11¾; Gillette Safety Razor at 13½ against 14¼; National Dairy Products at 15⅔ against 19¾; Associated Dry Goods at 3½ against 3⅔; Texas Gulf Sulphur at 13⅔ against 16⅔; Freeport Texas at 11⅔ against 13½; American & Foreign Power at 2⅔ against 27⅔; United Gas Improvement at 13½ against 15½; National Biscuit at 29 against 33⅔; Coca-Cola at 90¾ against 94⅔; Continental Can at 20⅔ against 22⅔; Eastman Kodak at 40¼ against 42⅔; Gold Dust Corp. at 9⅔ against 11½; Standard Brands at 9¾ against 11; Paramount Publix Corp. at 1¾ against 17⅔; Kreuger & Toll at 1/16 against ⅔; Westinghouse Elec. & Mfg. at 19⅔ against 24¼; Drug, Inc., at 28⅔ against 34⅔; Columbian Carbon at 15⅔ against 19; Reynolds Tobacco B at 27½ against 31⅔; Liggett & Myers class B at 36½ against 44; Lorillard at 9⅔ against 12½, and American Tobacco at 47¾ against 58¼.

The steel shares have moved with the general market. United States Steel closed yesterday at 26¾ against 28⅔ on Friday of last week; Bethlehem Steel at 10¾ against 12¾; Vanadium at 6 against 7, and Republic Iron & Steel at 2 against 3. In the auto group Auburn Auto closed yesterday at 31¾ against 32¾ on Friday of last week; General Motors at 9⅔ against 10⅔; Chrysler at 5⅔ against 6½; Nash Motors at 9 against 10¼; Packard Motors at 2 against 2⅔; Hudson Motor Car at 3⅔ against 3⅔, and Hupp Motors at 1½ against 2. In the rubber group Goodyear Tire & Rubber closed yesterday at 5¾ against 8 on Friday of last week; B. F. Goodrich

at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  against  $3\frac{1}{4}$ ; United States Rubber at  $2\frac{1}{4}$  against  $2\frac{3}{4}$ , and the preferred at 4 against  $4\frac{7}{8}$ .

The railroad shares have again been a weak feature. Pennsylvania RR. closed yesterday at  $7\frac{1}{2}$  against  $9\frac{3}{8}$  on Friday of last week; Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe at  $25\frac{1}{4}$  against 29; Atlantic Coast Line at 10 against 11; Chicago Rock Island & Pacific at  $2\frac{1}{4}$  against  $2\frac{5}{8}$ ; New York Central at  $9\frac{1}{2}$  against  $11\frac{5}{8}$ ; Baltimore & Ohio at  $4\frac{3}{4}$  against  $5\frac{1}{2}$ ; New Haven at  $6\frac{5}{8}$  against  $8\frac{3}{4}$ ; Union Pacific at  $37\frac{1}{4}$  against 42; Southern Pacific at  $7\frac{3}{8}$  against  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; Missouri Pacific at  $1\frac{5}{8}$  against 2 bid; Missouri-Kansas-Texas at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  against 2; Southern Railway at 3 bid against  $3\frac{1}{4}$ ; Chesapeake & Ohio at  $12\frac{1}{4}$  against  $14\frac{7}{8}$ ; Northern Pacific at  $5\frac{7}{8}$  against 8, and Great Northern at  $5\frac{5}{8}$  against  $8\frac{1}{2}$ .

The oil shares have also moved lower. Standard Oil of N. J. closed yesterday at  $23\frac{7}{8}$  against 25 on Friday of last week; Standard Oil of Calif. at 18 against  $18\frac{1}{2}$ ; Atlantic Refining at  $10\frac{1}{4}$  against  $11\frac{5}{8}$ ; Texas Corp. at  $10\frac{1}{4}$  against 11; Phillips Petroleum at 4 against  $4\frac{1}{8}$ , and Pure Oil at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  against  $3\frac{7}{8}$ .

The copper shares also have declined. Anaconda Copper closed yesterday at 4 against  $4\frac{7}{8}$  on Friday of last week; Kennecott Copper at  $5\frac{5}{8}$  against  $6\frac{5}{8}$ ; Calumet & Hecla at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  against 2; American Smelting & Refining at  $6\frac{1}{8}$  against  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; Phelps Dodge at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  against  $4\frac{3}{4}$ , and Cerro de Pasco Copper at  $4\frac{3}{8}$  against  $6\frac{1}{4}$ .

**D**ULL sessions and irregular downward movements took place this week on stock exchanges in all the leading European financial centers. The earlier dealings were especially quiet at London, Paris and Berlin, with slight improvement apparent in the latter half of the week. Where activity increased, however, it was chiefly the very highest grade securities that benefited. The interest in British funds, French rentes and similar securities and the disregard of others are considered in Europe a reflection of the serious lack of confidence that still prevails. There is, indeed, no appreciable progress apparent in either the political or business spheres. Political unsettlement prevails everywhere on the Continent, while the international discussions of such highly important matters as disarmament and reparations have so far been quite fruitless. Progress in trade and industry is equally hard to discern, although it can be said that the discouraging recessions seem at length to have been halted. The difficulties encountered in some parts of Europe are reflected in a report from Budapest, received at Washington early this week, to the effect that the Stock Exchange in the Hungarian center has now been closed for more than ten months.

The London Stock Exchange was dull, Monday, and prices drifted slowly downward in all departments of the market. Profit taking appeared in British funds, and these prime securities were marked down small fractions. Shares of industrial corporations were easy, and moderate losses likewise were registered in the international group. In Tuesday's dealings some buying interest was noted in Australian gold mining shares, but the rest of the market remained dull and dispirited. British funds again reacted and other gilt-edged issues also lost ground. Turnover in industrial issues was exceptionally small and mainly at slight recessions. Anglo-American trading favorites were not materially

changed. Buying of British funds was finally resumed, Wednesday, and some of the earlier losses were regained. Other sections of the London market remained dull, largely owing to adverse rumors concerning the conference on reparations, soon to be held at Lausanne. Industrial stocks were sharply lower, and international issues also dropped. A more cheerful tone prevailed Thursday, with British Government securities leading the advance. Industrial stocks were quiet but firm, and international issues lost some of their sluggishness. The market was again dull yesterday, while price changes were unimportant.

The Paris Bourse was dominated all week by uncertainty over the internal political situation. The impending change in Government occasioned nervousness among holders of securities. The list was heavy as trading started, Monday, and the downward swing continued all day. A higher dividend was declared on Suez Canal shares than was generally expected, and this served to moderate the decline somewhat. Trading Tuesday was almost at a standstill. After further initial recessions the market steadied, however, and changes at the close were unimportant. Liquidation appeared on a more substantial scale, Wednesday, and prices on the Bourse fell rather swiftly. There was little resistance and many stocks dropped to new low prices for recent years. International securities were even weaker than French shares. The trend Thursday was irregular, small upward and downward movements appearing alternately. Net changes at the close were small, but mostly on the side of losses. After early firmness, prices dropped slightly in the dealings yesterday.

Like other markets, the Berlin Boerse was unsettled as trading began last Monday, and sharp declines took place in all sections of the list. Apprehensions regarding political affairs within the Reich and intimations from Vienna that Austria will declare a moratorium caused liquidation. Prices at the close were the lowest of the day. After a further weak opening, Tuesday, prices steadied on the Boerse. Not all of the early recessions were regained, however, and net changes were mostly in the direction of losses. The market repeated this performance Wednesday, prices falling at first but recovering most of the losses in subsequent dealings. The general tone was more satisfactory, however, as public interest in stocks increased somewhat. The decline was resumed Thursday, largely because of the heightened political uncertainty occasioned by rioting in the Prussian Diet by Fascists and Communists. Liquidation continued until the close and the recessions were severe, despite a light turnover. The Boerse was firm at the start of trading yesterday, but modest declines developed in later trading.

**E**UROPEAN observers are currently displaying a remarkable unanimity in their forecasts of developments at the Lausanne conference of interested Governments on reparations and "other economic and financial difficulties which are responsible for or may prolong the present world crisis." It had been suggested before this that the meeting, which is to begin June 16, will accomplish little beyond a formal extension of the moratorium on German Reparations. In the most recent reports from London, Paris and Berlin, this view is reiterated and emphasized. Vital decisions are to be postponed until after the American elections next November, a

London dispatch of Thursday to the New York "Evening Post" states. A committee of experts will sit through the summer, it is added, and a new conference will then be held late in September or in October. The conclusions then reached "will be made the basis on which Great Britain, France and Italy may approach the United States thereafter with new proposals for modification of the Allied debt settlements," the dispatch remarks. In Paris, also, it is held that the Lausanne conference is unlikely to produce more than an extension for six months or a year of the moratorium on reparations. The extension will apply, a dispatch of last Saturday to the New York "Herald Tribune" indicates, "until the American elections are over and hope can be entertained for some action by Washington toward reduction of the war debts." Berlin is coming regretfully to the conclusion, a report to the New York "Times" states, that "lack of courageous leadership" at Lausanne will prevent a successful conference. There is only a modest measure of optimism in German official, political and financial quarters, it appears.

Necessary arrangements preliminary to the payment to the United States Government by European nations of the suspended annuities of the Hoover moratorium year were virtually completed in Washington this week. It was announced by the Treasury Department, Tuesday, that all 16 European debtor nations have agreed to sign the formal documents for payment of the sums, aggregating \$246,000,000, over a period of 10 years, beginning July 1 1933, with interest at 4%. Finland and Greece have, indeed, already signed the documents, and diplomatic representatives of other nations are to attach their signatures soon in Washington. These accords are, in every case, nothing more than a formality, for which provision was made last June, when the Hoover proclamation of a one-year moratorium on all inter-governmental debts was issued. There was, unfortunately, a tendency in some quarters to confuse this simple formality with the large question of the war debts generally. Some uninformed accounts, cabled to London, occasioned a short debate on the matter in the House of Commons, Wednesday. Sir John Simon, Foreign Secretary in the National Cabinet, reassured the members of Parliament. The Washington transaction, he said, was a formality implying no decision on any question of principle.

**C**URRENT conferences among political leaders in France leave little doubt that Edouard Herriot, head of the Radical-Socialist party, will make an attempt early next month to form a Cabinet in place of the Tardieu regime, which resigned soon after the parliamentary elections. Even if he fails to form the expected coalition of Left and Center parties, it is apparent that M. Herriot will have no less a post than that of Foreign Minister in the new Government, as the Radical-Socialists will have the largest bloc of seats in the new Chamber. In preparation for their relinquishment of office, Premier Andre Tardieu and Finance Minister Pierre Etienne Flandin conferred for several hours, Tuesday, with the new President of the Republic, Albert Lebrun. M. Herriot was an attentive listener as the position of France was set forth with regard to disarmament, reparations and debts, the Danubian question and other matters. It was remarked in a Paris dispatch to the New York "Times" that the

meeting was one of the most curious held in France for some time. After the exposition of the country's affairs was completed, M. Herriot requested the documents on which the statements were based. A brief communication was issued stating merely that the meeting had been held.

The exact character of the coalition regime that will go before the Chamber of Deputies late next week will not be determined until after several important party meetings have been held in the final days of this month. A number of Socialist organizations are said to favor participation in the Cabinet on certain conditions, but a final decision will not be made until the party congress assembles next week. The Radical-Socialists will decide their own attitude regarding invitations to other groups for participation only on May 31, when the executive committee of the party meets. In the meantime some additional light has been thrown on the views entertained by M. Herriot in regard to French foreign policy. If the direction of French affairs is placed in his hands, M. Herriot told a representative of the Paris-Midi, Monday, he will observe the greatest prudence and practice of what he described as an "inch-by-inch" policy. It is apparent that the French leader had Germany in mind, as he gave this interview, which was cabled to the New York "Times." "The slightest excess," he declared, "might provoke the extremism of the Hitlerites. The least weakness might encourage them." His aim would be, he said, to maintain the imprescriptible rights France derived from the peace treaties and from freely signed engagements. There must be recognition of obligations and debts, before any discussion of modification could begin, he added. Turning to national defense, M. Herriot said he would do nothing that might imperil the security of the country, but on the contrary would seek the perfection and modernization of all means of defense until solid international guarantees of peace were obtained.

**P**REPARATIONS were made this week by the new Austrian Cabinet of Chancellor Engelbert Dollfuss for the proclamation of a "foreign exchange embargo on foreign debts," and suspension of service on the external debt of the country is now considered likely at any moment. The appeal for financial aid which the Vienna Government addressed to the League of Nations several weeks ago was taken up by the Council of the League last Saturday. The Council habit of referring knotty problems to committees was again indulged, and on this occasion a mixed group was named to study the matter. This special delegation includes representatives of Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Holland and Switzerland, and also several members of the League Financial Commission. In the course of the Council debate on the matter, Captain R. Anthony Eden of Britain urged the other great powers to join in advancing the further loans to Austria that were contemplated when the British advance of 100,000,000 schillings was made a year ago. M. Joseph Paul-Boncour, speaking for France, agreed that help to Austria was necessary, but added that other Danubian States likewise needed assistance. Paris, M. Paul-Boncour said, would be willing to contribute to a common fund for the assistance of Austria, Jugoslavia, Rumania and other countries, provided the fund were placed under the control of a non-



political agency. Finding little encouragement in the League Council's consideration of its request, the Austrian Government began Tuesday to formulate a moratorium decree covering all external debt service. The approval of the central committee of the Austrian Parliament will be sought before it is promulgated.

An Austrian Cabinet crisis of two weeks' duration was terminated May 20, when Dr. Dollfuss succeeded in forming a coalition regime to succeed that of Chancellor Karl Buresch. The new Government represents a Right coalition which is very similar to that which supported Dr. Buresch, and Dr. Dollfuss belongs to the same Christian Socialist faction to which Dr. Buresch adheres. The latter resigned, it will be recalled, following provincial elections in which the Pan-German, or Fascist party, made great gains. The new Government will rely upon the Christian Socialists, the Farmers' party and the Heimwehr, while the Pan-Germans will form the Opposition. Parliamentary supporters of the Dollfuss Cabinet will outnumber the opponents by only one member, and the life of the Government is therefore precarious. General elections are to be held in the autumn and were postponed only in order to permit the settlement of the urgent financial problems of the country. The Cabinet presented to President Miklas last week is as follows:

Chancellor, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Agriculture—  
Dr. Engelbert Dollfuss.  
Vice-Chancellor—Franz Winkler.  
Minister of the Interior—Franz Bachinger.  
Minister of Finance—Dr. Emanuel Weidenhoffer.  
Minister of Justice—Dr. Kurt Schuschnigg.  
Minister of Commerce—Dr. Guido Jakoneig.  
Minister of Public Security—Dr. Hermann Ach.  
Minister of War—Karl Vaugoin.  
Minister of Public Instruction—Dr. Anton Rintelen.  
Minister of Social Welfare—Joseph Resch.

**G**ATHERING difficulties in the financial and political affairs of Greece occasioned the resignation, last Saturday, of the Cabinet headed by Premier Eleutherios Venizelos, after four years in office. M. Venizelos announced his decision before the Parliament in Athens, and he suggested at the same time that President Zaimis instruct General Alexander Papanastasiou to form a new coalition regime. Increasing opposition to his Government made it impossible to cope with the country's serious situation, M. Venizelos said, in explanation of his resignation. Several Greek newspapers have gone so far as to advocate his murder and to appeal for someone to carry it out, he added. Parliament had refused to pass legislation which he sponsored, and resignation appeared to be the only logical course. The suggestion made by the retiring Premier was adopted by President Zaimis, Wednesday, when the formation of a coalition regime was formally entrusted to General Papanastasiou, who is the leader of the Agrarian and Labor party. The new Cabinet is to include all parties except the Royalists, it is indicated. M. Venizelos was invited to join the new regime, but declined to do so. He agreed, however, to permit participation by other members of the Liberal party, of which he is the head.

**O**UT of the confused situation in Japan occasioned by the assassination of Premier Ki Inukai, there has emerged a National Cabinet, formed at the command of Emperor Hirohito by the liberal minded Viscount Makoto Saito. Premier Saito will hold also the post of Foreign Affairs, while the Finance Ministry will be occupied by

Korekiyo Takahashi, who held this portfolio under the late Mr. Inukai. The Emperor acted last Sunday to end the Cabinet crisis. On the recommendation of Prince Kimmochi Saionji, last of the Genro, or Elder Statesmen, he instructed Viscount Saito to form a non-partisan Cabinet. The mission was promptly undertaken by the 74-year-old Admiral, who was formerly Governor-General of Korea. In a message to the Japanese nation, last Monday, he expressed the determination to form a National Cabinet of men of ability, whom the nation can trust. The full Ministry was announced Thursday, when it appeared that Premier Saito had allocated three posts to the majority party, the Seiyukai; two to the Opposition or Minseitō group, two to active military men, and four to other non-party men. Although the Cabinet is assured of adequate Parliamentary support for the time being, it is not believed in Tokio that it will hold office very long. "The new Administration is not likely to arouse either extravagant hopes or strong antagonisms," a dispatch of Thursday to the New York "Times" remarks. It is noted, however, that virtually all the Ministers have held prominent positions in the country's political or military affairs. The list of Ministers follows:

Premier and Foreign Minister—Admiral Makoto Saito.  
War—General Sadao Araki.  
Navy—Admiral Keisuke Okada.  
Finance—Korekiyo Takahashi.  
Home Affairs—Baron Tatsuo Yamamoto.  
Colonial Affairs—Ryutaro Nagai.  
Commerce and Industry—Baron Kumachi Nakajima.  
Railways—Chuzo Mitsuchi.  
Justice—Matsukichi Koyama.  
Education—Ichiro Hatoyama.  
Agriculture and Forestry—Fumio Goto.  
Commerce and Industry—Baron Kumachi.

**N**OTWITHSTANDING a considerable augmentation of the Japanese forces in Manchuria, little success is apparently attending the efforts to pacify this wide area. The puppet Government set up by the Japanese at Changchun is, of course, quite inadequate to the task of exerting factual control. The forces of the Japanese General, Shigeru Honjo, who wrested the rule of the vast territory from the Chinese War Lord, Chang Hsueh-liang, have been steadily increased in order to dispel the bandit hordes that infest the land. A division of 24,000 troops withdrawn by the Japanese from Shanghai early this month has been sent to Manchuria for this purpose. The need must indeed be great, as the great majority of Chinese soldiers, when disbanded, simply turn bandits for lack of other occupation. After the Japanese conquest of Manchuria was completed, early this year, the great force assembled by Chang Hsueh-liang followed this traditional practice and the Japanese campaign to eradicate the menace started.

The problem has apparently been surmounted to a large degree in South Manchuria, where a network of railways gave the Japanese the advantage of mobility. In the more northerly sections, on the other hand, conditions have become aggravated to an alarming extent. In a Harbin report appearing in the New York "Times," last Sunday, it is remarked that "irregular Chinese soldiers and bandits are harrying the countryside in North Manchuria to such an extent that the peasant farmers dare not leave their crenelated walled villages to go to their fields to plow." Only in the immediate vicinity of the larger towns are the police able to maintain some semblance of authority, it is said. Fierce encounters between Japanese regulars and Chinese insurgents are reported almost daily, and the losses are not all

on the side of the insurgents. The bandits in some areas are being crowded closer and closer to the Siberian border, and the pursuits by the Japanese troops are watched with anxious interest by the Soviet military and diplomatic officials. There is, however, less talk than formerly of a possible clash between the Japanese and Soviet armies. The Chinese attitude, meantime, remains unchanged and completely passive, excepting in a diplomatic sense. W. W. Yen, Chinese delegate to the League of Nations, circulated a message in Geneva, Monday, declaring that unless the Assembly warns Japan to desist from further hostile acts against China, "there is every probability and possibility of an already aggravated situation being developed into a world war."

**A**PPROVAL was voted by the League of Nations Council at Geneva, late last week, of a draft plan for the administrative, financial and economic rehabilitation of the African negro Republic of Liberia. The plan, drawn up by a committee headed by Viscount Cecil of Chelwood, is to serve as the basis of negotiations which are to begin in August with the Liberian Government, the American Finance Corporation, and the Firestone Plantations Co. It is proposed to seek means for ending the slave traffic in which the 12,000 descendants of the freed American slaves who settled in Liberia more than a century ago are said to engage. Reports of this traffic and of alleged atrocities against the 1,000,000 Afro-Liberians have occasioned several sharp protests by the American State Department recently. Other suggestions in the Cecil draft plan include a moratorium on the Liberian debt, and a readjustment of the scope and rental of the Firestone concession. This program would be enforced by placing the country under a foreign adviser appointed by and responsible to the League of Nations. A memorandum urging immediate action by the League Council was submitted in behalf of the United States Government by Samuel Reber, Jr., American member of the Cecil Committee. It was maintained by Mr. Reber that "conditions in Liberia have become so chaotic and authority so demoralized that it is doubtful whether an effective government exists in the country."

**W**IDE areas of Central America were rocked by an earthquake of short duration, but considerable intensity, early last Saturday. Reports of the occurrence were received from Managua, Tegucigalpa, San Salvador and other centers, but there was, fortunately, little damage and no loss of life in these cities, which are the capitals, respectively, of Nicaragua, Honduras, and El Salvador. The greatest damage was caused in small Salvadorean towns and villages. Most of the buildings in Zacatecoluca City were seriously damaged, while large sections of San Juan and Usulután were demolished. Six deaths were reported in these towns, and many were injured. Damage also was reported at Santiago, San Pedro, Nonualco, Olocuilta, El Rosario, Analco, Analquito, San Miguel, San Juan Tepeontes, Santa Maria Ostuma, Talpa, San Francisco, San Antonio, Chinameca and Masahuat, an Associated Press dispatch from San Salvador said. Communications were disrupted in some parts of El Salvador, but quickly restored. Relief organizations gave first aid to the injured. No estimate of the property damage is available.

**T**HERE have been no changes in central bank rates this week. Rates are 11% in Greece; 8½% in Bulgaria; 7% in Austria, Rumania, Portugal and Lithuania; 6½% in Spain and in Finland; 6% in Hungary, Danzig, and in Colombia; 5.84% in Japan; 5½% in Estonia and in Chile; 5% in Germany, Italy, India, Czechoslovakia and Denmark; 4½% in Sweden and in Norway; 3½% in Belgium and in Ireland; 2½% in England, France and in Holland, and 2% in Switzerland. In the London open market discounts for short bills on Friday were 1 1/16@1¼% as against 1 1/8@1¼% on Friday of last week, and 1 1/16% for three months' bills as against 1 3/16@1¼% on Friday of last week. Money on call in London on Friday was 5/8%. At Paris the open market rate continues at 1/8%, and in Switzerland at 1½%.

**T**HE Bank of England statement for the week ended May 25 shows a further substantial gain in gold holdings, amounting to £2,238,605. This brings the total up to £125,761,106 as compared with £152,078,027 a year ago. Circulation contracted £4,218,000 and this together with the gain in gold brought about an increase of £6,457,000. Public deposits rose £2,179,000 and other deposits £3,272,492. The latter consists of bankers' accounts and other accounts which increased £2,942,086 and £330,406 respectively. The reserve ratio rose to 34.70% from 31.15% a week ago. At the corresponding period a year ago the ratio was 53.96. Loans on government securities fell off £3,570,000, while those on other securities increased £2,572,442. Of the latter amount £482,169 was to discounts and advances and £2,090,273 was to securities. The discount rate remains the same at 2½%. Below we furnish a comparative statement of the different items for calendar years:

	1932 May 25.	1931 May 27.	1930. May 28.	1929. May 29.	1928 May 30.
	£	£	£	£	£
Circulation.....	354,220,000	354,859,723	356,131,548	360,106,563	135,984,760
Public deposits.....	23,605,000	17,448,616	13,241,450	24,340,708	22,284,141
Other deposits.....	110,492,483	88,581,183	84,870,578	91,617,663	89,567,966
Bankers' accounts.....	77,544,132	54,760,689	48,963,730	56,349,043	-----
Other accounts.....	32,948,351	33,820,494	35,906,848	35,268,620	-----
Govt. securities.....	69,374,906	31,214,684	45,577,629	40,031,855	28,967,427
Other securities.....	35,960,003	35,378,170	18,321,267	30,574,080	53,984,543
Disct. & advances.....	12,171,642	6,825,096	6,805,493	8,151,163	-----
Securities.....	23,788,361	28,553,074	11,515,774	22,422,917	-----
Reserve notes & coin.....	46,540,000	57,218,304	61,985,151	63,163,000	46,667,713
Coin and bullion.....	125,761,106	152,078,027	158,116,699	163,269,940	162,902,473
Proportion of res. to liabilities.....	34.70%	53.96%	57.33%	54.40%	41¼%
Bank rate.....	2½%	2½%	3%	5½%	4½%

a On Nov. 29 1928 the fiduciary currency was amalgamated with Bank of England note issues adding at that time £234,199,000 to the amount of Bank of England notes outstanding.

**T**HE weekly statement of the Bank of France dated May 20 reveals an increase in gold holdings of 255,474,930 francs. The total of gold now stands at 78,906,967,186 francs, in comparison with 55,632,650,347 francs at the corresponding week a year ago and 43,802,413,636 francs two years ago. Credit balances abroad and bills bought abroad show decreased of 69,000,000 francs and 799,000,000 francs respectively. Notes in circulation record a reduction of 503,000,000 francs, reducing the total of the item to 81,247,228,040 francs. The total of circulation a year ago was 76,825,870,810 francs and two years ago 70,906,689,425 francs. Decreases also appear in French commercial bills discounted of 101,000,000 francs, in advances against securities of 48,000,000 francs and in creditor current accounts of 274,000,000 francs. The proportion of gold on hand to sight liabilities is now 72.66% which compares with 55.86%

a year ago and 49.85% two years ago. Below we furnish a comparison of the various items for three years:

BANK OF FRANCE'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

Changes for Week.	Status as of			
	May 20 1932.	May 22 1931.	May 23 1930.	
Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	
Gold holdings... Inc.	255,474,930	78,906,967,186	55,632,650,347	43,802,413,636
Credit bals. abr'd. Dec.	69,000,000	4,585,471,998	5,650,990,157	6,878,477,347
French commercial bills discounted... Dec.	101,000,000	3,450,207,431	5,344,470,697	8,783,251,488
Bills bought abr'd. Dec.	799,000,000	5,433,736,535	20,506,045,265	18,702,084,018
Adv. agt. securs. Dec.	48,000,000	2,720,940,464	2,770,350,865	2,621,029,026
Note circulation... Dec.	503,000,000	81,247,228,040	76,825,870,810	70,906,689,425
Cred. curr. accts. Dec.	274,000,000	27,353,121,760	22,775,055,404	18,775,384,419
Proportion of gold on hand to sight liabilities... Inc.	0.75%	72.66%	55.86%	49.85%

a Includes bills purchased in France. b Includes bills discounted abroad.

THE Bank of Germany in its statement for the third quarter of May records an increase of 4,800,000 marks in gold and bullion. The total of gold is now 856,284,000 marks, which compares with 2,370,420,000 marks last year and 2,585,859,000 marks the previous year. A decrease is shown in reserve in foreign currency of 4,562,000 marks, in bills of exchange and checks of 216,149,000 marks, in advances of 7,251,000 marks and in other assets of 37,692,000 marks. The items of "deposits abroad" and "investments" remain unchanged. Notes in circulation show a loss of 183,671,000 marks, reducing the total of the item to 3,739,275,000 marks. Total circulation a year ago stood at 3,751,395,000 marks and two years ago at 4,045,769,000 marks. The items of silver and other coin, notes on other German banks, other daily maturing obligations and other liabilities reveal increases of 96,568,000 marks, 3,764,000 marks, 10,649,000 marks and 12,500,000 marks respectively. The proportion of gold and foreign currency to notes circulation rose to 26.5% as compared with 68.4% a year ago and 72.4% two years ago. Below we furnish a comparison of the various items for three years:

REICHSBANK'S COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

Assets—	Changes for Week.			
	Reichsmarks.	Reichsmarks.	Reichsmarks.	Reichsmarks.
	May 23 1932.	May 23 1931.	May 23 1930.	
Gold and bullion... Inc.	4,800,000	856,284,000	2,370,420,000	2,585,859,000
Of which depos. abr'd. Unchanged		89,156,000	207,638,000	149,788,000
Res'v'n for'n curr. Dec.	4,562,000	134,630,000	196,564,000	342,678,000
Bills of exch. & checks Dec.	216,149,000	2,798,891,000	1,430,498,000	1,519,662,000
Silver and other coin... Inc.	96,568,000	333,443,000	199,668,000	167,772,000
Notes on oth. Ger. bks. Inc.	3,764,000	11,036,000	20,856,000	23,157,000
Advances... Dec.	7,251,000	95,150,000	67,070,000	53,347,000
Investments... Unchanged		361,561,000	102,710,000	101,125,000
Other assets... Dec.	37,692,000	783,391,000	472,266,000	618,529,000
Liabilities				
Notes in circulation... Dec.	183,671,000	3,739,275,000	3,751,395,000	4,045,769,000
Oth. daily matur. oblig. Inc.	10,649,000	364,566,000	374,394,000	680,188,000
Other liabilities... Inc.	12,500,000	703,119,000	246,932,000	192,245,000
Proport. of gold & for'n curr. to note circ'n. Inc.	1.2%	26.5%	68.4%	72.4%

MONEY rates in the New York market showed no material change this week from the levels previously prevalent. Funds were available in vast amounts, but the demand remained poor. In the Stock Exchange money market call loans were 2½% for all transactions, whether renewals or new loans. Banking house funds were available every day in the unofficial "Street" market at concessions from the official figure. Trades were reported in the "Street" market at 1½% Monday, 1¼% Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and 1½% yesterday. Time loans also were in poor demand, with levels unchanged. Indicative of the results of the Federal Reserve open market operations was a sale of Treasury discount bills in the amount of \$60,050,000, Monday, at an average discount for the 91-day obligations of 0.29%. Yesterday \$100,200,000 of 90-day bills were disposed of on a discount basis of 0.32 of 1%. One week earlier \$75,000,000 of similar bills

were sold at 0.43%, while two weeks earlier the average figure on \$75,000,000 bills was 0.68%. Brokers' loans against stock and bond collateral, as reported for the week to Wednesday night by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, declined \$21,000,000 to an aggregate of only \$393,000,000. Gold continues to flow from New York to Europe at a rate limited only by the available insurance. The official figures for the week to Wednesday night were: Exports, \$73,348,000; imports, \$1,252,000, and a net decrease of \$2,419,000 in the earmarked stock of the metal.

DEALING in detail with call loan rates of the Stock Exchange from day to day, 2½% was the rate ruling all through the week, both for new loans and renewals. In time money there has been no change in the market, there being absolutely no demand. Rates are quoted nominally at 1½% for all dates. Prime commercial paper continues in good demand, and dealers quickly disposed of all paper obtainable. Quotations for choice names of four to six months' maturity are 2¾@3%. Names less well known are 3½%. On some very high-class 90-day paper occasional transactions at 2½% were noted.

PRIME bankers' acceptances have been slow this week, with very little paper available. Rates are unchanged. The quotations of the American Acceptance Council for bills up to and including three months are 1% bid, 7/8% asked; for four months, 1 1/8% bid and 1% asked; for five and six months, 1 3/8% bid and 1 1/4% asked. The bill buying rate of the New York Reserve Bank is 2½% for all maturities. The Federal Reserve banks show further decrease in their holdings of acceptances, the total having fallen from \$40,643,000 to \$38,373,000. Their holdings of acceptances for foreign correspondents also further decreased, falling from \$239,948,000 to \$216,402,000. 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	1 3/4	1 3/4	1 3/8	1 3/4	1 3/4	1
	—90 Days—		—60 Days—		—30 Days—	
	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.
Prime eligible bills	1	3/4	1	3/4	1	3/4
	FOR DELIVERY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS.					
Eligible member banks	1 3/4% bid					
Eligible non-member banks	1 3/4% bid					

THERE have been no changes this week in the rediscount rates of the Federal Reserve banks. 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 CLASSES AND MATURITIES OF ELIGIBLE PAPER.

Federal Reserve Bank.	Rate in Effect on May 27.	Date Established.	Previous Rate.
Boston	3 1/4	Oct. 17 1931	2 1/2
New York	3	Feb. 26 1932	3 1/2
Philadelphia	3 1/4	Oct. 22 1931	3
Cleveland	3 1/2	Oct. 24 1931	3
Richmond	3 1/2	Jan. 25 1932	4
Atlanta	3 1/2	Nov. 14 1931	3
Chicago	3 1/2	Oct. 17 1931	2 1/2
St. Louis	3 1/2	Oct. 22 1931	2 1/2
Minneapolis	3 1/2	Sept. 12 1930	4
Kansas City	3 1/2	Oct. 23 1931	3
Dallas	3 1/2	Jan. 28 1932	4
San Francisco	3 1/2	Oct. 21 1931	2 1/2

STERLING exchange was quiet and somewhat inactive on Saturday last and on Monday and Tuesday. On any sign of demand, however, it was plain to foreign exchange traders that the pound was basically firm. On Wednesday there was evidence

of renewed nervousness on the part of European bankers and foreign exchange traders with the result that dollars were heavily sold in all the Continental markets and European currencies and sterling moved up sharply. In Wednesday's trading, French francs made a new high for the year at 3.95½, and sterling went to 3.69¾ for cable transfers, compared with closing rates for cable transfers on Friday of last week of 3.67¾. The range this week has been from 3.67¼ to 3.69¾ for bankers' sight bills, compared with 3.65½ to 3.68¾ last week. The range for cable transfers has been from 3.67¾ to 3.69¾, compared with 3.65¼ to 3.68¾ a week ago. The market confidently anticipated a reduction in the Bank of England rate on Thursday to 2% from the present 2½% level, and in fact a rate of 1½% is almost as confidently expected. However, the Bank made no change in its rate. Again, as a week ago, the outstanding event in the market was the heavy purchase of gold by the Bank of England. Last week, it will be recalled, the Bank of England bought £2,012,665 of bar gold in London. The details of the transaction, though clouded in obscurity were generally attributed to some manoeuvre between the British Treasury and the Bank of England, operating through the exchange stabilization account. This week the Bank of England bought £1,234,477 of gold bars in the London open market, presumably at open market rates, which are around 112s. 10d., or about 28s. above the rate fixed by law for gold purchases by the Bank of England. It is said in London that the difference between the Bank's normal rate of 84s. 10d. will be made good by the Treasury Department out of the £150,000,000 stabilization account.

In addition to the above open market purchase, the Bank of England withdrew from New York this week \$5,108,000 of presumably earmarked gold. The market believes that the Bank of England is prepared to convert further large sums of dollar balances into gold and will withdraw them to London regardless of exchange rates. The market sees in these movements a determined intention on the part of the British authorities to strengthen the reserve with a view to ultimate return to gold. It is understood that the Bank of England has during the past week or more acquired £3,000,000 of gold in Paris, which is believed to have been earmarked at the Bank of France in the same way as the gold taken this week from the Federal Reserve Bank. According to press dispatches on Wednesday, Major Walter Elliott, Financial Secretary of the Treasury, announced in the House of Commons that Great Britain has no intention of returning to the gold standard "while gold prices behave as they are doing now." Mr. Elliott's statement was made in response to persistent demands for a specific promise by members of the Commons not to permit external events such as the United States reflation policy to precipitate a too hasty return to the gold standard. This interpolation would almost confirm a belief held widely in all markets that nothing could prevent the rapid advance of the pound sterling to full gold parity of 4.8665.

The pound is apparently prevented from rising to its former levels by market manipulation by the British banking authorities. Confidence in sterling and the London market seems to have become universally restored. Money is abundant in London and the liquid resources of both home and foreign

funds are perhaps as great as at any time prior to the crisis of last September. Gold imports into London during the past ten weeks exceeded exports by more than £16,000,000. The expectation of a lower Bank rate is based largely on the trend of the money market. Call money against bills has been easy throughout the week at from 1% to ¾%, 2 months' bills at 1½%, 3 months' bills at 1½% to 1 3-16%, 4 months' bills at 1 3-16% to 1¼%, and 6 months' bills at 1¾%. This week the Bank of England shows an increase in gold holdings of £2,238,605, the total standing on May 25 at £125,761,106, compared with £152,078,027 a year ago. The Bank's ratio of reserves to liabilities increased during the week 3.55% to 34.70%.

At the Port of New York the gold movement for the week ended May 25, as reported by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, consisted of imports of \$1,252,000, of which \$996,000 came from Canada, \$129,000 from Mexico, \$82,000 from India and \$45,000 chiefly from Latin American countries. Gold exports totaled no less than \$73,348,000, of which \$23,561,000 was shipped to France, \$23,225,000 to Holland, \$12,069,000 to Switzerland, \$7,585,000 to Belgium, \$5,108,000 to England and \$1,800,000 to Germany. The Reserve Bank reported a decrease of \$2,419,000 in gold earmarked for foreign account. In tabular form the gold movement at the Port of New York for the week ended May 25, as reported by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, was as follows:

## GOLD MOVEMENT AT NEW YORK, MAY 19-MAY 25, INCLUSIVE.

<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
\$996,000 from Canada	\$23,561,000 to France
129,000 from Mexico	23,225,000 to Holland
82,000 from India	12,069,000 to Switzerland
45,000 chiefly from Latin-American countries	7,585,000 to Belgium
	5,108,000 to England
	1,800,000 to Germany
<hr/>	<hr/>
\$1,252,000 total	\$73,348,000 total
<i>Net Change in Gold Earmarked for Foreign Account.</i>	
Decrease \$2,419,000	

The above figures are for the week ended Wednesday evening. On Thursday there were no imports of gold. Exports amounted to \$1,087,800 of which \$1,050,500 was shipped to Holland and \$37,300 to Peru. Gold earmarked for foreign account increased \$4,999,800. Yesterday there were no imports, but gold exports amounted to \$31,323,800 of which \$20,193,200 went to France, \$5,550,000 went to Holland, \$4,175,200 went to Belgium, \$1,002,600 to Switzerland and \$402,800 went to England. During the week approximately \$1,145,000 in gold was received at San Francisco from China.

Canadian exchange continues at a severe discount, on average somewhat less favorable to Montreal than in several weeks. On Saturday last Montreal funds were at a discount of 13%, on Monday at 13¼%, on Tuesday at 13%, on Wednesday at 12½%, on Thursday at 12% and on Friday at 12½%.

Referring to day-to-day rates, sterling exchange on Saturday last was steady in a dull short session. Bankers' sight was 3.67¼@3.67½; cable transfers 3.67¾@3.67¾. On Monday sterling was quiet but firmer. The range was 3.67½@3.67¾ for bankers' sight and 3.67¾@3.68 for cable transfers. On Tuesday sterling was in demand. Bankers' sight was 3.67¾@3.68½ cable transfers 3.67¾@3.68¾. On Wednesday sterling and Continental exchange was firm. The range was 3.68¾@3.69¾ for bankers' sight and 3.68¾@3.69¾ for cable transfers. On Thursday the market was steady. The range was 3.68¾@3.69¾ for bankers' sight and 3.68½@

3.69 $\frac{3}{4}$  for cable transfers. On Friday the range was 3.68 $\frac{3}{8}$ @3.69 $\frac{1}{4}$  for bankers' sight and 3.68 $\frac{1}{2}$ @3.69 $\frac{3}{8}$  for cable transfers. Closing quotations on Friday were 3.69 $\frac{1}{4}$  for demand and 3.69 $\frac{3}{8}$  for cable transfers. Commercial sight bills finished at 3.68 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 60-day bills at 3.67 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 90-day bills at 3.66 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; documents for payment (60 days) at 3.67 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and 7-day grain bills at 3.68 $\frac{3}{4}$ . Cotton and grain for payment closed at 3.68 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

**EXCHANGE** on the Continental countries is generally firm, though inactive. The firmness is due to the selling of dollars in Europe rather than to demand for foreign currencies arising on this side. However, the fact must not be lost sight of that as a seasonal matter the European currencies in normal times would be in particular demand around this season, and, though tourist demand falls far below former years, it forms nevertheless a considerable requirement and the demand will increase from now until the end of September. One important source of demand for exchange on the European countries, which is apparent at this time and has in fact been in evidence for more than a year, is the migration of many rich and well-to-do Americans who during the depression have found it more convenient to live temporarily in Europe rather than to draw too seriously on their capital, since ordinary dividend income has been largely eliminated. Germany alone expects a record tourist income this year derived especially from Americans. German marks are steady. Much mystery seems to surround the repeated small gold shipments from this side to Germany. Mark exchange is practically nominal, and at no time since June has it been possible for the quotation to touch the export point for gold from New York. The best conclusion of the market seems to be that most of these small shipments of gold are for trans-shipment to smaller European countries. There is nothing essentially new in the mark situation. The Berlin money market, like those of Amsterdam, Paris, London and New York, has a plethora of funds, though money rates are kept high in Berlin owing to Government control of all financial operations. The Berlin market cannot be brought into line with other markets until the international political debt impasse is overcome. In other words, Berlin is not a free market.

French francs are firm and in Wednesday's trading touched a new high for the year when cable transfers were quoted 3.95 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The extreme excess of loanable money in Paris is illustrated by the fact that loans on defense bonds, which constitute the principal means of employing liquid resources, are now made at 1% for one month and at 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ % for three months. This week the Bank of France shows an increase in gold holdings of 255,474,930 francs, bringing the total gold of the bank on May 20 to the record high level of 78,906,967,186 francs, which compares with 55,632,650,347 francs on May 22 1931 and with 28,935,000,000 francs in June 1928 following stabilization of the unit. The Bank's ratio is at a new high level of 72.66%, compared with 71.91% on May 13, with 55.86% a year ago, and with legal requirement of 35%. Other Continental exchanges present no new features of importance.

The London check rate on Paris closed at 93.28 on Friday of this week, against 93.08 on Friday of last week. In New York sight bills on the French centre finished on Friday at 3.94 $\frac{3}{4}$  against 3.94 $\frac{5}{8}$

on Friday of last week; cable transfers at 3.94 $\frac{7}{8}$  against 3.94 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and commercial sight bills at 3.94 $\frac{7}{8}$  against 3.94 $\frac{5}{8}$ . Antwerp belgas finished at 14.01 $\frac{1}{2}$  for bankers' sight bills and at 14.02 for cable transfers, against 14.02 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 14.03. Final quotations for Berlin marks were 23.67 for bankers' sight bills and 23.68 for cable transfers, in comparison with 23.85 and 23.86. Italian lire closed at 5.13 $\frac{3}{4}$  for bankers' sight bills and at 5.14 for cable transfers, against 5.14 and 5.14 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Austrian schillings closed at 14.12, against 14.13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; exchange on Czechoslovakia at 2.97 $\frac{1}{4}$ , against 2.97 $\frac{1}{8}$ ; on Bucharest at 0.60 $\frac{1}{4}$ , against 0.60 $\frac{3}{8}$ ; on Poland at 11.22 $\frac{1}{2}$ , against 11.22 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and on Finland at 1.72 $\frac{3}{4}$ , against 1.74 $\frac{1}{2}$ @1.74 $\frac{3}{4}$ . Greek exchange closed at 0.65 $\frac{3}{4}$  for bankers' sight bills and at 0.66 for cable transfers, against 0.65 $\frac{3}{4}$  and 0.66.

**EXCHANGE** on the countries neutral during the war continues to manifest the trends apparent for the past several weeks. The Scandinavian units are fluctuating within narrow limits following the trend of sterling exchange, with which they are closely allied. As pointed out here last week, the Spanish Government is taking steps to prevent too rapid an advance in peseta exchange. The peseta has shown a very firm tone for the past several weeks, but is held somewhat in check at present, indicating that the Bank of Spain is doubtless meeting with some measure of success. The Bank of Spain's statement for the week ended May 23 shows a slight increase in gold holdings, the total standing at 2,253,100,000 pesetas, compared with 2,252,700,000 pesetas a week earlier and with 2,423,884,000 pesetas a year ago. At this time last year it was thought that Spain was approaching a period of inflation when circulation rose to 5,160,437,000 pesetas. Circulation has declined almost steadily since that time and on May 23 the total outstanding was 4,869,100,000 pesetas.

Holland guilders and Swiss francs have been exceptionally firm for some time owing to the heavy inflow of foreign funds to both countries seeking domicile. Both the guilder and the Swiss franc moved down in the early part of the week, but this indication of softness was more apparent than real, as with the new flight of Europe from the United States dollar on Wednesday, both currencies moved up sharply. As noted above in the story on sterling exchange, New York shipped \$12,690,000 gold to Switzerland and \$23,225,000 gold to Holland. It is believed that heavy shipments of gold from the United States to both countries, representing largely official transactions, will continue for the next three or four weeks and then dry up. The supply of short-term money in Holland and Switzerland has been greatly augmented by the capital which has been flowing to these countries for safekeeping and which has been kept in a condition of great liquidity. One reason the central banks of both countries are taking gold from New York and other centers is to insure the liquidity of these foreign funds, which must certainly be withdrawn at short notice when business confidence returns in other countries.

Bankers' sight on Amsterdam finished on Friday at 40.54 $\frac{1}{2}$ , against 40.52 on Friday of last week; cable transfers at 40.55, against 40.53, and commercial sight bills at 40.50, against 40.48. Swiss francs closed at 19.58 $\frac{3}{4}$  for bankers' sight bills and at 19.59 for cable transfers, against 19.59 and 19.59 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Copenhagen checks finished at 20.14 and

cable transfers at 20.15, against 20.12 and 20.13. Checks on Sweden closed at 18.89 and cable transfers at 18.90, against 18.89 and 18.90; while checks on Norway finished at 18.39 and cable transfers at 18.40, against 18.39 and 18.40. Spanish pesetas closed at 8.23½ for bankers' sight bills and at 8.24 for cable transfers, against 8.24½ and 8.25.

**E**XCHANGE on the South American countries presents no new features of importance, although exchange on Argentina and Brazil (both under exchange control boards) has been slightly firmer in tone the past few weeks. The Argentine foreign trade position continues to show improvement. For the first four months of the year the country reports an export surplus of \$67,000,000, compared with an export surplus of \$7,000,000 for the corresponding period last year. The substantial export surplus has been brought about largely by a sharp curtailment of imports. Dr. Carlos Alfredo Tornquist, Argentine banker, estimates that the export surplus for the entire year will be \$100,000,000. This estimate is based upon an anticipated reduction in export values in the coming months due to heavy shipments in the early part of the year and to the lower exportable balance of corn. The Argentine Foreign Exchange Control Board maintains that its operations have been entirely successful in stopping the excessive loss of gold by Argentina. During the first quarter of the year only 4,984,926 gold pesos were exported compared with 65,609,000 gold pesos in the corresponding period a year ago. Foreign exchange purchases during the first quarter by Argentine banks amounted to 426,856,700 paper pesos. Foreign exchange sold during the same period amounted to 425,359,200 paper pesos. Of the exchange sold by the banks during the quarter, 211,805,300 paper pesos were for the payment of imported merchandise, 60,000,000 for financial services, including interest on the public debt, dividend payments by foreign corporations, &c.; 68,000,000 for private remittances and the remainder for ordinary remittances of foreign owned public utilities. The report of the Exchange Control Board states that foreign exchange purchases include an influx of funds from abroad for investment in Argentine enterprises, notably manufacturing. Further growth is anticipated in this direction, leading to the belief that the Argentine balance of payments will be favorable this year.

Argentine paper pesos closed on Friday at 25¼ for bankers' sight bills, against 25¼ on Friday of last week; cable transfers at 25.90, against 25.90. Brazilian milreis are nominally quoted 7.20 for bankers' sight bills and 7.25 for cable transfers, against 6.80 and 6.85. Chilean exchange is nominally quoted 6½, against 6½. Peru is nominally quoted 23.00, against 28.00.

**E**XCHANGE on the Far Eastern countries continues to be overshadowed by political developments in Japan. The new "national" Government headed by Admiral Viscount Saito with a cabinet embracing leading men of both major political parties was invested with authority on May 26. The new Government, it is generally believed will end the crisis which existed since the assassination of Premier Inukai on May 16. Korekiyo Takahashi is the new Finance Minister. Yen fluctuated rather widely during the week but on the whole, showed a much

firmer tone following the announcement of the selection of Admiral Saito as Premier. The Japanese Diet convened in extraordinary session on Monday in accordance with the month-old summons from the cabinet of the late Premier Inukai. Among the first matters it will consider are higher tariffs, currency reform and foreign exchange control. Bills are being drafted for State socialization of the raw silk trade. It is believed that the plan will enable the Japanese Government to control the world market for natural silk. It is doubtful if this plan will receive final legislative sanction before the regular winter session. The tariff bill, approved by the Tariff Commission, and calling for 35% higher duties, will doubtless be imposed at once. So, it is expected, will a measure for foreign exchange control. The Diet is expected to increase the fiduciary issue from Y. 120,000,000 to Y. 1,000,000,000. The Bank of Japan law will probably be amended in order to make the directors more amenable to the policy of the Finance Ministry in this respect. Japan has what is known as an elastic limit system. The Bank is required to hold as reserve against its outstanding notes an equal amount of gold and silver coins and bullion; silver coins and bullion, however, may not exceed one-fourth of the entire reserve. The Bank may in addition, issue notes, not exceeding 120,000,000 yen in all (the fiduciary issue), against Government loan bonds, Treasury bills, commercial bills, or other reliable securities. If to increase the circulating medium, it is found necessary to exceed this sum, the Bank must pay an issue tax of not less than 5%. As the Bank of Japan is privately owned it has always followed a policy of keeping the fiduciary issue within the taxing limit. The Bank objects now to increasing the issue on a tax basis.

The Chinese silver units are quiet, reflecting the tone of the silver market. Hong Kong and Shanghai are steady. Silver was officially quoted in the New York market this week at from 27¾ to 27⅞ cents an ounce. The lack of interest which India has shown in the silver market is illustrated in the trade returns. Net private imports of silver during the fiscal year ended March were valued at only 259 lacs of rupees compared with 1,164 lacs the previous year (a lac equals 100,000). India and China are the two largest consumers of silver and the almost total suspension of Indian buying in world markets is one of the major factors in preventing silver from reacting to the constantly dwindling production. Prices are fairly stable, but the decline in production has kept pace with the decline in consumption. Silver authorities claim that an improvement in the Indian demand would do more to increase the price of silver than any governmental action now contemplated. Exports of gold from India since September have resulted in such an improvement in the Indian trade balance as to have completely done away with talk of the necessity of revision in the rupee value. In March 1927, upon the recommendation of the Indian Royal Currency Commission, the value of the rupee was fixed at 1s. 6d. Unfavorable developments since that time had made the maintenance of the rate difficult and there was much agitation in India for a revalorization of 1s. 4d. The improvement in the balance of payments since September seems to have removed the difficulty at least for the time being.

Closing quotations for yen checks yesterday were 31⅞, against 31¼ on Friday of last week. Hong

Kong closed at 23<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@23 15-16, against 23<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>@24 1-16; Shanghai at 30 13-16@30<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>, against 30 15-16 @31.00; Manila at 49<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>, against 49<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>; Singapore at 42<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>, against 42<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>; Bombay at 27.70, against 27 9-16, and Calcutta at 27.70, against 27 9-16.

**P**URSUANT 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 passed:

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES CERTIFIED BY FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS TO TREASURY UNDER TARIFF ACT OF 1922, MAY 21 1932 TO MAY 27 1932, INCLUSIVE.

Country and Monetary Unit.	Noon Buying Rate for Cable Transfers in New York, Value in United States Money.					
	May 21.	May 23.	May 24.	May 25.	May 26.	May 27.
<b>EUROPE—</b>						
Austria, schilling	1.39650	1.39550	1.39590	1.39650	1.39550	1.39650
Belgium, belga	1.40203	1.40173	1.40100	1.40026	1.40203	1.40119
Bulgaria, lev	.007200	.007200	.007200	.007200	.007200	.007200
Czechoslovakia, krona	.029675	.029675	.029666	.029670	.029672	.029668
Denmark, krone	2.00415	2.00584	2.00738	2.00923	2.00984	2.01038
England, pound sterling	3.672916	3.676583	3.678916	3.689000	3.692166	3.683500
Finland, markka	.017083	.017166	.017166	.017166	.017166	.017166
France, franc	.039474	.039472	.039473	.039473	.039481	.039492
Germany, reichsmark	2.38339	2.37900	2.37085	2.3821	2.36885	2.36664
Greece, drachma	.006368	.006343	.006335	.006375	.006335	.006290
Holland, guilder	.405185	.405135	.404789	.405357	.405428	.405360
Hungary, pengo	.174225	.174700	.174750	.174250	.174250	.174500
Italy, lira	.051436	.051410	.051340	.051338	.051394	.051372
Norway, krone	1.83492	1.83607	1.83700	1.83776	1.83415	1.83353
Poland, zloty	.111750	.111750	.111833	.111875	.111750	.111750
Portugal, escudo	.033225	.033375	.033250	.033375	.033375	.033375
Rumania, leu	.005979	.005962	.005970	.005970	.005970	.005970
Spain, peseta	.082264	.081971	.082364	.082507	.082544	.082392
Sweden, krona	.188784	.188000	.188107	.188430	.189569	.188983
Switzerland, franc	1.95810	1.95626	1.95635	1.95753	1.95794	1.95753
Yugoslavia, dinar	.017743	.017750	.017735	.017750	.017750	.017756
<b>ASIA—</b>						
China						
Chefoo tael	.317083	.313333	.314583	.315000	.315833	.314791
Hankow tael	.315000	.311250	.312500	.312916	.313750	.312708
Shanghai tael	.305312	.301875	.303125	.303750	.304375	.303281
Tientsin tael	.320416	.316666	.317916	.318333	.319166	.318125
Hong Kong dollar	.234375	.232812	.233750	.234062	.234375	.234687
Mexican dollar	.217812	.213750	.215625	.215937	.216250	.215625
Tientsin or Pelyang dollar	.222500	.218750	.220416	.220416	.221250	.220416
Yuan dollar	.219166	.215000	.217083	.217083	.217500	.216666
India, rupee	.273500	.273000	.273500	.274000	.274250	.273750
Japan, yen	.312500	.314400	.316500	.316250	.316125	.316500
Singapore (S.S.) dollar	.422500	.422500	.421250	.423125	.422500	.422500
<b>NORTH AMER.</b>						
Canada, dollar	.870625	.865520	.870625	.872500	.880104	.876510
Cuba, peso	.999206	.999268	.999268	.999268	.999268	.999268
Mexico, peso	.297166	.295533	.296066	.295900	.295666	.296833
Newfoundland, dollar	.867750	.863125	.868500	.870375	.878000	.873750
<b>SOUTH AMER.</b>						
Argentina, peso (gold)	.583454	.583454	.584187	.584187	.582545	.584211
Brazil, milreis	.073125	.073000	.073200	.073587	.073691	.073708
Chile, peso	.060000	.060000	.060000	.060000	.060000	.060000
Uruguay, peso	.475833	.475833	.475833	.475000	.474166	.474166
Colombia, peso	.952400	.952400	.952400	.952400	.952400	.952400

**T**HE following table indicates the amount of gold bullion in the principal European banks as of May 26 1932, together with comparisons as of the corresponding dates in the four previous years:

Banks of—	1932.	1931.	1930.	1929.	1928.
England	£ 125,761,106	£ 152,078,027	£ 158,116,699	£ 163,269,940	£ 162,902,473
France	631,255,737	445,061,202	350,419,309	292,721,812	147,137,702
Germany	38,356,400	108,139,100	121,803,550	80,079,400	97,754,050
Spain	90,108,000	96,933,000	98,803,000	102,408,000	104,317,000
Italy	60,885,000	57,479,000	56,279,000	55,434,000	51,203,000
Netherlands	76,976,000	37,498,000	35,993,000	36,420,000	36,262,000
Nat. Belg.	72,183,000	41,320,000	34,179,000	27,491,000	22,053,000
Switzerland	74,297,000	25,711,000	23,153,000	19,844,000	17,600,000
Sweden	11,442,000	13,309,000	13,515,000	13,031,000	12,875,000
Denmark	8,032,000	9,552,000	9,567,000	9,595,000	10,105,000
Norway	6,561,000	8,133,000	8,144,000	8,156,000	8,171,000
Total week	1,195,857,243	995,213,329	905,051,817	808,449,152	670,380,225
Prev. week	1,187,407,289	994,291,619	904,918,967	808,567,439	669,561,665

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 24,457,800.

**On the Eve of the Lausanne Conference.**

With the scheduled meeting of the Lausanne Conference less than three weeks away, and with no indication of agreement among the Powers regarding either the program to be followed or the attitude to be taken toward any of the questions which it has been expected would be discussed, the positions which individual Powers are likely to assume afford about the only indication of what may be looked for in case the Conference finds itself actually able to take any action. The position of Germany, of course, remains unchanged, Chancellor Bruening

having abated nothing of his contention that Germany will not, because it cannot, make further reparations payments. The United States still declines to concern itself with reparations or to allow the issues of reparations and debts to be joined, and there will be, it is understood, not even an American observer at the Conference. The position of France, on the other hand, as not only the largest creditor for reparations but also the most uncompromising opponent thus far of any surrender or serious modification of reparations claims, is particularly important because of the approaching installation of a new Government, while the omission of both reparations receipts and war debt payments from the British budget raises pointedly the question of what the future policy of Great Britain in those matters is likely to be.

Paris dispatches of the past few days have reported a practical agreement in all circles of French public opinion that the new Government, which it is expected will be formed next week, will be headed by M. Herriot. Precisely what combination of parties M. Herriot will be able to effect is not yet clear, but there seems no reason to doubt that the principal differences of opinion which he will have to adjust concern disarmament and the questions which are expected to be debated at Lausanne. On these differences some recent events throw an interesting light.

On May 15 Joseph Paul-Boncour, head of the French delegation at the Geneva Disarmament Conference and the successor of Aristide Briand as the permanent delegate of France to the League of Nations, made a speech which, for some reason that is far from clear, seems to have been taken as indicating a disposition on the part of France to modify its policy regarding disarmament. Speaking at a meeting of French World War veterans at Dijon, M. Paul-Boncour was quoted as saying that "the plan which we have submitted is an adaptation to disarmament of the principles of the protocol of Geneva, which the majority which has just been returned to power is proud of having incorporated in our foreign policy. It does not mean, however, that if, despite our efforts, the world—and especially Continental Europe—does not understand that organization of international security by mutual assistance and international force is the first condition of national disarmament, we must withdraw and wash our hands of any blame for a breakdown of the Conference. If we did that, the breakdown of the Conference would serve in a very short time as an excuse for the rearmament of Germany—that is to say, the definite loss of the clauses of the peace treaty which those who fought are most anxious should be retained. We must measure calmly and without demagoguery what reductions are possible in the present state of affairs with those international guarantees we have, and so reach the first stage, which will not give Germany the pretext which one growing party, at least, is waiting for."

It is difficult to see much "conciliation" in M. Paul-Boncour's remarks. France, he declares in substance, will not withdraw and break up the Conference forthwith if it cannot have its way, but its way is nevertheless that of the Geneva protocol, with its guarantees of international force for the protection of any country whose security is threatened, and the continuance of the enforced disarmament of Germany notwithstanding that the nations sur-

rounding it are armed to the teeth. It is the old plea, only somewhat less aggressively phrased, for an international force under the control of the League, without which France will not disarm. That M. Paul-Boncour was not speaking inadvisedly, as far as the attitude of the League is concerned, would seem to be evidenced by the fact that on May 18 the League Council, according to the Geneva correspondent of the New York "Times," "formally approved rules for League supervision of the armies and navies of disputants when war threatens," the rules in question being intended to implement the "Convention for improving the means of preventing war" which the League drew up and submitted to its members some time ago. With the rules adopted, M. Paul-Boncour informed the Council that the Convention would be ratified by France.

M. Paul-Boncour had also something to say in his Dijon speech about the Lausanne Conference. "At Lausanne," he is quoted by the United Press as saying, "we must consolidate our sense of European solidarity with the incontestable rights of reparations." On the day following his speech the members of the Little Entente (Czechoslovakia, Rumania and Jugoslavia), meeting at Belgrade, were reported to have agreed to adopt at Lausanne the same policy toward reparations as they followed at the conferences at London and The Hague—a policy, it should be observed, which is the same as that of France. Jugoslavia, indeed, has gone farther than France in that it has not formally accepted the Hoover moratorium.

The Dijon speech, it is interesting to note, aroused considerable opposition in France, a number of newspapers of the Left coming out against a continuance of the uncompromising policy of M. Tardieu. The immediate effect has been to widen the breach between M. Herriot and the Socialists, without whose support a Government of the Left will be difficult to form. In a statement given out on May 19, M. Herriot placed himself in line with the Tardieu policies. Not only did he accept the Paul-Boncour position regarding reparations, namely, European solidarity and no compromise that would burden the French taxpayers, but he also approved without qualification the Tardieu proposal of an international force under control of the League, and intimated that the French plan would have to be accepted if armament reduction, which he favored, was to be approved. The Socialist press, on the other hand, has been increasingly demanding not only a large reduction in French arms expenditure as a condition of co-operation in any Government, but a radical change of policy toward the whole subject of disarmament and the relations of France with other nations. Particular point is being made of the fact that the annual military expenditure, according to the calculations of the Senate budget reporter, have increased since 1926 from \$232,000,000 to \$472,000,000, that the deficit for the present year is \$80,000,000, and that unless rigid economy or new taxation is resorted to the deficit next year may reach \$240,000,000. Senator Henri de Jouvenel, speaking at Toulouse on May 21, referred to the hint from the United States that there could be no reduction of debts without a reduction in armaments, and declared that "it is perfectly right that if a country has no money to pay its debts it has no right to spend the taxpayers' money on an armaments race between peoples who have all outlawed war." M. Herriot,

however, has not changed, for only last Monday he declared emphatically, in a newspaper interview, that if he became Premier "he would maintain the imprescriptible rights France derived from the peace treaties and from freely signed engagements," that modifications could not be considered until after the obligation of debts and other undertakings had been recognized, and that he would "seek the perfection and modernization of all means of defense until solid international guarantees of peace were obtained."

It is probable that the omission of reparations and war debts from the British budget had some effect in confirming French opinion, but the British mind has continued to view the future with some anxiety, and a recent incident has revived discussion of what will happen if the Lausanne Conference fails. The agreement with the United States which Great Britain is reported as ready to sign, providing for the payment over ten years, with interest at 4%, of the debt payments which were suspended for one year under the Hoover moratorium, is doubtless to be considered, as Sir John Simon told the House of Commons on Wednesday, as "a formal step necessary to give legal effect" to the moratorium, and one that "implies no decision on a question of principle." The agreement is not without a bearing on a question of principle, however, even though it carries with it nothing properly to be described as a decision. The readiness of Great Britain to pay the £32,000,000 due for the moratorium year not only evinces a purpose to make the payments whether the German reparations payments are resumed or not, but may also be fairly interpreted as further confirmation that the nation will not repudiate its war debt. Agreements in the same terms have also been accepted by Italy, France and one or two smaller nations, and Germany has likewise agreed to pay on the same terms the reparations due for the moratorium year, but acceptance by France has been accompanied by open expressions of disappointment that Great Britain should have assented, and of fear lest the British should have been "far too precipitate." The "united front" against America which France and some of its Eastern European allies have hoped for has obviously less solidity now than it was thought to promise before Great Britain acted.

It is easy to understand why political and financial opinion in England should fail to put much hope in the Lausanne Conference as far as the debts are concerned, and decline to follow France or the Little Entente in stressing the obligations of the peace treaties. Beyond doing something to mitigate the shock to public opinion of Germany's refusal to pay, it is at the moment doubtful if anything useful will be accomplished. Indeed, there is no certainty that even that much will be done, notwithstanding the likelihood of further financial and business disorders if the Conference merely assembles and adjourns. There is a possibility, of course, that dissensions in Germany may weaken resistance to the demand that may be expected to be made at Lausanne by the creditor Powers, and force a compromise that the Powers can hail as a victory. The violent scene in the Prussian Diet on Wednesday is clear enough proof that the Hitlerites, in Prussia at least, are still a menace to orderly Government, unemployment distress has provoked some mob outbreaks, and there are disquieting reports of differences of opinion between Chancellor Bruening and President von Hin-



denburg, especially over the recent decree providing for the division of the landed estates of the old East Prussian nobility into small parcels for the benefit of the unemployed. The tension between Germany and Poland over the Free City of Danzig and the territory and City of Memel, both of them former German territory, has increased greatly during the past few weeks, and the declaration of a transfer moratorium by Austria is again reported to be imminent. Only a full recognition of the extreme gravity of the European situation, particularly in Germany and Eastern Europe, joined to a spirit of constructive and not irritating compromise, can apparently prevent further calamity. The situation calls loudly for statesmanship of the highest order.

### **Suggestions for Revising Pennsylvania Banking Law.**

At the thirty-eighth annual session of the Pennsylvania Bankers' Association, held last week in Pittsburgh, revision of State banking laws was by far the most important topic under consideration. The large number of failures of State banks in the Keystone State during the past year caused leading Pennsylvania bankers to co-operate with the Secretary of Banking, Dr. William D. Gordon, in devising proposed legislation which it is hoped will prevent a repetition of the numerous evils which have cropped out as a result of insolvent banks and trust companies passing into the hands of the Secretary for liquidation.

A very large portion of mismanagement, neglect and defalcations has been discovered among the smaller institutions, not merely in the smaller cities and towns but in the larger cities as well. Incompetency, due to a lack of training and experience, would have barred many of the officers and directors of the little banks from gaining a foothold in a large and well organized institution. Citizens of a small community know each other, which is a strong point in favor of the local unit bank, but, on occasions, they become the prey of some designing neighbor who seeks power for devious purposes. Disclosures reveal that loans were made to bank officials without any security, not even an endorser, and that other loans were made to friends and corporations whose credit was poor, without adequate security. Both Philadelphia and Pittsburgh have contributed to the scandalous developments.

Based upon these revelations which have come under his personal observation, and after consultation with able bankers and lawyers, Secretary Gordon submitted at the Pittsburgh convention recommendations for a draft of a new State banking measure which may help to guide those who desire to strengthen the banking situation in other States.

Among the "dont's" recommended is one prohibiting the purchase of stocks and requiring the sale of any such shares now held within a reasonable period. This proposed restriction would be as drastic as that which is now imposed against life insurance companies in the State of New York. The business of a bank is far different, however, from that of a life insurance company. The greatest function of a bank is to lend money so as to aid industry and trade, and one of the most convenient forms of collateral which may be deposited to secure a loan is stock. When shares are listed at the New York Stock Exchange, and are actively traded in, it is always possible quickly to ascertain the market

value and to estimate their worth as collateral. Even if a listed stock is not active it is usually possible to obtain a bid and ask quotation, from which the current price may be estimated. Corporations whose stocks are listed make annual reports giving many details; they publish periodic returns of earnings, and when they make bond or stock issues the transactions are at once disclosed. Safety might be attained without entirely closing the door, locking and bolting it.

Restrictions are also recommended as to investments in mortgages and loans upon mortgages, fixing a definite ratio which they shall not exceed with reference to capital and surplus for the purpose of maintaining liquidity as well as the avoidance of losses.

Secretary Gordon looks upon affiliated and subsidiary companies with suspicion, regarding them as often being subterfuges whereby loans too often are made to persons who as individuals are not entitled to credit. Holding companies formed to acquire real estate should especially be barred, according to the Secretary.

Recommendation of a strict limitation as to ownership of real estate is made, and if real estate is obtained through liquidation of a loan the owning bank should be required to dispose of it within five years.

In connection with loans or investments by banks, the imposition of penalties and fines is urged sufficiently large to prevent the acceptance of fees, commissions, bonuses or graft in any form by officers, directors, employees, attorneys or agents.

In former years banks and trust companies were content to be housed in substantial buildings of moderate height erected exclusively for their own use, and to prevent what might be extravagance in this respect the Federal Government prohibited National banks from owning real estate which was not needed in their business. The modern skyscrapers surrounding the old-fashioned bank buildings put a new phase on the situation, and on their original sites many banks have reared tall office buildings which are not regarded as violations of the Federal restrictions. State banks and trust companies have put tremendous amounts of surplus into modern office buildings to which nearly every community "points with pride." Such structures when erected near business centers generally prove profitable and have an advertising feature, but in the boom period building of this form of structures outside of business centers and at suburban towns was overdone to an extent which may justify restrictive legislation.

Dr. Gordon suggests a closer co-operation between the Comptroller of the Currency and State Banking Commissioners to prevent an over-supply of banking facilities for any community, a situation which invites danger. He recommends the ratio of the number of banks to the population of a community be fixed.

Withal, it is acknowledged that the human element is the greatest factor in good banking, and without proper management laws can never be made so effective as Legislatures may desire. A good groundwork, however, has been formed for the consideration of the next Pennsylvania Legislature which will convene in January 1933, in regular session.

There are several debatable subjects which Dr. Gordon did not discuss but which are likely to be

raised when a new banking bill reaches a Pennsylvania legislative committee. These are the question of "double liability" of stockholders, that is, an assessment to the extent of the face value of the shares in case of insolvency; stricter regulation of bank mergers before the Banking Department approves a proposed merger, and third, the subject of sanctioning affiliate companies, State charters for which are sometimes procured by National banks, in order to enable the Federal institutions to conduct business indirectly, which is not authorized by the National Bank Act.

Under Federal laws stockholders of all National banks assume an assessment liability, and many States also provide for similar protection for creditors of State banks and trust companies, but there is no provision of the kind in the Pennsylvania statutes. Experience of the past two years has clearly demonstrated the necessity for closer supervision of bank mergers and the subject of creating affiliate corporations is receiving nation-wide attention.

### Wills May Need Revision.

Tremendous shrinkages in incomes and in market values of securities have played havoc with many estates during the past two years.

Many a testator would turn over in his grave if he could take a glance at the tables of quotations of what he regarded as gilt-edged stocks and bonds during the period of his activity in acquiring what he expected would provide a satisfactory income for his loved ones and for the charities and institutions which he desired to care for in his last will and testament. Such well-intentioned benefactors would also be greatly surprised at the long list of common and preferred stocks of substantial corporations which are quoted as paying no dividend or on which the dividends have been reduced.

The United States is often spoken of as the melting pot. During the past two years it surely has been a crucible in which the merits of corporations have been tried out by subjection to a most crucial ordeal.

In view of this unprecedented and wholly unexpected experience it surely is most fitting that testaments which have not yet been probated should receive careful attention. Not only has there been great depreciation in market values of securities, but of real estate. Values of land and buildings have decreased and with this decrease has come naturally a fall in rentals, causing a reduction in principal and income. Not only families, but institutions such as colleges, universities and hospitals and other beneficial organizations are suffering from reduced incomes.

While it is too late to alter provisions now in operation, owing to the death of testators, it is still within the power of individual beneficiaries to make provisions in their own wills which will overcome defects and will insure that the good intentions of their benefactors as to benevolent bequests are carried out in the spirit of the original philanthropists.

When drafting a will it is quite the common practice for one who makes a will to provide for a number of specific bequests and then to bequeath the residue of an estate to a wife or children under the belief that the residue will be ample to provide for the needs of dependents and those who are most dear to the testator. But under present circumstances it

may have occurred that estates have so shrunk in value that after payment is made of specific bequests the residue will have so shrunk that the good intentions of the maker of the will will be thwarted.

This new aspect of affairs would seem to impose a duty upon trust companies, often the repository of wills, to suggest to their clients the advisability of recasting their testaments, making specific bequests to dependents and if advisable providing that they shall also share in the residue. Accurate schedules of assets and incomes from various sources should be prepared and the wills recast upon the basis of present values and incomes. Delay is dangerous.

The value of policies in strong and well managed life insurance companies would seem to be enhanced as such policies are payable in cash and the present buying power of the dollar is greater than usual. Endowment policies now maturing have special value as the proceeds may be invested to great advantage.

Fire insurance policies are most carefully drawn with a purpose of protecting the insuring company as well as the assured. Most of the numerous conditions printed upon the back of such policies in small type are based upon decisions of the courts, one purpose of such stipulations being to avoid putting a premium upon incendiarism. Under present conditions there is a possibility of the owner of a building being overinsured, which might not be to the advantage of the assured.

### Mr. Lisman in Defense of the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

LISMAN CORPORATION.

New York, May 26 1932.

Editor, Commercial & Financial Chronicle,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:

Referring to comments in the "Chronicle" and other papers on the recent action of the I.-S. C. Commission in recommending a loan of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to the Frisco on condition that the Frisco readjust its finances.

Permit me to present an angle of this matter which does not seem to have had adequate consideration.

The Act which authorized the Reconstruction Finance Corporation distinctly provides for the approval of the I.-S. C. Commission on loans to railroads and the I.-S. C. Commission will undoubtedly be blamed in the future for any substantial losses on such loans.

Taking the Frisco matter by itself as it stands to-day, the Commission either had to disapprove the loan as requested and thus precipitate prompt receivership or, approve it in whole or in part, subject to such conditions as they thought proper. According to my understanding it approved of the loan for imminent requirements after discussing the whole subject with the Frisco's officials or other representatives and they put in certain conditions requiring changes of the financial structure of the company in order to properly secure the loan.

Much bitterness has been caused by the pronouncement of the Commission that the Frisco would not be likely in the future to earn an amount equivalent to its present interest charges. The Commission is being blamed for in effect denouncing securities, the issue of which it has authorized within 36 months. Is it fair to blame them for an error of judgment which, after all, was no greater than that of the officials and bankers who planned and sold the securities and of the investors who bought them? It is not the duty of the Commission to advise the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to the best of its ability—let the chips fall where they may?

It is frequently said that the I.-S. C. Commission has entirely undone the good work which the Reconstruction Finance Corporation was intended to accomplish by psychological effect and otherwise.

The writer, having been connected with the conception of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and its birth pangs felt that its creation was of tremendous importance and likely benefit. However, in the meanwhile, these benefits have been largely negated by the continuing poor business with further great decline in earnings of the railroads and substantially everybody else, together with the Kreuger & Tol. collapse followed by the Insull breakdown; but, worst of all, by the lack of confidence engendered by a leaderless vacillating Congress.

The action of this body in passing through the House of Representatives bills like the Goldwaite Act, absurd taxation provisions, &c., is causing the flight of considerable European capital still invested in this country, either by way of bank reserves or securities and no doubt is causing some additional flight of even American capital.

The Supreme Court has told the I.-S. C. Commission in the Grain Rate Case that they must base their decisions on conditions prevalent at the time such decision is rendered, rather than on previous records. Surely the same principle must apply with equal force to decisions rendered by the I.-S. C. Commission in connection with loans.

The judgment of the I.-S. C. Commission Division on Finance, being composed of four mortals, may be as erroneous now when it compels a financial reorganization of the Frisco, as it was three years ago when it authorized the securities now to be readjusted.

The Commission must take cognizance of the fact that the Frisco appears to have been particularly badly hurt by oil and gasoline pipe lines, by trucks and by the prevailing depression in agriculture, the



## Indications of Business Activity

### THE STATE OF TRADE—COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

*Friday Night, May 27 1932.*

Though some improvement in trade appears here and there, it is not marked enough to alter the fact that business, as a whole, is quiet. Special "sales" are being resorted to by retailers to stimulate trade and where they have been properly handled by persistent advertising, there has been a fair degree of success. The demand, however, is still for cheap or moderate-priced goods. Within these restrictions in the Atlantic States summer merchandise has been in good demand. In the Central West retail trade, though not so good as it was at this time last year, is somewhat better than recently. Coal mines in the Central States are opening after a settlement of the wage scale. Lime-stone quarries in Indiana are resuming work to supply the demand for material for public improvements here and there in this country. Wholesale business makes no response to whatever increase there may have been in retail trade, probably because the increase has not been marked enough. Wool has remained dull. So has leather. Shoe manufacturing is still slow. Steel has remained dull and the output is at the rate of only 25% of capacity. Better things are hoped for the steel business in the last half of the year, perhaps beginning in July. Auto production is increasing. The Ford Motor Co. is now producing 3,500 units each day. The plants of that company throughout the country are running on full time, employing a force of 80,000 men. Petroleum in both Oklahoma and California has been steadier since the United States Supreme Court confirmed the right of Oklahoma to prorate and limit oil production. Production has steadied. Both crude oil and gasoline prices have been more stabilized. Building in this country is still sluggish. In some parts, building of small suburban homes has increased. Lumber has been dull and the output in the Northwest is only 24% of normal, but new sales, it appears are about 7% larger than the production. Pine and fir shipments are larger than recently. Copper mines and smelters, owing to abnormally low prices are in many cases, perhaps most, idle. At the Southwest production is small where the mines and smelters are not closed down. Four coal mines in Pennsylvania are closed.

It is still a noticeable feature in the country's wholesale business that retailers are buying only from hand to mouth. This, of course, hurts, but so does some hesitancy on the part of some wholesalers in granting credits. They stand in their own light. Probably, however, in some instances it is a case of "Once bitten, twice shy." The retail turnover has been so slow that collections have been poor. For many, many months past that has been one of the worst features of business in the United States.

Wheat shows some advance for the week in spite of the fall of beneficial rains in the winter wheat belt and also in the Northwest, where the spring wheat crops seem to be doing very well; in spite, too, of a disappointing export demand, though within 24 hours it is said that at Winnipeg about 1,000,000 bushels of Manitoba wheat has been sold to foreign buyers. In the background is the disappointing winter wheat crop. It may not be over 400,000,000 to 450,000,000 bushels, as against 787,000,000 last year. France has been buying wheat freely of late in Liverpool, and the quota of foreign wheat allowed to French mills has been increased. Drouth has told heavily in the winter wheat section. Rain is still needed. And while in the Northwest the crop outlook is as a rule favorable, some damage is being done in the Dakotas by grasshoppers. Corn has declined slightly, with the weather favorable and the cash demand anything but active. At the same time, country offerings are small. It looks, however, as though the corn acreage this year would be noticeably increased. Other grain has been quiet and rye, with no export demand, has declined 1 to 1½c. Provisions have been quiet and more or less depressed. Lard futures fell 12 to 15 points. Cotton has declined about 25 points under the influence partly of a falling stock market, but also because of disappointing budget news from Washington, and the suspension of Hornby, Hemelryk & Co., of Liverpool, an old house of very high standing. Some of the crop reports about cotton have been favorable, but in the main the cotton belt is too cold at night, so that germination is delayed. At the same time cotton goods are dull, further curtailment plans are

breached and spot cotton has been quiet. Some gray goods, it is stated, have declined ¼c. Coffee has dropped 10 to 28 points, largely owing to realizing after the recent steady advance. Raw sugar went to a new low and then steadied, and futures closed practically unchanged for the week. Some think that sugar has discounted the bear news, especially with the price at an abnormally low level. Rubber has been dull and ends 10 to 14 points lower. Hides have declined. Cocoa futures are off 16 to 18 points. Silk is down 6 to 10 points. Silver on some deliveries is 18 points lower.

It has been a week of dull, dragging, discouraged stock markets. On the 21st inst., were duller than ever. In bonds, United States Government issues advanced, but domestic corporation and foreign bonds fell. Many foreign bonds dropped to new lows for the present movement. On the 23d stocks were almost in static with the trading down to 557,500 shares the smallest since Sept. 1 1931 and next to the smallest since 1925. Net advances and declines were small and just about balanced the monotonous scales. On 24th inst. prices declined with wheat, cotton and no cheering news from Washington. There seemed to be little more than a Babel-like confusion of tongues. Stocks dropped in many cases 3 to 4 points with an average decline on 50 stocks of nearly two points in rather sharp contrast with their practically stationary position for 10 days previously. Five hundred and sixty-eight members of the Exchange petitioned for an extra holiday on May 28 just before Memorial Day on May 30.

On the 25th inst., there were general declines in a larger market, the sales being some 1,300,000 shares. New lows were reached, in many cases, including General Electric, General Motors, American Telephone, United States Steel and American Can, though the net losses were fractional. To-day stocks were lower, with sales of 900,000 shares, with seemingly a prospect of further delay in solving the tax problem, though the trend apparently is favorable to the sales tax as a means of balancing the budget. To-day the dividend on General Electric was reduced. That had been, in a measure, foreseen, but none the less was dreaded. The old rate of 25 cents quarterly was cut to 10 cents and the stock dropped 2¾ points, closing at 10, a new low level. It ended ⅞ under the special stock, which pays at the rate of 6% a year. It was the first time that it had dropped below the special stock. General Electric threw a shadow over the rest of the market, though it was not altogether clear to everybody why it should. United States Steel declined 1½ on the common and 2½ on the preferred, American Can fell 1½, Auburn 2, Eastman and Santa Fe 2¼. Bonds were firm so far as United States Government issues were concerned. Domestic corporation bonds gave way less readily than heretofore but still did give way for the 17th day in succession. Foreign bonds had a downward tendency.

Electric output of United States for the week ended May 21 was 1,436,928,000 in preceding week and 1,644,783,000 in the same week last year according to National Electric Light Association. This is a decrease of 12.7% from same week last year. Chicago wired that Sears, Roebuck & Co.'s report for four weeks from April 25 to May 21 sales of \$23,333,220 against \$30,408,560 in 1931 period, a decrease of 23.3%. For 20 weeks to May 21 sales totalled \$102,134,920 against \$129,154,494 in 1931 period, off 20.9%. Some 75% of the textile commission houses and mill agencies in the Worth Street district, it is stated will close from tonight until next Tuesday morning. Fall River, Mass. reports that the American Printing Co.'s printing department has started 30 additional printing machines, bringing all their machines in operation compared with the recent operating of only 10.

Portland, Me., wired that industrial activity remained quiet in Maine. Textile plants, ship yards, machine shops, furniture factories and granite quarries continued to operate on curtailed schedules. Newsprint mills maintained a fair volume of production, but a recession was noted in shoe factories. In Lewiston one woolen mill reported an increase in employment, but a decrease in cotton textile activity and inactivity of three shirt factories. In North Carolina night work is said to have been suspended indefinitely by the Clinchfield, Hart and Fountain mills. Charlotte, N. C., wired May 25 that for the first time this season some mills

are selling a portion of their raw cotton. At Durham, N. C., the Ruth Hosiery Mills are reported on full time, with both day and night shifts. At Gastonia, N. C., the Myrtle Mill is on full time. The management is encouraging the planting of gardens. At Spindale, N. C., all of the textile manufacturing industries of Spindale are reported operating on a part-time schedule. At Greenville, S. C., two of the largest cotton mills there are closing down for 30 days and the others are on short time, with business dull. At Chester, S. C., the Aragon-Baldwin Cotton Mills, Inc., have closed their plant for four weeks. Night operations were discontinued recently and on reopening the plant will run only days. At York, S. C., the Lockmore Cotton Mills are reported on full-time.

Manchester cabled May 24: "Cotton trade unions of Lancashire announce that they will send out this week-end ballot forms to more than 200,000 operatives in the weaving section of the cotton industry to say whether they are prepared to strike on June 11, as a result of the decision of employers to terminate the agreement that has been in effect on wages and hours or whether they are in favor of trade union officials reopening negotiations with employers. The result of the ballot will be made known on June 6." Bombay cabled on the 24th inst. that the boycott on British goods by the natives was increasing. At Lawrence, Mass., operatives in the Wood Worsted Mill, it is stated, accepted a cut in wages of 20 to 25%. At Lawrence, on the 25th, resumption of operations on a small scale commenced last week in the George E. Kunhardt Mill, after a shut down of about two weeks. Only a small number of former employees were called back.

On the 21st inst. New York temperatures were 55 to 79 but there was enough humidity to make the heat seem much greater. The Western States were generally rainless. Chicago had temperatures of 54 to 56, Cincinnati 64 to 84 and Kansas City 62 to 82. On the 26th inst. New York had a maximum temperature of 85 at 4 p. m. and a minimum of 65. The average of 75 degrees was 11 degrees above that for 46 years. Boston had 92 degrees; Chicago 76, Cincinnati 86, Cleveland 82, Kansas City 76, Minneapolis 56 and Philadelphia 86. Winnipeg temperatures were 30 to 50 degrees. To-day the mercury in New York marked 66 to 75 or 10 degrees below Thursday's highest and the forecast was fair and cooler for Saturday and fair and continued cool on Sunday.

**Current Business Conditions According to Statisticians of the National Industrial Conference Board—Decline in Activity in April Greater Than Seasonal—Gains Shown, However, in Automobile Output and Public Works Construction.**

Though general business activity declined in April under the level of March by an amount which was greater than seasonal, sizeable upturns were registered in automobile output and in public works construction, says the Conference of Statisticians in Industry, operating under the auspices of the National Industrial Conference Board. In the monthly summary of business conditions issued May 20, the Conference of Statisticians add:

The total volume of business activity during the month was at a level somewhat above the low point of the 1920-1921 depression.

Productive activity on the whole declined under the level of March; total distribution by rail freight also declined. Shipments of merchandise and sales by department stores showed slight gains during the month, having increased more than seasonally between March and April.

Automobile production increased by more than the seasonal amount, carrying over into April part of the activity of the industry which in recent years was ordinarily manifested in the first quarter. Building and engineering construction showed a net seasonal gain, owing largely to an increase in public works activities. Steel and iron produced and bituminous coal mined declined more than seasonally. Anthracite shipments increased during the month because of subnormal temperatures in April coupled with low year-end consumers' stocks. Electric power used declined during April more than usual at this time of the year. Standard cotton cloth production declined sharply, against a normally upward seasonal movement.

The total number of passenger cars and trucks produced in the United States and Canada in April, estimated at 146,600, showed a 15% increase over output in March, while the usual seasonal upturn in recent years has been 5%. New passenger car registrations in reporting states to date are more than 50% under a year ago. For the first four months of this year automobile output was 51% under production for the same period last year.

The total dollar value of building and engineering construction contract awards in April, as reported by the F. W. Dodge Corporation for 37 States east of the Rocky Mountains, amounting to \$121,704,800 reflected an 8.4% gain over activity in March. The increase in total awards was approximately seasonal. Residential construction, amounting in dollar values to \$28,894,700, declined by 13% under the amount for March, while the seasonal movement in recent years has been an increase of 9.6%. The estimated area of construction awards declined by 18% under the amount for March, running counter to the average seasonal increase of 5%.

Steel ingot production averaged 47,685 gross tons per day, reflecting a decline under activity in March of 8.7%, the average seasonal movement

in recent years has been a decline of 5%. Pig iron production during the month declined 8.9% under average daily output in March to an average daily output of 28,430 gross tons; the usual seasonal movement is a 1% increase. Unfilled orders with the United States Steel Corporation declined 6% between March and April to a total at the end of April of 2,326,900 gross tons. Operations in April were at an average of 22.5% of capacity as against 24.7% in March and 49.3% in April 1931.

Bituminous coal output, estimated to total 20,283,000 net tons in April showed a 37% decline under output in March; the average decline between March and April in recent years has been 22%. Anthracite shipments increased somewhat in April owing to subnormal temperatures, the total of 4,476,704 gross tons being 14.3% above what they were in March.

Electric power produced in April, averaging 1,469 million kw. hours per week, showed a 3.5% decline under the level in March, moving downward to an extent more than twice as great as is seasonal between the two months. During the first half of May this downward tendency was intensified, although an upward movement was to be expected at this time of the year.

Production of standard cotton cloth, averaging 51,272,250 yards per week in April, declined 10% under production in March, whereas a 1% increase is seasonal. Sales during the month declined faster than did production to the lowest point on record.

Total distribution of commodities measured by carloadings of rail freight showed a 2% decline under carloadings in March to an average weekly total of 556,200 cars. Merchandise and miscellaneous loadings, averaging 387,000 cars per week, increased 3.2%. The average movement in recent years of all carloadings in April is about the same as in March; merchandise and miscellaneous shipments have shown an average increase in recent years of 2.6%.

The dollar value of department store sales in April showed a more than seasonal gain over sales in March, increasing 8.5% as against a normal seasonal gain of 7.1%. As compared with sales a year ago, April transactions were 24% lower. Prices of department store items on the first of May were about 17% below those of a year ago, indicating a decline in the volume of turnover as compared with a year ago. Five and ten cent store sales in April declined 3% in dollar values, while the seasonal movement in recent years was a 2% increase.

Wholesale prices of commodities in April declined almost 1% under the average of prices in March to a level 12% under what they were in April 1931. Prices of hides, leathers, and housefurnishing goods declined more than others. Some signs of stability are still noted in prices of metals and metal products, fuels, and oils.

Commercial failures during the month, totaling 2,816 showed a 4.6% decline under what they were in March, while liabilities incurred, totaling \$101,069,000, increased by 7.8% over their level in March. In recent years the number of failures moved downward by 5% between March and April, while liabilities also moved downward, to the extent of 7%.

Preliminary estimates of employment in manufacturing industries show a 3% decline in April under the level for March. Weekly earnings of those employed during the month declined slightly more than 5%; hourly earnings were about stationary; hours worked per week declined 5%. The cost of living declined somewhat.

Taken as a whole, business activity in April showed a falling off from the level in March to a new low for the depression. The welcome but deferred increase in activity in the automobile industry and the sharp gain in public works construction were insufficient to overcome the declines in other major fields of productive activity. More than seasonal increases in consumer purchasing in April and in the freight distribution of merchandise and miscellaneous items during the month gave some relief to a picture of generally downward movements.

**Loading of Railroad Revenue Freight Still Small.**

Loading of revenue freight for the week ended on May 14 totaled 517,667 cars, according to reports filed by the railroads with the car service division of the American Railway Association and made public on May 24. This was a decrease of 16,010 cars under the preceding week, 229,390 cars below the corresponding week in 1931, and 411,092 cars under the same period two years ago. Details follow:

Miscellaneous freight loading for the week ended on May 14 totaled 192,563 cars, a decrease of 3,627 cars below the preceding week, 108,864 cars under the corresponding week in 1931, and 174,764 cars under the same week in 1930.

Loading of merchandise less than carload lot freight totaled 181,562 cars, a decrease of 3,542 cars below the preceding week, 42,690 cars below the corresponding week last year and 66,573 cars under the same week two years ago.

Grain and grain products loading for the week totaled 28,526 cars, 49 cars below the preceding week, 7,966 cars below the corresponding week last year and 8,958 cars below the same week in 1930. In the Western districts alone, grain and grain products loading for the week ended on May 14 totaled 17,912 cars, a decrease of 6,264 cars below the same week last year.

Coal loading totaled 73,543 cars, a decrease of 6,849 cars below the preceding week, 37,825 cars below the corresponding week last year, and 61,041 cars below the same week in 1930.

Forest products loading totaled 18,797 cars, a decrease of 625 cars below the preceding week, 15,070 cars under the same week in 1931 and 33,992 cars below the corresponding week two years ago.

Ore loading amounted to 2,593 cars, an increase of 400 cars above the week before, but 9,282 cars under the corresponding week last year and 53,513 cars under the same week in 1930.

Coke loading amounted to 3,009 cars, 216 cars below the preceding week, 3,540 cars below the same week last year and 6,256 cars below the same week two years ago.

Live stock loading amounted to 17,074 cars, a decrease of 1,502 cars below the preceding week, 4,153 cars below the same week last year and 5,995 cars below the same week two years ago. In the Western districts alone, loading of live stock for the week ended on May 14 totaled 13,176 cars, a decrease of 3,905 cars compared with the same week last year.

All districts reported reductions in the total loading of all commodities compared with the same week in 1931 and 1930.

Loading of revenue freight in 1932 compared with the two previous years follows:

	1932.	1931.	1930.
Four weeks in January	2,269,875	2,873,211	3,470,797
Four weeks in February	2,245,325	2,834,119	3,506,899
Four weeks in March	2,280,672	2,936,928	3,515,733
Five weeks in April	2,772,888	3,757,863	4,561,634
Week ended May 7	533,677	745,740	932,346
Week ended May 14	517,667	747,057	928,759
Total	10,620,104	13,894,918	16,916,168



Wholesale Price Index of United States Department of Labor Shows Slight Decrease During Week Ended May 21.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor announces that the index number of wholesale prices for the week ended May 21 stands at 64.5 as compared with 64.9 for the week ended May 14. Continuing, the Bureau further said on May 25:

This index number, which includes 784 commodities or price series, weighted according to the importance of each article and based on the average prices in 1926 as 100.0, shows that a decrease of 0.6 of 1% has taken place in the general average of all commodities for the week of May 21, when compared with the week ended on May 14.

The accompanying statement shows the index numbers of groups of commodities for the weeks ended April 23, 30, May 7, 14 and 21: INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES FOR WEEKS OF APRIL 23, 30, MAY 7, 14, AND 21.

Table with 6 columns: Week Ended (April 23, April 30, May 7, May 14, May 21) and rows for various commodity groups like All commodities, Farm products, Foods, etc.

Monthly Indexes of Federal Reserve Board—Decrease in Industrial Production Between March and April.

Under date of May 26 the Federal Reserve Board issued as follows its monthly indexes of industrial production, factory employment, &c.:

BUSINESS INDEXES.

(Index numbers of the Federal Reserve Board 1923-25=100.)

Table showing Business Indexes for Industrial production, factory employment, and department store sales, with columns for 1932 and 1931, and sub-columns for April and March.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION—INDEXES BY GROUPS AND INDUSTRIES a (Adjusted for seasonal variations.)

Table with columns for Group and Industry, Manufactures, and Mining, with sub-columns for 1932 and 1931, and further sub-columns for April and March.

FACTORY EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS—INDEXES BY GROUPS AND INDUSTRIES.

Table with columns for Group and Industry, Employment, and Payrolls, with sub-columns for 1932 and 1931, and further sub-columns for April and March.

a Indexes of production, car loadings and department store sales based on daily averages. b Based on three-month moving averages, centered at second month. pPreliminary.

Department Store Trade in New York Federal Reserve District During April—Sales Reported 22% Smaller Than in April 1931.

In its June 1 "Monthly Review" the Federal Reserve Bank of New York states that "reporting department stores in Second (New York) District showed April sales 22% below last year, a slightly larger decline than was reported in March." Continuing the Bank says as follows:

Reductions in sales of New York City and Rochester stores were about the same as the average for this district, while the sales in Buffalo, Bridgeport, Southern New York State, and the Capital District were about 27% smaller than last year, and even larger declines were reported in Syracuse and northern New York. On the other hand, somewhat less than the average decrease was shown by the Newark, Hudson River Valley and Westchester reporting stores.

For the first half of May, department stores in the Metropolitan area of New York reported practically the same decrease in sales from a year ago as in April.

Stocks of merchandise on hand at the end of April, at retail valuation, continued to show substantial reductions from last year. Collections during April continued to be slower than in 1931 in all localities except Rochester.

Table showing Percentage Change from a Year Ago and Stock on Hand for various localities like New York, Buffalo, Rochester, etc.

Table showing Net Sales Percentage Change and Stock on Hand for various categories like Toilet articles and drugs, Cotton goods, Home furnishings, etc.

Chain Store Sales in New York Federal Reserve District Declined 11% in April This Year As Compared with Year Ago.

The New York Federal Reserve Bank in its June 1 "Monthly Review" of credit and business conditions in the Second Federal Reserve District, has the following to say regarding chain store trade:

The April sales of the reporting chain store systems were about 11% below 1931, a somewhat larger year-to-year decline than has been reported previously. All groups of chain stores, except candy chains, reported greater reductions in sales than in March, and in the case of the candy group the increase was the smallest since last November.

Table showing Percentage Change April 1932 Compared with April 1931 for various types of stores like Grocery, Ten cent, Drug, etc.

Federal Reserve Board's Summary of Business Conditions in the United States—Decline in Industrial Activity and Factory Employment in April.

Stating that "industrial activity and factory employment declined substantially from March to April, although usually little change occurs at this season," the Federal Reserve Board's summary of business conditions in the United States, made public May 26, adds:

Purchases of Government securities by the Federal Reserve banks have continued during April and the first three weeks of May and there has been a considerable growth in the reserves of member banks.

Production and Employment.

Volume of industrial production, as measured by the Board's seasonally adjusted index, decreased from 67% of the 1923-1925 average in March to 64% in April. Reductions in activity were reported for many leading industries, with sharp declines at cotton and woolen mills and at bituminous coal mines; in the automobile industry output increased from the low level of March by more than the usual seasonal percentage, and in the





sooner. The reason was that wage scales then were much closer to the cost of living, i.e., they afforded labor little more than bare subsistence. The Survey continues:

More recently, the rate of decline in wages has become more accelerated, and another sharp drop will probably be shown in May, due to the cuts in steel and building wages.

However, the wide area between living costs and wage rates in recent years, especially when compared with conditions prevailing 20 or 30 years ago, does not necessarily represent a permanent maladjustment which will eventually have to be corrected. A changed attitude of business managements toward labor since the war promises that the gains in real wages since that time are here to stay to a large extent.

The Survey concludes that, "the less artificial resistance is shown to depressionary influences in various prices and rates for goods and labor, the more favorable are the conditions for recovery."

**United States Department of Labor's Survey of Building Operations in United States—Decrease Reported in Cost of New Residential Buildings While New Non-Residential Buildings Show Increase.**

Reports of building permits issued have been received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor from 351 identical cities of the United States having a population of 25,000 or over, for the months of March 1932 and April 1932. The estimated cost of all buildings for which permits were issued in these 351 cities in April 1932 was \$54,489,287. This was 19.3% more than the estimated cost of building operations in these cities during the month of March 1932. The number of permits for all building operations increased 28.3% comparing these two periods. Comparing permits issued in April 1932 and March 1932, there was a decrease of 4.4% in the number and a decrease of 9.6% in the indicated expenditures for new residential buildings. New non-residential buildings increased 41.0% in number and 38.1% in estimated cost. Additions, alterations and repairs increased 29.6% in number and 18.6% in estimated cost. During April 1932 3,211 family dwelling units were provided in new buildings. This is a decrease of 12.8% as compared with March. The Bureau's survey issued May 20 also says:

Various agencies of the United States Government awarded contracts during March for buildings to cost \$11,665,731. This valuation was higher than for either March 1932 or April 1931.

Comparing permits issued in 343 identical cities in April 1932 and April 1931, there was a decrease of 68.2% in the number and a decrease of 79.4% in the cost of new residential buildings. Non-residential buildings decreased 42.5% in number and 62.6% in estimated cost. Additions, alterations and repairs decreased 19.0% in number and 45.5% in indicated expenditures. Total construction decreased 34.4% in number and 66.6% in estimated cost.

Permits were issued during April 1932 for the following important building projects: In the Borough of Manhattan for a theatre to cost \$4,500,000; in Philadelphia for two school buildings to cost nearly \$3,500,000; in Grand Rapids for a public library to cost nearly \$900,000; in Baltimore for a gas holder for a public utilities corporation to cost \$440,000; in Austin, Tex., for an office building for the State Highway Department to cost over \$400,000; contracts were awarded by the Supervising Architect, Treasury Department, for a post office at Terre Haute to cost \$439,000; in Detroit for a building at the Marine Hospital to cost nearly \$400,000; in Washington, D. C., for an addition to the Library of Congress to cost \$1,123,000, and for an extension to the post office to cost nearly \$3,000,000; in Baton Rouge for a post office to cost over \$300,000.

**ESTIMATED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS IN 351 IDENTICAL CITIES, AS SHOWN BY PERMITS ISSUED IN MARCH AND APRIL 1932 BY GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS.**

		New Residential Buildings.			
Geographic Division.	Cities.	Estimated Cost.		Families Provided for in New Dwellings.	
		March 1932.	April 1932.	March 1932.	April 1932.
		New England.....	53	\$1,011,173	\$1,411,099
Middle Atlantic.....	70	4,995,488	3,416,189	1,100	729
East North Central.....	92	1,566,066	2,178,313	362	396
West North Central.....	25	916,100	1,079,198	244	303
South Atlantic.....	38	1,674,484	1,194,720	406	307
South Central.....	35	837,907	886,545	359	386
Mountain and Pacific.....	38	2,917,357	2,417,873	985	766
Total.....	351	\$13,918,575	\$12,583,937	3,682	3,211
Per cent of change....			-9.6		-12.8

  

		New Non-Residential Buildings. Estimated Cost.		Total Construction (Including Alterations and Repairs). Estimated Cost.			
Geographic Division.	Cities.	March 1932.	April 1932.	March 1932.	April 1932.		
		New England.....	53	\$851,845	\$1,187,766	\$3,052,350	\$4,538,251
		Middle Atlantic.....	70	3,814,569	11,808,233	11,958,533	19,021,166
East North Central.....	92	5,466,130	4,184,797	8,590,706	8,286,583		
West North Central.....	25	1,065,463	1,374,241	2,592,450	3,139,137		
South Atlantic.....	38	2,254,164	6,664,684	5,070,980	9,213,222		
South Central.....	35	4,247,673	2,942,421	5,800,752	4,519,227		
Mountain and Pacific.....	38	4,134,047	1,986,684	8,602,344	5,771,701		
Total.....	351	\$21,833,891	\$30,143,826	\$45,668,115	\$54,489,287		
Per cent of change....			+35.1		+19.3		

**Retailers Earned \$3.08 on Every \$100 in Merchandise Sales, According to Fairchild's.**

For every \$100 of merchandise sold during the past year retail merchandising corporations made a net profit of \$3.08,

according to Fairchild's Fifth Annual Financial Summary of wholesale and retail textile-apparel corporations. During 1930 these same retail corporations situated throughout the country earned \$3.79 on sales of \$100.

The summary, which lists the principal income account and balance sheet figures of more than 200 corporations in the textile-apparel field, shows that combined net sales of retail organizations were lower last year by 9.12%, net profits were down 25.99%, and inventories were off 13.10%.

**Panama Canal Tolls in April Smallest Since 1923—Transits and Daily Average Receipts Higher Than in Preceding Month.**

During the month of April 1932, 370 commercial vessels and seven small non-seagoing launches under 20 tons measurement transited the Panama Canal. Tolls on the commercial vessels aggregate \$1,608,634.67, and on the launches, \$48.78, or a total tolls collection of \$1,608,683.45, it was stated in the "United States Daily" of May 20, which added:

The daily average of commercial vessels was 12.33, and the daily average tolls collection was \$53,621.16, as compared with an average of 11.71 transits and \$53,076.35 in tolls for the previous month, and an average of 15.10 transits and \$67,144.97 in tolls for April 1931. The average amount of tolls paid by each of the commercial transits was \$4,347.66, as compared with \$4,446.69 for the month of April 1931.

Although traffic showed an increase of seven transits in comparison with the previous month, the collection of tolls was almost \$37,000 lower, and was the lowest monthly tolls collection since February 1923. The daily average of tolls collected in April 1932, however, was slightly higher than the daily average for the 31-day month preceding.

In comparison with the first 10 months of the fiscal year 1931, the corresponding period this year has had 888 fewer transits and \$3,445,413.06 less tolls, decreases of 18.9% and 16.5%, respectively. In comparison with the first 10 months of the fiscal year 1930, the corresponding period this year has had 1,415 fewer transits and \$5,357,814.28 less tolls, decreases of 27.1% and 23.5%, respectively.

**Annalist Weekly Index of Wholesale Commodity Prices.**

The "Annalist" Weekly Index of Wholesale Commodity Prices declined further to a new low of 88.5 on May 24, compared with 88.7 on May 17 and 101.0 a year ago. Continuing the "Annalist" says:

Of the individual commodities that went lower, the more important were hogs and lambs, beef and veal, cotton goods and gasoline. A new low was made by copper. Wheat, steers, cotton, coffee, flour, zinc and leather, on the other hand, were higher.

**THE ANNALIST WEEKLY INDEX OF WHOLESALE COMMODITY PRICES (1913=100)**

	May 24 1932.	May 17 1932.	May 26 1931.
Farm products.....	66.8	x67.0	87.1
Food products.....	91.8	92.0	108.2
Textile products.....	z70.4	x70.6	95.6
Fuels.....	133.9	135.4	125.0
Metals.....	95.8	95.8	102.3
Building materials.....	107.7	108.0	119.1
Chemicals.....	96.2	96.2	99.8
Miscellaneous.....	82.5	81.3	85.8
All commodities.....	88.5	88.7	101.0

x Revised. z Provisional.

**World's Wholesale Commodity Price Level Sags.**

Wholesale commodity prices dropped again in March, as compared with February, according to reports from 12 of the 19 foreign countries studied by the Commerce Department's Division of Economic Research. April indexes so far received indicate that further slight price declines have occurred, said the Department under date of May 12, its advices adding:

There were a large number of moderate price drops in non-food products, the report stated. Because of a slight weakening in the price of several groups of food products which had remained relatively steady in February, a slightly larger number of the food groups declined in March also, but the number of advances was about the same as in the preceding month.

The sharpest rise in wholesale commodity prices occurred in Chile, which registered a jump of 8%, while the largest decline was noted in British India, a fall of 3%. In no other country did the change equal 2%.

Prices of cereals and miscellaneous farm products in Chile rose 16 and 19%, respectively. Vegetable product prices in Poland, Peru and Latvia advanced from 5 to 6%. Other rises in prices of food were small.

Vegetable products in France, animal products in Germany and Italy rose 2 to 3%; while smaller rises, ranging from 1 to 2%, were shown in prices of vegetable food products in Germany and Sweden, cereals in the United Kingdom, animal products in Canada, and in all foods in Belgium and Austria.

The sharpest drop in prices of goods occurred in animal products in Denmark, a fall of 11%, while prices of these products fell 6% in Chile, and from 7 to 8% in Latvia and Poland.

Other food price declines were as follows: Tea in British India, 3%; animal products in France and Sweden, 5 and 4%, respectively; cereals in British India, 3%; animal foods in Spain, 2%; agricultural products in Finland, 1.3%, and vegetable foods in Denmark, 1%.

Of the non-food groups, raw cotton in British India dropped the sharpest of the commodities showing falling prices, registering a slump of 16% in March. The price of rubber in France and Belgium fell 13%, and that of oilseeds in British India, 12%.

Other price declines exceeding 5% were as follows: United Kingdom, metals and minerals other than iron and steel, 9%; wool, 7%; textiles, other than cotton and wool, 6%. France: hides and skins, 6%. In British India, jute manufactures, 7%.







interests called by Premier John Bracken to formulate Manitoba's views for submission to the Dominion Government prior to the conference.

Other points agreed upon were:

Stabilization of exchange is important:

Wider markets are necessary for all varieties of Canadian farm produce; An Empire intelligence marketing board is desirable;

Wilder facilities should be provided for the distribution of British films throughout Canada;

Canadian delegates at the Imperial Conference should be asked to give preference to British goods most needed by Canadian consumers, such as woolen goods, household articles, textiles, boots and shoes, seeds and plants.

A special committee was appointed to draft the suggestions and instructed to sit in with a conference of representatives of Boards of Trade and industries other than agriculture called for Friday. Findings of both Manitoba conferences will first be laid before a conference of the four western provinces at Regina, June 20, when a submission embodying the viewpoint of Western Canada generally will be prepared.

### Spain Reported Planning Wheat Imports—Said to Have Approached Branches of Foreign Banks in Matter of Payments.

The following from Madrid May 18 is from the Montreal "Gazette:"

Financial circles said to-day the Spanish Government had approached local branches of foreign banks in an attempt to arrange payment for the contemplated importation of 100,000 tons (about 3,733,000 bushels) of wheat.

The result of the negotiations was not known, but the Government wants to spread the payment over periods of three, six and nine months, it was understood, the wheat to be bought from Canada, the United States and Argentina.

Banking circles said a Government decree ordering the purchase of the wheat, expected soon, would bring Spain's total importations to 200,000 tons, (about 7,466,000 bushels), but that it probably would be necessary to import another 200,000 tons before the new wheat crop is available in July since the domestic supply is exhausted.

### Votes to End Canada Wheat Bonus.

Canadian Press accounts from Ottawa (Canada), May 10, said:

Without a recorded vote, House of Commons defeated to-day a motion to continue the 5-cent bonus on export wheat. It also turned down a suggestion that a bonus be based on seeded acreage.

### Third of Saskatchewan's Farms Mortgaged.

Approximately one-third of Saskatchewan's farm lands are mortgaged, according to a report to the Commerce Department from Assistant Trade Commissioner Aylwin Probert, Winnipeg, Canada. The announcement of the Department May 20 also said:

Mr. Probert's report stated that according to figures compiled by R. H. Millikan, of Regina, from titles filed in the land office records of that city in March 1932, 31% of the occupied land of Saskatchewan is mortgaged, 47% is owned with clear title, and the balance is encumbered by relief liens, mechanics' liens, caveats, tax writs and executions. These figures are based on records of 20 municipalities scattered throughout the province.

Total indebtedness of the farmers in these 20 municipalities was \$16,989,483, of which \$16,603,404 was mortgage debts and the remainder relief and other loans. Averaged registered indebtedness against encumbered land was \$9.17 per acre, and the average registered indebtedness against all was \$4.29 it was stated.

### France Contracts for Danube Wheat—Rumania and Yugoslavia Will Supply 10% Each of French Needs—Blow to American Trade.

Rumania will supply 10% of France's total annual wheat import needs for the next three years, while Yugoslavia will supply a similar amount under identical decrees published on May 23, it was stated in a Paris cablegram on that date to the New York "Evening Post" which likewise said:

The world price, plus the ordinary duty, will be paid but the difference between the world price and that considered remunerative by exporters is to be refunded up to 30% of the amount of the duty under the terms of annual agreements between the governments. In return, France receives tariff concessions in both Rumania and Jugoslavakia.

The New York "World-Telegram" of May 23, with reference to the above, said:

France, the greatest wheat eating nation in the world and a particularly desirable customer in the world grain markets this year on account of a short crop harvested last autumn, has just concluded a commercial treaty with Rumania under terms of which the Danubian monarchy will supply 10% of France's wheat needs during the next three years, according to press advices from Paris to-day.

This move alters to some extent the prospects of United States and Canada for wheat export business with France. France always has bought a portion of its requirements from Rumania, but usually the amount has been considerably under 10%.

So far this season Canada has exported a fair quantity of wheat to France as the country raised its quota of permissible foreign wheat in "millers' blends" of flour from 5% early in the season to a high of 45% a few weeks ago. George S. Milnor, manager of the Grain Stabilization Board, which holds the Federal Farm Board's wheat, recently was in France negotiating terms of an agreement for United States to get some of this French business, but the negotiations fell through.

The French wheat crop this year totaled about 250,000,000 bushels and it has been calculated that about 60,000,000 bushels would have to be imported. Per capita consumption of wheat in France averages 7½ bushels annually, which compares with 4.8 bushels in the United States, 2.3 bushels in Germany and 5.8 bushels in Great Britain.

Ten per cent of 60,000,000 bushels would mean 6,000,000 bushels, and in some quarters it was predicted to day that Rumania would not be able to let France have such a large amount annually. Rumania's crop in good years runs 125,000,000 bushels.

### New Low Hog Prices.

Associated Press advices May 25 from Kansas City said:

The lowest top price for hogs in the history of the Kansas City stock yards, \$2.95 a hundred pounds, was paid this morning.

The previous low record top was \$2.97½, paid one day in September 1896. Shortly after the World War, hog prices reached as high as \$23.40 a hundred pounds.

### Portugal Authorizes Importation of Limited Quantity of Wheat.

The Portuguese Government has authorized the importation of 35,000 metric tons of wheat during May and June 1932, according to a radiogram received May 18 in the Department of Commerce from Commercial Attache Richard C. Long, Lisbon.

### Sale of Candy Drops Only 10%, but Price at Pre-War Level.

From Atlantic City May 22 a dispatch to the New York "Times" said:

Prohibition, supposed to increase sales; dieting, supposed to reduce it, and depression, an unknown quantity, had no apparent effect on the sale of candy in this country last year, it was declared here to-night by Walter Hughes, Secretary of the National Confectioners' Association of the United States, on the eve of the organization's annual convention.

The tonnage of candy sold, he explained, decreased only about 10%, but the value of sales, with candy selling for an average of 18½ cents a pound—pre-war prices—showed a loss of 45%. The association is expected to appeal to the Inter-State Commerce Commission for a reclassification of freight rates on candy.

### World Sugar Production Declines Sharply—Decrease in Countries Parties to International Sugar Agreement.

The current sugar season will probably show some depletion in the very large visible stocks that have been accumulating rapidly the last few years, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture, reporting on the world sugar situation. Under date of May 21 the Department added:

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics estimates world beet and cane sugar production in 1931-32 at 28,752,000 short tons, a decrease of 3,225,000 short tons from the preceding year. This was the smallest crop since 1927-28. Practically all European beet sugar producing countries except Russia expect smaller acreages in 1932 than in 1931, and cane sugar countries which are adherents to the International Sugar Restriction Agreement are planning to continue limiting production as in 1931-32, says the bureau. These cane sugar countries accounted for about 40% of the world's 1929-30 cane sugar crop.

The decrease in world production this season is accounted for almost entirely by the nine countries—Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Belgium, Yugoslavia, Cuba, Java, and Peru—which are parties to the International Sugar Agreement. All with the exception of Yugoslavia are important sugar exporting countries. Total 1931-32 production in these countries is estimated at 9,848,564 short tons compared with 12,712,286 short tons in 1930-31. Germany shows the greatest decrease, with a 1931-32 crop placed at 1,734,200 short tons compared with 2,808,076 the preceding season.

The bureau says that the 1931-32 sugar season opened with the heaviest accumulation of visible world sugar stocks on record, but that "with the indicated decrease in sugar production in 1931-32 it seems likely that stocks will be considerably reduced by the end of the season, provided exports do not fall below the indicated quota."

### Jamaica Loses Sugar Tariff Plea.

According to a Kingston (Jamaica) cablegram May 17 to the New York "Times" Sir R. E. Stubbs, Governor, informed the Legislature that day that he had received a telegram from Sir Philip Cunliffe-Listers, Secretary of State for the Colonies, stating that he and Neville Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, declined to receive a deputation from Jamaica to discuss the British preference tariff on sugar, which is regarded at Jamaica as inadequate.

### Yarn and Cloth Business of European Cotton Mills Poor.

The cotton mills of Europe are finding yarn and cloth business poor, according to the New York Cotton Exchange Service. Mill activity is being maintained at the present rate largely on the basis of orders booked earlier in the year. The Exchange Service under date of May 24 said:

It is not yet clear that this situation is resulting in an appreciable decline in mill operations, but England says that there is some tendency to reduce operations and Germany says that unless yarn and cloth markets improve, curtailment may be extended in some directions in the near future. Buyers are operating almost universally on a hand-to-mouth basis. Export trade is generally less satisfactory than domestic business. Forwardings of American cotton to British and Continental mills this past week were much smaller than in recent previous weeks, but this was doubtless due in large part to holidays in Europe.

### Decline in Exports from United States to Orient.

Exports of cotton from this country to the Orient have dwindled to small proportions after running phenomenally large most of the season, but forwardings to mills of the Orient have continued large as the heavy exports of past

months have continued to move from Oriental ports to Oriental mills, according to the New York Cotton Exchange Service. Statistics on consumption by the Orient are now reflecting the actual spinning of these large supplies of the American staple. The Exchange Service May 17, said:

Japan cables that consumption by Japanese spinners is being maintained at a high rate, and will doubtless continue at this level for several months. Sales of yarn and cloth during the past two or three weeks have been above production, and mill margins are sufficient to warrant a continuance of high production of goods.

### Report That Japan Plans Rule of Silk Industry—Consolidation of Manufacturer and Elimination of Traders Sought by Japan—World Control Foreseen.

The following from Tokio, May 24, is from the New York "Evening Post":

Startling plans for socialization of the raw silk industry have been announced by the Japanese Government and bills are being drafted for submission to the Imperial Diet, which convened to-day.

The scheme, which proponents argue would place the Japanese Government in control of the silk markets of the world, is divided into three parts.

First, filatures would be placed under a license system.

Second, silkworm eggcards would be handled only by the Government.

Third, all middlemen operating between the reelers and exporters would be bought out and their places taken by a new company to be formed by the Government.

See *Winter Passage*.

The trade expresses doubt that it all will be ready for submission to the Diet this month. It expects to see introduction of the bill setting up the license system and believes that the remainder of the plan, if it keeps out of bureaucratic pigeonholes, will come before the legislature this winter.

Establishment of the license system for filatures would follow much the same lines as the present bank law. This set minimum capitalization for country banks, for small city banks and for big city banks, and insisted that banks must either raise their capitalization to the legal levels or go out of business.

The Government would license the 3,700 machine-equipped filatures operating at present, but would stipulate that licenses be revoked for all filatures which do not have 100 or more basins by a certain date. The filatures are not in good financial position. This is the part of the plan which seems assured of early enactment into law.

Buy Out Traders

At the end of November 1931, there were 40 raw silk traders in Yokohama who were not exporters and 26 in Kobe. There were also eight trader-exporters in the two silk cities. The Government argues that these men have been losing money and that the good will of their businesses cannot be worth much. Accordingly, it would buy them out and prevent them, by law, from ever setting up as silk traders again.

To take their place, it would set up a company with 100,000,000 yen capitalization, the money to be supplied half by the Government and the remainder by the reelers and the traders. The Government would guarantee a 5% dividend.

The company would operate as a commission house, but would be under no control as to when, where or at what price it sold the silk entrusted to its care. Reelers who held shares in it would be expected to market all their output through it and, in return, would obtain financing from it.

Reference to the abandonment by Japan of the silk control plan was made in these columns April 30, page 3179 and a further item bearing thereon appeared in our issue of May 14, page 3564.

### Raw Silk Export Duty and Tax Removed in China.

To aid the silk industry, the export duty on all raw silk shipped from China and the special tax on all yellow and white silk exported abroad from the Chinese provinces of Kiangsu and Chekiang have been removed with effect from May 18, it is made known in a report to the Department of Commerce from Trade Commissioner A. Viola Smith, Shanghai. The announcement by the Department adds:

The following are the former export duties (stated in Haikwan taels per picul): Silk, raw, reeled from douptions, 7.50; silk, raw, white (including re-reeled and steam filature), 15.00; silk raw, wild (including filature), 7.50; silk, raw, yellow (including re-reeled and steam filature), 10.50; silk waste (including cocoon strippings and silk yarn waste), 5% ad valorem.

The special tax on Kiangsu and Chekiang silk was \$30 local Chinese currency per picul, the proceeds of which were used for the Kiangsu and Chekiang silk improvement loan.

(Picul equals 133½ lbs. Haikwan tael varies with the prices of silver; at present, approximately \$0.34 U. S.)

### Break in Cotton at Liverpool with Suspension of Hornby, Hemelryk & Co.

A cable dispatch from Hornby, Hemelryk & Co. of Liverpool was read from the rostrum of the New York Cotton Exchange on May 26, announcing their suspension of payments. It said:

"Regret that, although solvent, we feel it our duty to suspend payments."

Hornby, Hemelryk & Co. are members of the Liverpool Cotton Exchange, the New York Cotton Exchange and the New York Coffee and Sugar Exchange. Members of the last Exchange were notified that all contracts with the firm must be closed as provided in the by-laws of the Exchange.

Liverpool advices May 26 to the "Wall Street Journal" said:

A bad break in the market here for American cotton followed suspension of payments by Hornby, Hemelryk & Co., cotton brokers established in 1875. July cotton at Liverpool opened at 4.81d. a pound, broke to 4.10 and at 2.15 p. m. was selling at 4.12. The firm announced that accountants

considered it solvent, but directors feared that the liquid assets were insufficient to meet further market differences. Hornby, Hemelryk & Co. are members of the New York Cotton Exchange, but the firm's offices are at Liverpool.

The same paper reported the following from London:

Hornby, Hemelryk & Co. is one of the largest firms of raw cotton merchants and brokers in Liverpool. It is understood that the difficulties which led to the firm's suspension of payment arose through its financial position on the Continent, where it was unable to make collections. It is fully expected here that the firm will be in position to meet all liabilities.

### Opening of Fall Rug Lines at Unchanged Prices.

Spring prices on rugs and carpets were reaffirmed in New York on May 23 by manufacturers opening Fall lines, according to the New York "Times" of May 24, from which we also quote as follows:

Attendance at the opening was light compared with previous years, but buyers expressed greater confidence in the stability of prices and indicated that they would be ready to make commitments later in the week. The producers' action in adhering to Spring quotations and selling terms, store representatives said, would overcome the uncertainty felt by the trade when it was first announced that some of the mills would wait until Aug. 1 before showing Fall patterns.

The added emphasis on high-lighted patterns in low-end axminster, velvets and other rug weaves was the outstanding feature of the opening. These types were shown in a small way at the last opening, but this season practically every producer stressed the weave by which a "washed" effect is imparted to rugs through the use of varying shades of yarn.

A majority of the mills, headed by the Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Company, Inc., held official openings yesterday. These included A. & M. Karagheusan, Inc., Karastan Rug Mills and the Parker-Wylie Carpet Company, showing products of the Parker-Wylie Manufacturing Company, the Alva Carpet and Rug Company and the Artloom Rug Mills.

W. & J. Sloane, selling agents for Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Company, the Pennsylvania Carpet Company, the Firth Carpet Company and other mills showed new rug patterns, although their regular Fall showings are scheduled for August.

In its issue of May 26 the same paper stated:

Floor coverings buyers, visiting the market to view fall lines at the trade opening now in progress, are purchasing limited amounts of merchandise for immediate delivery. A number of store representatives went home yesterday morning, spending only one day in canvassing the market. Those who departed early, however, plan to return in August, when the second opening is scheduled, and will place commitments for Fall needs at that time. Orders yesterday consisted chiefly of calls for low-end axminster rugs in high-lighted patterns.

### Activity in the Cotton Spinning Industry for April 1932.

The Department of Commerce announced on May 20 that, according to preliminary figures compiled by the Bureau of the Census, 31,945,750 cotton spinning spindles were in place in the United States on April 30 1932, of which 23,409,246 were operated at some time during the month, compared with 24,818,008 for March, 25,189,748 for February, 25,013,750 for January, 24,637,864 for December, 24,860,684 for November and 26,668,536 for April 1931. The aggregate number of active spindle hours reported for the month was 5,194,900,425. During April the normal time of operation was 25¾ days (allowance being made for the observance of Patriot's Day in some localities), compared with 27 for March, 24 2-3 for February, 25½ for January, 26 for December and 24¼ for November. Based on an activity of 8.93 hours per day, the average number of spindles operated during April was 22,591,680, or at 70.7% capacity on a single shift basis. This percentage compares with 90.1 for March, 92.5 for February, 84.5 for January, 79.3 for December, 85.8 for November and 94.1 for April 1931. The average number of active spindle hours per spindle in place for the month was 163. The total number of cotton spinning spindles in place, the number active, the number of active spindle hours and the average hours per spindle in place, by States, are shown in the following statement:

State.	Spinning Spindles.		Active Spindle Hours for April.	
	In Place April 30.	Active During April.	Total.	Average per Spindle in Place.
Cotton-growing States	19,131,154	16,596,850	4,121,881,832	215
New England States	11,470,920	5,979,474	936,784,379	82
All other States	1,343,676	832,922	136,234,214	101
Alabama	1,850,162	1,669,396	453,728,931	245
Connecticut	1,066,936	634,912	103,444,968	97
Georgia	3,311,530	2,810,618	699,749,126	211
Maine	981,580	642,382	104,017,704	106
Massachusetts	6,175,664	3,046,538	433,151,654	70
Mississippi	210,768	132,440	38,355,834	182
New Hampshire	1,190,074	745,558	134,505,432	113
New Jersey	372,380	217,128	39,296,976	106
New York	626,488	315,316	49,591,751	79
North Carolina	6,192,322	5,273,982	1,164,322,201	188
Rhode Island	1,939,402	875,524	153,923,181	79
South Carolina	5,690,608	5,271,276	1,395,069,536	245
Tennessee	615,444	510,168	151,389,990	246
Texas	282,100	184,270	37,504,769	133
Virginia	678,462	583,652	141,108,472	208
All other States	761,830	496,086	95,739,900	126
United States	31,945,750	23,409,246	5,194,900,425	163

**Negotiations for German-French-Belgian Rayon Cartel Abandoned.**

Negotiations for the formation of a rayon cartel embracing producers of viscose in Germany, France and Belgium have been abandoned, it is stated, in a report to the Commerce Department from Assistant Trade Commissioner George W. Berkalew, Paris. In announcing this, May 23, the Department said that according to the report, it is considered possible that negotiations may be resumed in the near future, but there is a likelihood that French and Belgian interests may advance proposals which will further complicate the situation.

**Petroleum and Its Products—Seek Higher Prices for Mid-Continent Crude As Progress Is Reported in Unifying Curtailment Sentiment in California.**

Independent producers in the Mid-Continent area are concentrating upon a new effort to boost the price of crude oil 15c. per barrel, it is reported in Texas. The top price of \$1.00 per barrel now in force has served to stabilize the market to a great extent, it is pointed out, and there is no reason, according to the sponsors of the new move, why crude should not demand a still higher price as the consuming season reaches its high summer marks.

The Continental Oil Co., of Ponca City, Okla., has taken the initiative in the last two advances, and it is said on good authority that the same company is now considering leading in another advance. Further support is given the move by the fact that curtailment sentiment in California is being unified to a great extent, and that a real co-operative movement is now under way to secure an equitable ruling which would apply to all fields. California crude production mounted to a daily average of 517,481 barrels during April, as compared with 502,449 barrels daily in March. Much of the added production resulted from the completion of 24 new wells.

Proponents of curtailment are now using Government figures to prove that curtailment really adds to the ultimate field recovery, as statistics are now available showing that with unrestrained production, not more than 15% recovery is realized, while under curtailment regulations recovery reaches as high as 50% over a stated period.

The situation in Pennsylvania is declared to be satisfactory in a summary prepared by Ralph T. Zook and read at the annual Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Conference held this week. He declared that "consumption of Pennsylvania oil has been greatly increased. Refinery runs, drilling and crude oil production are being regulated to meet market demands, lubricating stocks have been reduced and crude oil inventoried is only sufficient to insure a healthy, working arrangement. Improvement in the oil industry to a great extent will be determined by an advance in general business conditions. The Pennsylvania industry is tied up with the oil products of other parts of the country to a single industry, and in general must share the fortunes of that industry. Its excellent statistical position and regulations assures quick reflection of any improvement in either general business or the oil industry as a whole."

No price changes were reported in any of the producing centers this week.

No definite agreements or decisions have as yet been announced as a result of the "world conference" of producing interests now being held in New York.

**Prices of Typical Crudes per Barrel at Wells.**  
(All gravities where A. P. I. degrees are not shown.)

Bradford, Pa.	1.60	Eldorado, Ark., 40	1.00
Corning, Pa.	1.05	Rusk, Texas, 40 and over	.85
Illinois	.80	Salt Creek, Wyo., 40 and over	.83
Western Kentucky	.90	Darst Creek	.90
Midcontinent, Okla., 40 and above	1.00	Sunburst, Mont.	1.25
Hutchinson, Texas, 40 and over	.81	Santa Fe Springs, Calif., 40 and over	.75
Spindletop, Texas, 40 and over	.81	Huntington, Calif., 26	.72
Winkler, Texas	.88	Petroliia, Canada	1.75
Smackover, Ark., 24 and over	.77		* Effective April 1 1932.

**REFINED PRODUCTS—BELIEVE RETAIL PRICES IN METROPOLITAN AREA WILL BE MOVED UP TO LAST WEEK'S LEVELS—MORE INTEREST SHOWN IN KEROSENE—BOOKING HEATING OIL BUSINESS FOR FUTURE DELIVERY.**

The drastic 4 cent reduction in service station prices made effective as of last Saturday, May 21, by the Standard Oil Co. of New York throughout New York City, was met by other marketers in this area. However, it was generally believed here yesterday that the prices will revert either to the former levels or will undergo an advance of two or three cents per gallon before the Decoration Holiday business.

The sharp cut brought the tank wagon price down to 6½c. for gasoline delivered, while the tank car quotation remained at 6¾c. The reduction was brought on by aggravated price-cutting among retailers in different parts of

the city, but most pronounced in Brooklyn. In that borough some stations had been offering gasoline from seven to eight gallons for a dollar. The action of Socony made eight for a dollar the official price, including the three cent State tax.

Buyers have been operating more freely in the gasoline tank car market, buying ahead at present price levels. There is a strong feeling that the tank car structure will be adjusted upwards in anticipation of further increases in crude oil prices, now being agitated in the Mid-continent area.

Demand for grade C bunker fuel oil has been lagging, but the price has held steadily at the 75c. per barrel level. More interest is being shown in 41-43 water white kerosene, but mostly for future delivery. The price of this refined product still ranges from 5½c. to 6c. per gallon, tank car at refinery.

Diesel oil business has quieted considerably, and what contracts appear in the market are being closed on the present basis of \$1.50 per barrel, refinery.

Chicago reports indicate that jobbers have been buying heavily this week in anticipation of a good holiday week-end business. Prices hold firm in that territory.

**Price changes follow:**

May 21.—Standard Oil Co. of New York announces ¼c. reduction in gasoline tank car prices at Boston and Providence, making new price 6¾c. at these points; and ¼c. reduction at Portland, Me., new price there being 7c.

May 24.—Standard Oil Co. of Ohio reduced gasoline 1c. a gallon in Hancock County, to meet competitive conditions.

**Gasoline, Service Station, Tax Included.**

New York	1.25	Cleveland	.18	New Orleans	1.18
Atlanta	.195	Denver	.20	Philadelphia	.13
Baltimore	.164	Detroit	.13	San Francisco:	
Boston	.18	Houston	.17	Third grade	.125
Buffalo	.173	Jacksonville	.19	Above 65 octane	.145
Chicago	.16	Kansas City	.155	Premium	.175
Cincinnati	.18	Minneapolis	.167	St. Louis	.134

**Kerosene, 41-43 Water White, Tank Car Lots, F.O.B. Refinery**

N. Y. (Bayonne)	.05 ½ - .06	Chicago	\$.02 ¼ - .03 ½	New Orleans, ex.	\$.03 ¾
North Texas	.03	Los Ang., ex.	.04 ¾ - .06	Tulsa	.04 ¼ - .03 ¾

**Fuel Oil, F.O.B. Refinery or Terminal**

N. Y. (Bayonne)	—	California 27 plus D	—	Gulf Coast "C"	\$.60
Bunker "C"	\$.75	New Orleans "C"	\$.75-1.00	Chicago 18-22 D	.42 ½ - .50
Diesel 28-30 D	1.50			Philadelphia "C"	.70

**Gas Oil, F.O.B. Refinery or Terminal.**

N. Y. (Bayonne)	—	Chicago	—	Tulsa	—
28 D plus	\$.03 ¾ .04	32-36 D Ind.	\$.01 ¾ - .02	32-36 D Ind.	\$.01 ¾ - .02

**Gasoline, U. S. Motor, Tank (Above 65 Octane) Car Lots, F.O.B. Refinery.**

N. Y. (Bayonne)	—	N. Y. (Bayonne)	—	Chicago	\$.05 ½ - .05 ¾
Standard Oil, N. J.	—	Sinclair	\$.06 ¾	New Orleans, ex.	.05 - .05 ¾
Motor, 60 octane	\$.06 ¾	Pan-Am. Pet. Co.	.06	Arkansas	.04 - .04 ¾
Motor, 65 octane	\$.07	Shell Eastern Pet.	.06 ¾	California	.05 - .07
Motor, standard	.07 ¾	New York	—	Los Angeles, ex.	.04 ¾ - .07
Stand. Oil, N. Y.	.06 ¾	Colonial-Reacon	\$.06 ¾	Gulf Ports	.05 - .05 ¾
Tide Water Oil Co.	.06 ¾	Crew Levick	.07 ¾	Tulsa	.04 ¾ - .05 ¾
Richfield Oil (Cal.)	.07 ¾	z Texas	.06 ¾	Pennsylvania	.05 ¾
Warner-Quinn, Co.	.06 ¾	Gulf	.07		
		Continental	.06		
		Republic Oil	\$.06 ¾		

\* Below 65 Octane. z "Texaco" is .07.

**International Oil Conference in New York—Sessions Postponed Until June 1 to Draft New Plans.**

The international oil conference seeking to place the industry on a stable basis through adoption of an orderly marketing and production plan, apparently has reached an impasse, although leaders still are optimistic concerning the final outcome, said the New York "Evening Post" of last night (May 27), from which we also quote:

Thus far the conference has split into two groups—the Nationals, consisting of the major oil producers on one hand, and the Russians.

Charles E. Arnott, President of the Socony Vacuum Corp., who issued the call which brought delegates from the four corners of the earth, said to-day no further progress had been made in the conference and that the Nationals and the Russians still were trying to "clear up details on fundamentals."

It is reported that the National group has made a definite offer to the Soviet delegates concerning the amount of Russian oil they will take each year and market for the Red Republic. Apparently this offer has not yet met with the approval of the Soviet envoys.

When the conferences started last week, daily meetings were held, but prior to to-day, there was a meeting on Tuesday and there will be none now until next Wednesday. It is believed the opposing delegations, in the meantime, will attempt to draft plans among themselves, which will more nearly meet the demands of all concerned.

Representing the Russians are K. Riaboval, Chairman, and Philip Rabinovich and R. N. Friedman. Mr. Arnott heads the National group, which consists of J. B. A. Kessler, joint manager director of the Royal Dutch Shell group; R. I. Watson of the Burmah Oil Co., Ltd.; W. Fraser of the Anglo Persian Oil Co.; H. F. Sheets, Vice-President of Socony-Vacuum Corp., and J. A. Moffett, Vice-President of Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey.

The conference was referred to in these columns May 21, page 3719.

**Governor Murray of Oklahoma Restores Martial Law in Oil Fields.**

Associated Press accounts from Oklahoma yesterday (May 27) stated:

Martial law in Oklahoma oil fields, lifted a week ago, has been clamped down again by Governor William H. ("Alfalfa Bill") Murray to prevent the courts from interfering by injunction with enforcement of proration.

Other than to denounce Acting Governor Robert Burns for lifting martial law while he was in New York, Governor Murray took no action until the Wilcox Oil & Gas Co., a bitter foe of proration, filed a petition in the





the proposal. Those in favor of a tariff now feel that they have scored an important advantage in the fight for protection and believe that the tax has more than an even chance of remaining in the bill. The revenue measure, after the Senate completes its job, will go back to the House.

Most operators believe that a tax on copper, in time, will spell higher prices for the metal, even though stocks in the hands of producers are enormous. Quite a few consumers also shared this view and inquiry for forward material showed general improvement, especially yesterday after it became known that some operators who offered copper quite freely early in the period at 5.25c., a new all-time low, raised their price to 5.375c., delivered basis. In fact, all of the business reported yesterday was booked on the 5.375c. basis. Large producers were virtually out of the market.

The present world agreement would naturally come to an end with a tariff on copper, and whether a new agreement would result from the changed conditions appears most uncertain. Great Britain would in all probability soon follow with an import duty on copper. The European markets eased off as soon as the news of the tariff developments in this country was cabled abroad.

Statistically, the market for copper has been barely holding its own. During April, according to private reports, stocks of refined copper actually increased slightly, owing chiefly to the slow movement of the metal into consumptive channels. Curtailment in output is making further progress, but against the decline in production the industry has had to face an extremely dull market for copper products. Producers believe that production will fall steadily over the summer period, and, tariff or no tariff, copper is slowly moving into a better position. Prospects of currency inflation are being given serious attention by producers as well as consumers.

Export business was dull throughout the week. The total sales by the group since the first of the month amounted to about 6,600 short tons. The special price of Copper Exporters was reduced during the week to 5.50c., c.i.f. basis. Independent sellers sold copper abroad at prices ranging from 5.30c. to 5.45c., c.i.f. European ports.

**Zinc Excited.**

The firmer tone that developed late in the previous week brought out a fair inquiry from consumers. Offerings at the lower range soon disappeared, and prices were bid up rather sharply, especially in the last two days. The news got about that further curtailment in production was imminent, with a strong possibility of a complete shutdown in ore operations in the Tri-State district, at least over the summer period. Early in the week Prime Western zinc sold as low as 2.30c. per pound, St. Louis; yesterday a fair quantity sold at 2.875c., near-by delivery. Late in the day it was said that scattered lots could have been picked up at slight concessions chiefly through second-hands.

**Steel Production Again Declines to 24% of Capacity—Prices Unchanged.**

Prices of finished steel products for the third quarter are now under consideration and announcements may be made within the coming week, announces the "Iron Age" of May 26. A few advances are in prospect, perhaps on automobile body stock and some other special finishes of sheets and on hot-rolled strip steel, but most of the current prices probably will be reaffirmed for the next quarter. The "Age" continues:

Although all of the steel companies realize the need of more income, there appears to be a difference of opinion as to the expediency of attempting at this time a general advance in steel prices, which, if not successful, might jeopardize the stabilization movement inaugurated at the beginning of the present quarter.

Conviction that prices should be advanced is strongest in the flat-rolled branch of the industry, prices of sheets and strip having suffered the most severely during the depression. On some special finishes, including automobile body sheets, the declines have ranged from \$20 to \$40 a ton as compared with a few years ago. Makers of bars, shapes and plates seem to be inclined toward mere reaffirmation of current prices. In these products there is a fairly encouraging prospect for increased volume, particularly if a Government relief program is adopted that involves new construction work.

Most of the consumers of steel seem to be no more than mildly interested in third quarter prices, having so little work in view, but the Chrysler corporation has issued an inquiry for that period and will take bids June 6. Another automobile manufacturer is asking for prices on steel for 10,000 of a new series of small cars on which production will be started in June or July.

The automobile outlook is fairly promising in the light car field, but unsatisfactory in the medium-price and quality groups, where production will be pared down almost to the vanishing point by some companies. Production of the Ford Motor Co., however, has expanded with unexpected rapidity, the daily output having been stepped up to 3,500 cars, with 4,500 a day scheduled for June. This month's automobile output may pass 200,000 units, which would make it the best since July 1931. The June output is estimated at not less than 225,000. Chevrolet and Plymouth are expected to continue present schedules through June. Next month's output will be very largely dominated by these three producers. Ford's acceleration of production may bring heavier steel commitments very soon. A fairly large purchase is expected within a few days.

Structural steel has taken a little spurt in the past week, with lettings of about 18,000 tons, including 12,000 tons for Long Island RR. grade elimination at Valley Stream, L. I. This amount is small, however, when compared with the steel building projects pending. To this has been added 18,200 tons, of which 9,000 tons is for a New York Central viaduct on the West Side, New York, and 2,500 tons for subway construction in Newark.

Railroads are doing very little buying, but the financial relief that is being afforded through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is expected to pave the way for some orders from the carriers. Several roads are scrapping a large number of locomotives, indicating that a demand for new motive power may precede that for cars.

Improvement in the oil industry is expected to bring some gain in steel orders from that source. Some business in tanks is already taking shape. Farm implement manufacturers are busier on repair work.

There have been slight increases this month in demands for some products, but losses in others. Bars and sheets are moderately better, and wire products are holding their recent improvement, but tin plate specifications are being held back and there is a marked dearth of orders for plates, pipe and rails. The Ensley rail mill of the United States Steel Corp. in Alabama, having completed all the orders on its books, has shut down together with three blast furnaces and five open-hearth furnaces.

Larger steel output in some districts has not been enough to balance losses elsewhere, ingot production for the entire country having declined to 24% from 25% last week. Although the Pittsburgh district is at 20% compared with 18% last week, and output at Detroit and Cleveland is

being maintained, losses have occurred in West Virginia and at Birmingham and Buffalo. The Birmingham rate has been cut from about 48% to 25%.

There have been no important changes in prices, although scrap markets continue to be very weak. The "Iron Age" composite prices are unchanged at 2.087c. a lb. for finished steel, \$14.06 a gross ton for pig iron and \$7.41 a gross ton for steel scrap. A comparative table follows:

Finished Steel.		Pig Iron		Steel Scrap.	
May 24 1932, 2.087c. a Lb.		May 24 1932, \$14.06 a Gross Ton.		May 24 1932, \$7.41 a Gross Ton.	
One week ago	2.087c.	One week ago	\$14.06	One week ago	\$7.41
One month ago	2.087c.	One month ago	14.35	One month ago	8.04
One year ago	2.114c.	One year ago	15.79	One year ago	9.83
Based on steel bars, beams, tank plates wire, rails, black pipe and sheets		Based on average of basic iron at Valley furnace foundry irons at Chicago, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Valley and Birmingham.		Based on heavy melting steel quotations at Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Chicago.	
These products make 87% of the United States output.					
1932	2.087c. Jan. 5	1932	\$14.81 Jan. 5	1932	\$8.50 Jan. 12
1931	2.142c. Jan. 13	1931	15.90 Jan. 6	1931	11.33 Jan. 6
1930	2.362c. Jan. 7	1930	18.21 Jan. 7	1930	15.00 Feb. 18
1929	2.412c. Apr. 2	1929	18.71 May 14	1929	17.58 Jan. 29
1928	2.391c. Dec. 11	1928	18.59 Nov. 27	1928	16.50 Dec. 31
1927	2.453c. Jan. 4	1927	19.71 Jan. 4	1927	15.25 Jan. 11
1926	2.453c. Jan. 5	1926	21.54 Jan. 5	1926	17.25 Jan. 5
1925	2.560c. Jan. 6	1925	22.50 Jan. 13	1925	20.83 Jan. 13
		High.		Low.	
		2.037c. Jan. 19		\$14.06 May 17	
		2.052c. Dec. 29		15.79 Dec. 15	
		2.121c. Dec. 9		15.90 Dec. 16	
		2.362c. Oct. 25		18.21 Dec. 17	
		2.314c. Jan. 3		17.04 July 24	
		2.293c. Oct. 25		17.54 Nov. 1	
		2.403c. May 18		19.46 July 13	
		2.396c. Aug. 18		18.96 July 7	

"Steel" of Cleveland in its regular weekly summary of iron and steel conditions, on May 23 stated:

Structural steel requirements have expanded measurably, both in orders and active inquiry, lending needed reinforcement to the automobile industry in its almost single-handed support of the steel markets.

Including 12,000 tons for Long Island railroad grade crossing eliminations, last week's structural awards totaled 19,798 tons, largest since late March. Its loan from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation will enable the Pennsylvania railroad to release about 50,000 tons of its eastern electrification.

Over 10,000 tons for various projects should be placed this week in the New York district. Three Federal projects, up for bids at Washington in June, call for 35,000 tons. The largest river barge award in months at Pittsburgh is for 12, requiring 2,200 to 2,400 tons of plates and shapes.

In the aggregate, steel needs of the automobile industry continue to gain. This is largely due to Ford, expected to close this week on material for a June schedule which will be substantially larger than the May one. Detroit and northern Ohio mills thus far have been the chief beneficiary of Ford business; other districts may now share it.

Chevrolet probably will curtail somewhat in June. Some automobile manufacturers will build up stocks next month in anticipation of a mid-summer shutdown. June certainly will develop the heaviest automobile production—and steel consumption—in nine months; what July does depends on Ford.

The price situation commands greater attention. Barring some weakness in narrow hot-rolled strip, finished steel prices have been rather well stabilized. There has been an undercurrent that sheets might be advanced several dollars a ton for the third quarter, and perhaps heavy finished steel one.

But weakness in raw materials is persistent, and may become a threat. Pig iron at Pittsburgh and Youngstown is off 50 cents. Scrap also is weaker at Pittsburgh and Chicago, though more steady at Buffalo and Detroit. By-product coke is off 50 cents at Chicago; Conneville foundry coke is 25 cents easier. Warehouses at Detroit have revised cold-finished prices, imposing quantity extras.

As a result of these adjustments, the iron and steel composite of "Steel" is off six cents to \$29.58 and the scrap composite 21 cents to \$6.92. Meanwhile, the finished steel composite is unchanged at \$47.62.

Due largely to automotive specifications, Cleveland district mills expanded their operations six points last week to 38%. A rise of eight points at Buffalo more than offset a slight decline at Pittsburgh, giving last week a steel rate of 25 1/4%, the highest since the week ended March 12. Buffalo mills will retrench this week, while Pittsburgh may come back, indicating little change but a possible slight recession.

**Coal Trade at the Head of the Lakes Abruptly Curtailed in April, Due to Warmer Weather—Deliveries Continue Below Corresponding Period Last Year.**

With the coming of milder weather in April, the coal trade at the head of the Lakes was abruptly curtailed, reports the United States Bureau of Mines, Department of Commerce. Not only were deliveries of both anthracite and bituminous coal substantially less than in the month preceding, but they also fell considerably short of those in the corresponding month of last year. The movement of anthracite was particularly sluggish, the total tonnage of hard coal delivered during the month being 31.7% less than in March and 43.2% less than in April 1931. Bituminous deliveries, although 35.1% less than in the previous month, came within 4.2% of the tonnage delivered in the same month a year ago.

The first coal shipments of the current season arrived at the Duluth-Superior docks in April, but the tonnage was not large. Moreover, in view of the substantial carry-over

remaining in the hands of the dock operators, it is probable that shipments from the lower lake ports throughout the season will be held at moderate levels. The Bureau further reports as follows:

*Bituminous Stocks.*

A further reduction of 635,665 tons was reported in the commercial reserves of bituminous coal at the head of the lakes during April. This brings the total stocks in the hands of the dock operators to 4,388,132 tons, which is 268,950 tons more than the amount in storage on the same date of last year. Of the total quantity on hand on May 1, 3,078,245 tons was held by the Lake Superior operators and 1,309,887 tons by those on Lake Michigan.

*Anthracite Stocks.*

Stocks of hard coal have also declined during the past month and on May 1 amounted to 503,873 tons. In comparison with a month ago, this is a decrease of 15,424 tons, but is 69,909 tons more than the quantity on hand on May 1 1931. Both the Lake Superior and Lake Michigan operators reported a reduction in their reserves of anthracite on May 1, but the decline was most pronounced at the Lake Superior docks, where stocks fell from 299,826 tons on April 1 to 289,953 tons on May 1, a decrease of 9,873 tons. The commercial docks on the west bank of Lake Michigan reported a total of 213,920 tons of anthracite remaining in storage on May 1, a decrease of 5,551 tons when compared with the amount of hand a month ago.

## STOCKS, RECEIPTS AND DELIVERIES AT COMMERCIAL DOCKS ON LAKE SUPERIOR AND MICHIGAN, APRIL 1932, IN NET TONS.

	Lake Superior.	Lake Michigan.	Total.
<i>Bituminous—</i>			
Stocks on hand April 1 a	3,518,992	1,504,805	5,023,797
Received during April	27,296	104,757	132,053
Delivered (reloaded)	468,043	299,675	767,718
On hand May 1	3,078,245	1,309,887	4,388,132
<i>Anthracite—</i>			
Stocks on hand April 1 a	299,826	219,471	519,297
Received during April	—	9,557	9,557
Delivered (reloaded)	9,873	15,108	24,981
On hand May 1	289,953	213,920	503,873

a Revised since last report.

Note.—The above figures represent the commercial docks only and do not include docks of industrial consumers and railroads operated for their own supply. For Lake Superior, the source of information is the monthly tonnage report of the Maher Coal Bureau, which as been supplemented by direct information from companies not covered by that report. The figures for Lake Superior are believed to include all commercial companies operating at Duluth, Superior, Ashland and Washburn, and also certain others at Sault Ste. Marie, Hancock, and other points on the upper peninsula of Michigan. The figures for Lake Michigan are collected direct from the operators of docks on the west bank as far south as Racine and Kenosha, not including, however, Waukegan and Chicago, Illinois.

## Report on Foundry Operations in Philadelphia Federal Reserve District by University of Pennsylvania.

"The tonnage of steel castings produced during April in the Philadelphia Federal Reserve District by firms reporting to this Department," says the Industrial Research Department of the University of Pennsylvania, "increased nearly 25%. The gray iron and malleable iron branches of the industry," continues the Department, "however, suffered losses of 11 and 28%, respectively." The Research Department further reports:

The volume and value of shipments decreased both in the iron and steel foundries, but the average price remained about the same. Both groups, likewise, had a smaller tonnage of unfilled orders at the end than at the beginning of the month.

*Iron Foundries.*

No. of Firms Reporting.		April 1932.	Per Cent Change from Mar. 1932.	Per Cent Change from April 1931.
31	Capacity (short tons)	11,072	0.0	0.0
31	Production (short tons)	1,417	-13.2	-45.3
30	Gray iron (short tons)	1,248	-10.8	-44.0
	Jobbing (short tons)	977	-12.4	-44.2
	For further manufacture (short tons)	271	-4.8	-43.2
4	Malleable iron (short tons)	169	-27.6	-53.2
30	Shipments (short tons)	1,618	-4.6	-35.7
	Value	\$180,762	-5.3	-41.7
18	Unfilled orders (short tons)	378	-15.7	-19.0
	Value	\$68,862	+0.6	-1.1
	Raw stock:			
27	Pig iron (short tons)	2,381	-1.9	-16.7
26	Scrap (short tons)	1,291	+7.8	-15.8
26	Coke (short tons)	381	-16.9	-40.5

*Gray Iron Foundries.*

The production of gray iron castings in 30 foundries during April was nearly 11% less than in the previous month and 41% less than in the same month of last year. The decrease was mainly in castings for jobbing work which was over 12% less than in March, while the tonnage of castings used in further manufacture within the foundries declined less than 5%. The declines in activity from a year ago were practically the same in both classes of work. From the experience of other years, a decrease in output was to be expected. The percentage of decrease, however, was larger than usual. Since 1926 the decreases never exceeded 8% in the corresponding period with the exception of 1928, when the decline was over 14%.

The tonnage of castings produced by foundries located in Philadelphia continued to decline. The activity in plants operating in the balance of this Federal Reserve District was only two-thirds of that in March, thus losing the slight gains of the two previous months. Five of the eight plants reporting increased activity are located in Philadelphia.

Shipments of iron castings during April continued to decline although at a slower rate than the contraction of production. The decreases were about 5% in both tonnage and value. The average price per pound was but slightly less than a month ago and about half a cent a pound less than in April of last year.

The tonnage of unfilled orders on hand at the end of April was over 15% less than at the beginning of the month. This would be expected since deliveries were nearly maintained with a greater decrease in production. The value of unfilled orders increased about 10%.

Stocks of pig iron on hand were practically the same as at the end of last month, those of scrap were more, and the amount of coke on hand was less. All raw materials in stock at the end of April were less than a year ago.

*Prices per Pound of Shipments.*

	Iron Castings.	Steel Castings.
April 1932	\$0.559	\$0.708
March 1932	.0563	.0706
April 1931	.0616	.0712

*Malleable Iron Foundries.*

The tonnage of malleable iron castings produced in four foundries during April was over 25% less than in the previous month. The precipitous decline in activity since last October brings the volume of output of malleable castings to the lowest point since the stud was started in 1926.

*Steel Foundries.*

No. of Firms Reporting.		April 1932.	Per Cent Change from Mar. 1932.	Per Cent Change from April 1931.
8	Capacity (short tons)	8,630	0.0	0.0
8	Production (short tons)	1,279	+23.6	-51.1
	Jobbing (short tons)	1,229	+27.4	-46.0
	For further manufacture (short tons)	50	-28.6	-85.4
8	Shipments (short tons)	1,054	-13.4	-54.7
	Value	\$149,205	-13.2	-55.0
7	Unfilled orders (short tons)	2,224	-8.0	+47.8
	Value	\$249,864	-8.2	+17.6
	Raw stock:			
6	Pig iron (short tons)	186	-0.8	-47.1
6	Scrap (short tons)	4,031	-16.0	+5.1
6	Coke (short tons)	247	-1.4	-38.8

The output of steel castings during April in eight foundries was 23.6% more than in the previous month. In spite of this substantial gain in activity, the total production was only about half of that produced in the same period of last year and about one-quarter of the average monthly production in 1926. The gain in activity was confined to the production of castings for jobbing work which increased over 27%. The volume of castings produced for further manufacture within the plants has almost reached the vanishing point.

Deliveries of steel castings, however, did not keep pace with the increased output. Compared with the shipments of the previous month, the total deliveries made in April declined by approximately 13% in tonnage and value. The average price of steel castings was practically the same as a month ago and a year ago. The increased spread between the current average prices of iron and steel castings as compared with those prevailing a year ago still persists.

Unfilled orders on hand at the end of April showed a decrease of 8% in volume and value as compared with those reported a month ago. In spite of the decline, the total reported is still in excess of the orders unfilled a year ago.

Stocks of pig iron and coke at the end of the month were practically the same as at the close of March while the tonnage of scrap on hand was less. Compared with the corresponding period of last year, the tonnage of pig iron and coke in stock was less, but that of scrap was more.

## Decrease Reported by Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank in Employment in Pennsylvania Anthracite Collieries—Wage Payments Increased 19% from March to April.

Anthracite employment showed a decline of 5%, while wage payments increased 19% from March to April, according to the indexes compiled by the Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank from reports received by the Anthracite Bureau of Information from 159 collieries employing about 96,000 workers and having a weekly payroll of \$2,800,000. The gain in the amount of wages paid indicates an increase in operating time.

The employment index in April was 68% of the 1923-25 average or 18% lower than a year ago. The payroll index was 62, showing a drop of 3% from April 1931. Comparisons follow:

1923-1925 average=100.

	Employment.			Wage Payments.		
	1930.	1931.	1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.
January	105.6	88.3	74.2	92.1	75.8	52.1
February	107.8	87.1	69.3	103.7	79.8	48.6
March	83.3	79.9	71.7	67.1	55.7	51.9
April	84.8	82.9	68.1	63.9	63.8	61.8
May	92.3	78.3		85.8		
June	89.5	74.2		73.2		
July	90.3	63.4		72.6		
August	81.7	65.5		68.2		
September	91.9	77.8		78.2		
October	96.2	84.4		102.3		
November	94.7	81.2		83.2		
December	96.5	77.7		85.0		

## Production of Bituminous Coal and Pennsylvania Anthracite Continues to Fall Off.

According to the United States Bureau of Mines, Department of Commerce, production of bituminous coal and Pennsylvania anthracite is still on the decline, amounting to 4,328,000 net tons and 767,000 tons, respectively, during the week ended May 14 1932. This compares with a total output of 4,475,000 tons of bituminous coal and 968,000 tons of anthracite during the preceding week and 6,783,000 tons of bituminous coal and 875,000 tons of anthracite during the corresponding period last year.

During the calendar year to May 14 1932 there were produced 117,154,000 net tons of bituminous coal as against 145,938,000 tons during the calendar year to May 16 1931. The Bureau's statement follows:

## BEEHIVE COKE.

Production of beehive coke during the week ended May 7 is estimated at 11,000 net tons, the same figure as for the preceding week, and the lowest



Chicago.

	May 25 1932.	May 18 1932.	May 27 1931.
Loans and investments—total	1,353,000,000	1,352,000,000	1,941,000,000
Loans—total	904,000,000	903,000,000	1,337,000,000
On securities	518,000,000	520,000,000	768,000,000
All other	386,000,000	383,000,000	569,000,000
Investments—total	449,000,000	449,000,000	604,000,000
U. S. Government securities	262,000,000	262,000,000	341,000,000
Other securities	187,000,000	187,000,000	263,000,000
Reserve with Federal Reserve Bank	200,000,000	196,000,000	170,000,000
Cash in vault	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000
Net demand deposits	892,000,000	885,000,000	1,219,000,000
Time deposits	380,000,000	382,000,000	648,000,000
Government deposits	17,000,000	20,000,000	2,000,000
Due from banks	156,000,000	172,000,000	195,000,000
Due to banks	279,000,000	284,000,000	333,000,000
Borrowings from Federal Reserve Bank	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000

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

As explained above, the statement for the New York and Chicago member banks are now given out on Thursday, 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 in 101 cities 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 on May 18:

The Federal Reserve Board's condition statement of weekly reportings member banks in leading cities on May 8 shows decreases for the week of \$103,000,000 in loans and investments, \$12,000,000 in net demand deposits, \$35,000,000 in time deposits and \$49,000,000 in Government deposits, and increases of \$36,000,000 in reserves with Federal Reserve banks and of \$5,000,000 in borrowings from Federal Reserve banks.

Loans on securities declined \$10,000,000 in the Boston district, \$9,000,000 in the Chicago district, \$6,000,000 in the New York district and \$27,000,000 at all reporting banks. "All other" loans declined \$8,000,000 in the Chicago district, \$7,000,000 each in the New York and Cleveland districts and \$29,000,000 at all reporting banks.

Holdings of United States Government securities declined \$67,000,000 in the New York district, \$6,000,000 each in the Boston and Philadelphia districts and \$51,000,000 at all reporting banks, and increased \$21,000,000 in the St. Louis district and \$14,000,000 in the Chicago district. Holdings of other securities increased \$9,000,000 in the New York district and \$4,000,000 at all reporting banks.

Borrowings of weekly reporting member banks from the Federal Reserve banks aggregated \$180,000,000 on May 18, the principal change for the week being an increase of \$7,000,000 at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

A summary of the principal assets and liabilities of weekly reporting member banks, together with changes during the week and the year ending May 18 1932, follows:

	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) Since		
	May 18 1932.	May 11 1932.	May 20 1931.
Loans and investments—total	19,037,000,000	—103,000,000	—3,671,000,000
Loans—total	11,661,000,000	—56,000,000	—3,244,000,000
On securities	4,950,000,000	—27,000,000	—2,031,000,000
All other	6,711,000,000	—29,000,000	—1,213,000,000
Investments—total	7,376,000,000	—47,000,000	—427,000,000
U. S. Government securities	4,093,000,000	—51,000,000	+146,000,000
Other securities	3,283,000,000	+4,000,000	—573,000,000
Reserve with F. R. banks	1,718,000,000	+36,000,000	—116,000,000
Cash in vault	207,000,000	—1,000,000	—16,000,000
Net demand deposits	11,134,000,000	—12,000,000	—2,623,000,000
Time deposits	5,674,000,000	—35,000,000	—1,735,000,000
Government deposits	320,000,000	—49,000,000	+256,000,000
Due from banks	1,233,000,000	—2,000,000	—491,000,000
Due to banks	2,756,000,000	—31,000,000	—914,000,000
Borrowings from F. R. Banks	180,000,000	+5,000,000	+152,000,000

**Stock of Money in the Country Increased \$5,541,576 in April.**

The Treasury Department at Washington has issued the customary monthly statement showing the stock of money in the country and the amount in circulation after deducting the moneys held in the United States Treasury and by Federal Reserve banks and agents. It is important to note that, beginning with the statement of Dec. 31 1927, several very important changes have been made. They are as follows: (1) The statement is dated for the end of the month instead of for the first of the month; (2) gold held by Federal Reserve banks under earmark for foreign account is now excluded, and gold held abroad for Federal Reserve banks is now included; and (3) minor coin (nickels and cents) has been added. On this basis the figures this time, which are for April 30 1932, show that the money in circulation at that date (including, of course, what is held in bank vaults of member banks of the Federal Reserve System) was \$5,464,626,961, as against \$5,459,085,385 on March 31 1932 and \$4,652,414,437 on April 30 1931, and comparing with

\$5,698,214,612 on Oct. 31 1920. Just before the outbreak of the World War, that is, on June 30 1914, the total was only \$3,459,434,174. The following is the statement:

CIRCULATION STATEMENT OF UNITED STATES MONEY—APRIL 30 1932.

KIND OF MONEY.	Total Amount.	MONEY HELD IN THE TREASURY.		MONEY OUTSIDE OF THE TREASURY.		Population of United States (Estimated).
		Total.	Field for Federal Reserve Banks and Agents.	Total.	In Circulation.	
Gold coin and bullion	\$ 4,366,551.39	\$ 3,419,422,640	\$ 1,616,318,902	\$ 947,138,399	\$ 536,091,494	\$ 3.29
Gold certificates	b(1,573,533,929)	500,754,405	1,631,369,772	1,573,533,929	816,022,850	6.08
Stand. silv. dol.	559,958,135	500,754,405	1,212,360,791	39,203,730	8,810,363	2.24
Silver certificates	b(493,175,814)	500,754,405	1,212,360,791	493,175,814	137,468,755	2.85
Treasury notes of 1890	b(1,224,000)	16,215,051	1,616,318,902	1,224,000	1,224,000	.01
Subsidy silver	305,584,617	9,077,576	1,631,369,772	296,507,041	39,770,301	2.05
Minor coin	196,460,615	4,650,805	1,725,325,278	121,809,810	8,146,083	.91
U. S. notes	846,681,016	2,529,882	2,121,360,791	344,151,134	62,216,685	2.26
F. R. notes	2,774,203,375	1,371,570	2,772,631,805	2,772,631,805	222,140,893	20.43
F. R. bk. notes	2,830,000	57,054	2,830,000	57,054	100	.02
Nat. bank notes	737,996,081	16,215,051	1,616,318,902	721,781,030	18,814,643	5.63
Total Apr. 30 '32	9,200,274,968	3,954,078,938	2,067,933,743	7,314,129,728	1,849,502,767	43.76
Comparative totals:						
Mar. 31 1932	9,266,588,476	3,986,790,892	2,085,245,163	7,365,012,747	1,905,927,362	43.74
Apr. 30 1931	8,682,179,320	3,417,196,497	2,196,824,574	6,779,557,670	2,054,620,960	41.43
Oct. 31 1920	8,479,630,824	2,436,864,530	718,674,375	6,042,766,349	1,063,216,060	37.54
Mar. 31 1917	5,396,596,677	2,952,020,313	2,681,691,072	187,350,216	5,166,267,456	53.21
June 30 1914	3,797,835,099	2,184,569,804	1,507,178,879	183,390,925	3,459,434,174	40.23
Jan. 1 1879	1,007,084,483	212,420,402	21,602,640	90,817,762	816,266,721	16.92

\* Revised figures.  
 a Does not include gold bullion or foreign coin other than that held by the Treasury. Federal Reserve banks and Federal Reserve agents. Gold held by Federal Reserve banks under earmark for foreign account is excluded, and gold held abroad for Federal Reserve banks is included.

b These amounts are not included in the total since the money held in trust against gold and silver certificates and Treasury notes of 1890 is included under gold coin and bullion and standard silver dollars, respectively.

c The amount of money held in trust against gold and silver certificates and Treasury notes of 1890 should be deducted from this total before combining it with total money outside of the Treasury to arrive at the stock of money in the United States.

d This total includes \$35,409,821 gold deposited for the redemption of Federal Reserve notes (\$995,870 in process of redemption), \$29,518,773 lawful money deposited for the redemption of National bank notes (\$16,165,851 in process of redemption, including notes chargeable to the retirement fund), \$1,350 lawful money deposited for the retirement of additional circulation (Act of May 30 1908), and \$16,804,221 lawful money deposited as a reserve for postal savings deposits.

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

f The money in circulation includes any paper currency held outside the continental limits of the United States.

Notes.—Gold certificates are secured dollar for dollar by gold held in the Treasury for their redemption; silver certificates are secured dollar for dollar by standard silver dollars held in the Treasury for their redemption; United States notes are secured by a gold reserve of \$156,039,088 held in the Treasury. This reserve fund may also be used for the redemption of Treasury notes of 1890, which are also secured dollar for dollar by standard silver dollars held in the Treasury; these notes are being cancelled and retired on receipt. Federal Reserve notes are obligations of the United States and a first lien on all the assets of the issuing Federal Reserve Bank. Federal Reserve notes are secured by the deposit with Federal Reserve agents of a like amount of gold or of gold and such discounted or purchased paper as is eligible under the terms of the Federal Reserve Act, or, until March 3 1933, of direct obligations of the United States if so authorized by a majority vote of the Federal Reserve Board. Federal Reserve banks must maintain a gold reserve of at least 40%, including the gold redemption fund which must be deposited with the United States Treasurer, against Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation. Lawful money has been deposited with the Treasurer of the United States for retirement of all outstanding Federal Reserve bank notes. National bank notes are secured by United States bonds except where lawful money has been deposited with the Treasurer of the United States for their retirement. A 5% fund is also maintained in lawful money with the Treasurer of the United States for the redemption of National bank notes secured by Government bonds.

**Gold and Silver Imported Into and Exported From the United States, by Countries, in April 1932.**

The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the Department of Commerce at Washington has made public

its monthly report (figures subject to revision), showing the imports and exports of gold and silver into and from the United States during the month of April 1932. The gold exports amounted to \$49,509,170, of which \$24,526,766 went to France and \$18,706,863 to Netherlands. The imports were \$19,542,812, of which \$7,288,526 came from Canada, \$3,329,404 from Mexico and \$2,013,195 came from Japan. Below is the report:

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

Countries—	GOLD.		SILVER.			
	Total.		Refined Bullion.		Total (Incl. Coin).	
	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Ounces.	Ounces.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Belgium	669,000	160				62
France	24,526,766	200	33,057		8,850	68
Germany	3,345,434	59,590	99,892		29,094	556
Italy	100,726	1,840				900
Netherlands	18,706,863					
Poland & Danzig	1,250					
Switzerland	115,000					
United Kingdom	2,022,197	100,362		400,490	232	143,412
Canada	21,934	7,288,526	120,939	2,400	92,228	78,970
Costa Rica		5,264				
Guatemala		24,412				
Honduras		26,266		281,336		244,564
Nicaragua		23,628		3,838		1,315
Panama		180				
Salvador		206				132
Mexico		3,329,404		2,090,095	20,700	930,094
Jamaica		4,334				3,829
Trinidad		7,123				
Other Brit. W. Ind.		5,914				62
Cuba		64,093			77,677	2,950
Dominican Repub.		7,150				
Dutch West Indies		21,565				1,325
Chile		57,062				16,409
Colombia		7,230				
British Guiana		22,516				22
Peru		1,047,351				175,993
Uruguay		1,000,000				
Venezuela		158,395				
Ceylon		7,123				
China		3,692				151
Netherland E. Ind.		1,430,005	4,522,848	793,402	1,274,585	238,020
Hong Kong		245,427		125,415		38,565
Japan		971,614	400,473		113,134	
Philippine Islands		2,013,195		24,752		7,364
Australia		320,342				3,359
New Zealand		982,580				1,379
		40,895		101		28
Total	49,509,170	19,270,521	5,177,209	3,721,820	1,616,500	1,889,529

**British Government Paid £90,000,000 in Unemployment Benefit Last Year.**

The unemployment fund absorbed nearly £90,000,000 from the British Treasury in the fiscal year 1931-32, it is stated in a report to the Commerce Department from Trade Commissioner Roger R. Townsend, London. The fund disburses all insurance contributions received from employers and employees as well as from the exchequer, according to the Department, which on May 20 further reported:

A total amount of £144,000,000 was distributed from the Treasury for unemployment benefits, health insurance and widows', orphans' and old age pensions during the year.

The national health insurance fund received £6,362,000, while payments in respect to contributory pensions schemes (widows', orphans' and old age) amounted to £10,000,000. Payments for old age pensions totaled £37,900,000.

Expenditures of the various local poor law funds are not included in the above figures, and it was explained that no grant is paid from the Exchequer directly in aid of such funds.

**British Floating Debt Increased over £17,000,000 in Past Financial Year.**

The British national accounts for the financial year ended March 31 1932 show an increase of £17,630,000 in the total floating debt outstanding as compared with the end of the financial year 1931, it is made known in a report to the Department of Commerce from Trade Commissioner Roger R. Townsend, London. The Department May 19 likewise said:

The principal items of expenditure that account for this increase were given, in reply to a question in Parliament, as follows:

Payments of accumulated interest on savings certificates in excess of the provision for that purpose in the permanent debt charge	£8,431,000
Payments for Victory bonds, &c., tendered for estate duties	7,394,000
Payments to the depreciation fund for 5% War Loan	1,370,000

The total floating debt outstanding on March 31 1932 amounted to £611,955,000, composed of £604,455,000 in Treasury bills and £7,500,000 in ways and means advances by public departments; at the end of the preceding financial year, Treasury bills amounted to £569,825,000 and advances by public departments to £24,500,000. During the past financial year there was thus an increase of £34,630,000 in Treasury bills outstanding and a decrease of £17,000,000 in ways and means advances. No ways and means advances by the Bank of England were outstanding at the end of either year.

**Move to Let Great Britain Buy Silver Reserve—Tories Urge Plan in House of Commons to Protect Sterling—Proposal Lost—Treasury Secretary Assures House Nation Will Not Return to Gold "While Prices Behave As Now."**

From its London correspondent the New York "Times" reported the following May 25:

A move to permit the Treasury to purchase silver as well as gold to protect sterling was made to-day in the House of Commons. Although it was defeated, it was championed by two strong leaders of the Conservative party.

The proposal came in the form of an amendment to the finance bill introduced by L. S. Amery, former Dominions Secretary, and seconded by Sir Robert Horne, former Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. Amery explained that the amendment was permissive, not mandatory, so it would not commit the country to any far-reaching scheme of bimetallism. He urged it so that the Government might have power to protect sterling against fluctuations in silver as well as gold, and said such a provision was desirable because of Britain's trade with the silver countries of the Far East.

In a discussion over a sentence in the finance bill providing that the account for stabilizing exchange be abolished six months after the gold standard is resumed, several members indicated they wanted assurance that Britain never would return to gold under any circumstances. The objection to the bill's provision was that it implied the Government expected to return to gold and gave the impression of such an intention to foreign countries.

*Elliot Gives Assurance.*

Walter Elliot, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, assured the House that the Government had "no intention whatever of going back to the gold standard." This announcement was received with cheers, but Major Elliot added, "at any rate while gold prices are behaving as now."

This was not cheered. Mr. Amery predicted the silver question would arise soon on an international basis and certainly at the Ottawa-Imperial Conference. He said Britain should go there with a free hand to do what was required.

Sir Robert Horne said it would be a good thing if Britain could get rid of its gold mentality and begin to think seriously in terms of the new situation.

"Last year the American Senate passed unanimously a resolution asking the President to call an international currency conference and, according to my information, when a tentative suggestion of that kind came from America to the Government of this country, it was not received enthusiastically.

*Progress Since Then.*

"Since then the question has progressed in America much further. The Coinage Committee of Congress, quite independent in its composition, for it hasn't a single representative of the silver States, recently reported in favor of a conference of nations interested in the restoration of the price level of commodities through the stabilization of international exchanges and declaring for the utilization of silver as well as gold to that end. As no ultimate solution of the problem can be reached by action of this country alone—it requires the co-operation of other countries, particularly the United States—I suggest provision shall be made in the bill to enable the Government to go forward without committing us to any action contrary to our wishes."

Sir Edward Hilton Young on behalf of the Government asked that the amendment be withdrawn, adding that the request did not mean that the Ministry intended to prejudice the issue raised, which undoubtedly will be discussed at Ottawa. He explained that the stabilization account had been devised for a specific purpose and it would be more useful to the Government in its original form than with the proposed changes.

Thereupon Mr. Amery offered to withdraw the amendment, but the opposition refused to allow that, so the amendment was negated.

*Advocates Paper Currency.*

J. W. Hills, Conservative, said that Britain was still only one step removed from the gold standard because the exchange value of the pound was expressed only in terms of dollars and francs and the whole effort of the Treasury was devoted to keeping British currency stable in terms of the gold currencies of the United States and France. He wanted Britain to disregard gold entirely and adopt an unrelated paper currency managed with reference to commodity prices and based on the stability of the British Empire, attracting to its ambit other countries with currencies already linked to sterling.

Josiah C. Wedgewood moved to amend the bill by the addition of a clause prohibiting the Treasury from buying any gold. This was opposed on the ground it would detract from the flexibility of the stabilization account, thereby impairing its usefulness in protection of sterling against fluctuations. The amendment was lost by a vote that gave the Government a majority of 301.

**F. J. Lisman Holds Bimetallism Impractical—Credit Structure Would Have Been Wrecked 40 Years Ago by Silver Inflation Except for Stand of President Cleveland.**

Bimetallism is impracticable and any attempt to make people accept silver for monetary purposes at an artificial ratio to gold would only result in a premium on gold, according to F. J. Lisman, who points out that virtually all of the agitation for silver comes from the seven silver-producing States. Mr. Lisman says:

"There is much talk about other or better standards of value than gold, but they have not been found. If some country should try to substitute something else, it could be usable only if everyone were willing to take this substitute in exchange for whatever goods or services are sold—whether this substitute be silver, platinum, or currency based on land credits, wheat or pig iron. If everybody is not willing to accept it, then it is not a proper means of exchange. It does not look as though anybody would take any of these things.

"Whenever an attempt is made to force people to accept something contrary to their desire, it results merely in a premium for the desired article.

"Silver is an unimportant commodity with an important sentimental value which is greatly accentuated and exploited for political purposes. The decline in the price of silver has been parallel to that of other commodities, but during the past few years has been temporarily accentuated by governmental action due to the impoverishment of Europe by the World War and a colossal governmental blunder in India. Silver is largely a by-product, and the natural law of supply and demand had best be given play which will ultimately bring the best results to all.

"The entire credit structure of the United States would have been wrecked about 40 years ago by silver inflation if we had not had courageous Grover Cleveland in the Presidency.

"Five important countries of Europe—France, Belgium, Greece, Switzerland, and Italy—tried bimetallism for a whole generation and gave it up because the world price of silver declined relatively to gold. If the most

important commercial nations were willing to coin and maintain silver at a fixed ratio to gold, they could undoubtedly hold the price of the two metals at the agreed upon ratio for as long as they are willing to stand together in this practice. If for any reason the production of either metal should increase disproportionately to the other, the countries not directly benefited by such increased production would surely insist on changing the arrangement with consequential violent upheavals of many financial structures. The mere and probably frequent agitations for such a change would be unsettling to business.

"Many experienced mining men are of the opinion that our planet has been so thoroughly prospected for gold that the discovery of new important gold fields is very unlikely. They fear that with the increasing demand for gold for currency and the arts, its price will steadily rise. Inasmuch as gold is nominally always selling at the same price, a theoretical rise in the price of gold means an actual decline in the price of everything else, with consequential great losses to the trading classes and business depression.

"But mankind has never yet succeeded in providing very far for future generations. By endeavoring to fly from dangers or contingencies which we realize, we are compelled to face new problems and risks not previously conceived. Artificially to boost the price of anything brings about unfavorable kickbacks. We have very recent evidence of this in many directions. For inflation purposes, paper is more serviceable than silver and does not involve payments of bonuses to particular countries or sections."

#### Bank of England's Gold Purchases.

From its London Bureau the "Wall Street Journal" of May 21 says it is learned from authoritative quarters that the purchases of gold recently made by the Bank of England were acquired directly from the Bank of France. The message adds:

It is clear that the purchases were made possible by the new exchange fund plan as otherwise it would be technically impossible for the Bank to buy gold at the present high sterling rate.

#### Money Accumulating on All the Markets—British Treasury Bills Now 1%—Same Rate for Monthly Loans at Paris.

A London cablegram May 18, is quoted as follows from the New York "Times":

All indications point to continuance of very easy money on this market. This is in line with the official policy, but it also reflects the present tendency for London to become a receiving centre for large amounts of idle international funds. Recently the gilt-edged market of the Stock Exchange has been absorbing much money in financing its greatly increased activity, but any reduction of credit supplies due to this cause has been made good through release of money from official quarters.

This is done by means of purchase of bills in the open money market. The rates at which these bills are bought are very low; consequently, there is no possibility of any advance in market discount rates. The Treasury is now issuing bills at less than 1%, while only a slightly higher rate prevails in the market for fine commercial paper.

A Paris message (May 20) to the same paper said:

The extreme money plethora is illustrated by the fact that loans on defense bonds, which constitute the principal means of employing liquid resources, are now made at 1% for one month and 1½% for three. The outstanding features of the Bank return as of May 13 were the decrease of 632,000,000 in circulation and 1,544,000,000 in private deposits.

On the other hand, the Treasury deposits lost 2,063,000,000 in consequence of obtaining subscription to the 3,000,000,000 of Treasury bonds within 24 hours.

#### British Press Doubts That Settlement on War Debts Can Be Reached at Lausanne Conference—Extension of Moratorium Until after United States Election Thought Possible.

The London correspondent of the New York "Times" stated on May 22 that with a unanimity of opinion that is rarely to be found on political or financial questions, the British press is agreed that the tactics of Prime Minister MacDonald at the Lausanne conference will be to secure an extension of the Hoover moratorium on war debts until the American elections. The cablegram went on to say:

It is believed here that after the elections in the United States, when the questions of war debts may be taken out of politics, an arrangement will be possible under which France would be reconciled to the loss of German reparations payments.

It is agreed that any settlement between Germany and the creditor Governments on reparations would need to be contingent upon the attitude taken by the United States on the war obligations. Since it is taken for granted now that America cannot forgive any part of the war debts until the elections are over, there is little hope of results from Lausanne.

#### British Gold Purchases.

The city is puzzled by the action of the Bank of England last week in purchasing £3,000,000 gold. It is supposed that the gold is to be carried in the equalization fund, but the operations of this fund are not being published. There was a large quantity of gold received last week from India and from Africa, but its destination was not disclosed.

There are reports that the Bank of England subscribed £8,000,000 of the £33,000,000 French internal loan. The purpose was supposed to be to secure some interest return on that portion of the funds handled by the equalization fund which is invested in francs.

In view of the disturbed conditions both on the Continent and in America many bankers fear that operation of the fund will lead to heavy losses. This possibility is offered as an argument against the efforts made to stabilize sterling by manipulation of foreign exchanges instead of through the creation of a fixed buying and selling price for gold.

As the Ottawa conference approaches fear is widely expressed that Great Britain has more to lose than to gain by a system of Empire customs agreements. This feeling is intensified by reports from Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay outlining joint measures which they propose to take in order to combat the Dominions. As half a billion pounds are invested in Argentina by British nationals those who hold foreign interests fear the effects of closing Empire trade to countries outside the Dominions.

As to the Lausanne conference, scheduled for June 16, London advices May 11 to the New York "Times" had the following to say:

As the British Foreign Office has received informal intimations from all the Governments concerned that June 16 is acceptable to them for the opening of the Lausanne conference, the British Government, acting under a mandate, will forthwith issue formal invitations for the meeting to convene on that date.

The principal Governments that will receive summonses are France, Italy, Germany, Belgium and Japan, as being, together with Britain, primarily concerned with German reparations. Countries with lesser stakes involved which also will be invited are Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Poland, Portugal, and Greece. Invitations will be sent to Hungary and Bulgaria to participate in the conference when it discusses non-German reparations.

In accepting the date suggested by Britain the other countries have also implied their approval of the tentative British proposal that the conference divide its work into three stages, covering German reparations, other reparations and general questions.

The "general questions" referred to in this provisional agenda were defined by the British Foreign Office last February as "other economic and financial difficulties which are responsible for or may prolong the present world crisis."

It will be remembered that this June session was decided upon last January, when the Lausanne conference planned for that month was abandoned because of the general realization that nothing could then be accomplished. There is no greater expectation now that anything definite can be achieved next month, but it is considered more advisable to meet and adjourn than have another postponement.

The only certainty with which all are going to Lausanne is that Germany is not going to resume payments after the Hoover moratorium expires July 1. Beyond that is nothing but uncertainty. There is no plan. So there is the best authority for believing that the delegates, after admitting to one another that more time is needed, will adjourn.

The formal resolution of adjournment is not likely to contain any reference to the Presidential election in the United States as the cause of delay, but that is the crux of the whole situation, and it will be the thing for which Lausanne will really have to wait.

#### London Preparing "Exchange Fund" Gold Purchases Made in Program of Stabilizing Sterling Market—Treasury Backs Bank of England.

The Bank of England's official and unexpected purchases of about £3,000,000 gold from the open market continue to arouse discussion said a London wireless message May 19 to the New York "Times" which went on to say:

There is no question that these operations were directly connected with the establishment by the Government of an "exchange equilibrium account," for which £150,000,000 is to be assigned and which is intended to provide funds, not only for purchase of sterling exchange when necessary, but also for purchase of gold. The recent purchases were obviously in the nature of "special operations," and the actual arrangement made by the Bank of England and the Treasury for managing the exchange fund is likely to remain a matter of conjecture. Further purchases of gold by the Bank are expected from time to time.

It is not thought that the Bank of England made these purchases from gold just arrived in the open market. No large quantities have lately become available in that quarter. During the past 10 weeks, however, imports of gold have exceeded exports by more than £13,000,000, and it is supposed to be from the amounts thus accumulated, chiefly from South Africa and India, that the Bank made its purchases.

It is assumed that the Bank paid at least approximately the market price for gold; but since this price is 28 shillings per fine ounce higher than the statutory price at which the Bank is authorized to take gold for its own account—a difference of nearly one-third—the presumption is that the loss represented by the difference between these prices will be made good out of the exchange fund. In that case all the loss will be borne by the Treasury. Normally, when the Bank buys gold, it issues a corresponding amount in notes, and that policy appears to have been pursued on the present occasion.

It is expected that the Bank rate will be reduced to 2% in due course. This, however, could have little additional influence on the market, which has already discounted such a fall in the official rate.

Great Britain's proposed "Exchange Equalization Account" was referred to in these columns April 23, page 2994 and May 14, page 3556.

#### Liquid Resources Abundant in Paris—Private Banks Leave Balances at Bank of France Drawing No Interest.

Under the above head an account May 20 to the New York "Times" said:

After being for some days in very bad shape, the Bourse recovered fairly rapidly on Thursday, owing to a better impression concerning the new government; but it weakened again on Friday. Political uncertainty is still too great for any upward tendency to become clearly established.

While the gold reserve of the Bank of France rose 312,000,000 francs in the week covered by Thursday's statement, its foreign balances decreased 467,000,000. The reserve ratio rose from 71.51% to 71.91. Interest rates on the money market give no adequate notion of the extraordinary superabundance of liquid resources now existing. The banks are in fact obliged to maintain large sums on deposit at the Bank of France without interest, because they cannot find employment for them either in discounting bills or in short loans. If they were to offer all they have on the market, it would merely cheapen the money rate without actually improving their own position. As a consequence, banks prefer placing what they can at the present rate and leaving the rest to remain idle.

The statement that technical currency inflation exists in France through the large note issue of the bank is admitted to be true; but since the surplus currency represents capital and not income, it appears to have no stimulating effect on consumption or prices. It is commonly remarked, also, that the great increase in money circulation as compared with the pre war figure is partly accounted for by the increase in French territory through the acquisition of Alsace-Lorraine.

The Bank of England's gold purchases confirm the opinion held here for some time that Great Britain will return to the gold standard. Aban-

document of gold payments is not considered in itself to have improved Great Britain's economic position. The large reduction in England's balance of foreign payments, shown by the foreign trade statements for March and April, was mostly due to restriction of imports arising from the new British tariff. Exports, which it was expected would be stimulated by the depreciation of sterling, have hardly benefited perceptibly.

### Hoarding in France Changes Its Form—Small Depositors Not Now Frightened Over Solvency of Banks, But Distrust Markets.

Paris advices May 20 to the New York "Times" said:

The increase of 4,400,000,000 francs in French bank note circulation, as compared with a year ago, raises again the question how such an amount of additional currency can remain in circulation when the volume of French business has shrunk and real requirements for use of currency have proportionately diminished. Hoarding by individuals is usually given as the explanation, but the hoarding is not all in the usual form. On occasion, during the past 12 months, the French people have withdrawn currency from their banks through fears of the solvency of the banks, but that movement has now ceased. More recently, in fact, the increased deposits at the Bank of France indicate that people have been bringing bank notes back to the large banks.

As regards personal hoarding, however, it must be remembered that payment by check is very little used in France, and that from time immemorial individuals, particularly country people and even small tradespeople, have had the habit of keeping on hand large sums of cash in coin or bank notes. Hoarding in that sense is therefore customary in France. Just now it is undoubtedly increased because doubtful investors are afraid to buy securities and are keeping their money idle.

### Paris Gold Coin Demand Reviving—American Eagles Selling for \$24.50—Bankers Confident of Dollar's Inherent Strength.

From the Paris bureau, the "Wall Street Journal" of May 21, reported the following:

Dealers in gold coins report indications of a revival of business in American eagles, which are now priced at a rate of \$24.50. Amsterdam apparently is the main source of supply. Recent imports bear the date of 1932, which is taken to indicate that the supply of older eagles is exhausted.

Sovereigns are much more scarce, but recent arrivals are also dated 1932. It is understood that the question of putting French gold coins into circulation has been considered recently, but is unlikely to take place, although it would have the effect of lessening the drain on the United States.

The foreign exchange market remains narrow, especially for dollars. Forward discount on dollars is 6 to 8 centimes for one month and 15 to 18 centimes for three months.

Europe continues to be unfavorably impressed by the confusion in Congress. Bankers are satisfied that the dollar is perfectly able to resist pressure, but are inclined to be anxious over the American campaign tending toward devalorization, the exact strength of which is not clear. It is alleged that weakness in the dollar arises at least as much from American as from European selling.

There is a steady undertone in the demand for sterling, especially from America through Paris. The Bank of England continues to hold the rate down. It is reckoned here that the latter has already acquired £12,000,000 gold.

### Changes at Bank of France—Year's Gain of Gold Has Caused Great Increases in Loanable Resources.

Comment as follows, from Paris, May 20, is from the New York "Times":

A survey of the present Bank of France returns gives an idea of the changes in the money situation here. The Bank's gold holdings have increased within the year about 23,000,000,000 francs, or about \$900,000,000, but foreign exchange holdings have been reduced 15,500,000,000 francs. This difference of 7,500,000,000 francs has naturally determined a corresponding increase in the circulation and deposits figures, and those items of sight liabilities have risen 9,750,000,000 in the year.

It must be noted, however, that a year ago the Treasury and the Caisse d'Amortissement deposits, which represent money practically withdrawn from the market, aggregated 10,800,000,000 and private deposits 11,100,000,000, whereas to-day the private deposits total stands at 22,000,000,000 and the Treasury and the Caisse deposits only at 5,000,000,000.

### German Bank Shares to Be Declared Void If Not Surrendered in Time in Germany for Exchange for New Certificates.

Owing to the world-wide credit crisis, which reached an acute stage in July of last year, the leading German banks, with the assistance of the Golddiskontbank, as previously related in these columns, have readjusted their capital structure by drastic and courageous reductions. The new balance sheet figures, as compared with the old ones, are shown in a table covering the last three years, issued by the New York and Hanseatic Corp. For the purpose of exchange, shares of Deutsche Bank, Commerz-Bank, Barmer Bank-Verein, and Adca may be presented to New York and Hanseatic Corp., while Hallgarten & Co. have been appointed official agents for the exchange of Dresdner Bank and Danat shares. As the old shares will be declared void if not surrendered for exchange in Germany by or about July 15 (no time limit set yet for Deutsche Bank and Adca), holders of such German certificates are urged to present them at the above offices as early as possible.

**Allgemeine Deutsche Credit-Anstalt (ADCA) (Leipzig).**—Under plan of capital readjustment of this bank an amount of 22,000,000 reichsmarks was canceled from a total of 40,000,000 reichsmarks capital and the remaining 18,000,000 reichsmarks was reduced in the ratio of 3 to 1 to 6,000,000 reichsmarks. The capital was then increased to 20,000,000 reichsmarks

by the issuance of new shares in the amount of 14,000,000 reichsmarks, taken over by the Golddiskontbank. The Reich has placed, and the Free State of Saxony will place, larger amounts of Treasury notes at the disposal of the Adca, which are being used to build up a surplus of 6,000,000 reichsmarks and considerable hidden reserves. The Adca will take over all assets and liabilities of Anhalt-Dessauische Landesbank (capital and surplus 6,400,000 reichsmarks). Holders of 3,000 reichsmarks par value of Adca old shares are to receive 1,000 reichsmarks par value of new shares.

**Barmer Bank-Verein Hinsberg, Fischer & Co. (Duesseldorf).**—Under plan of merger of this bank and the Commerz-und Privat-Bank, title of which is to be Commerz-und Privat-Bank A. G., capital of the Barmer Bank has been reduced to 12,500,000 reichsmarks by the cancellation of 23,500,000 reichsmarks treasury stock. Remaining 12,500,000 reichsmarks is to be exchanged on a share-for-share basis for new Commerz-Bank shares. For each 1,000 reichsmarks of Barmer Bank held, shareholders are to receive 1,000 reichsmarks of new Commerz-Bank shares.

**Commerz-und Privat-Bank A. G. (Berlin).**—Under capital readjustment plan of this bank, 37,200,000 reichsmarks treasury stock of the old capital of 75,000,000 reichsmarks was sold to the Reich at 100%. The entire old capital was then reduced in the ratio of 10:3 to 22,500,000 reichsmarks and thereafter increased by 57,500,000 reichsmarks to 80,000,000 reichsmarks, of which the Golddiskontbank took over 45,000,000 reichsmarks at 115%. The remaining 12,500,000 reichsmarks are to be used for exchange of Barmer Bank-Verein shares. Premiums amounting to 6,250,000 reichsmarks and 23,250,000 reichsmarks German Treasury notes contributed gratis by the Reich have been used to establish a new surplus of 30,000,000 reichsmarks. Holders of 1,000 reichsmarks par value of old shares of Commerz-und Privat-Bank are to receive 300 reichsmarks par value of new shares. (Further details of exchange are under Barmer Bank-Verein, Hinsberg, Fischer & Co.) (Duesseldorf).

**Darmstaedter und Nationalbank (Danat) (Berlin).**—As a result of merger of this bank and the Dresdner Bank, outstanding shares of both institutions are being exchanged for new stock of the Dresdner Bank. Holders of 1,000 reichsmarks par value Danat shares will receive 300 reichsmarks par value of new Dresdner Bank shares. Of the old capital shares in the amount of 35,000,000 reichsmarks were canceled, the remaining 25,000,000 reichsmarks are to be exchanged in the ratio of 10 to 3 for new Dresdner Bank shares. 7,500,000 reichsmarks Dresdner Bank shares required for this purpose will be furnished gratis by the Reich.

**Deutsche Bank und Disconto-Gesellschaft (Berlin).**—Under plan of readjustment of capital structure of this bank, 33,000,000 reichsmarks treasury stock of the old capital was canceled. 72,000,000 reichsmarks treasury stock was offered to private syndicate at 115% and the balance of 180,000,000 reichsmarks was reduced in the ratio of 5 to 2 to 72,000,000 reichsmarks. Holders of 5,000 reichsmarks par value of old shares are to receive 2,000 reichsmarks par value of new shares.

**Dresdner Bank (Berlin).**—Under plan of capital readjustment of this bank, 33,333,000 reichsmarks common stock kept in treasury was canceled. The remaining 66,667,000 reichsmarks common shares were reduced in the ratio of 10 to 3 to 20,000,000 reichsmarks. Of 300,000,000 reichsmarks preferred shares held by the Reich, 100,000,100 reichsmarks were canceled and the remaining 199,999,900 reichsmarks converted into common. Holders of 1,000 reichsmarks par value of old shares will receive 300 reichsmarks par value of new Dresdner Bank shares.

### Germany Said to Be Negotiating for Extension of Time on \$90,000,000 Credit.

The New York "Sun" of last night published the following from Paris, May 27:

Negotiations have begun between the Reichsbank and foreign central banks for another extension of the former's \$90,000,000 credit obtained last summer during Germany's financial crisis.

Participating in the conferences are representatives of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the Bank of France, the Bank of England and the Bank for International Settlements.

The Reichsbank loan previously had been extended to June 4. While the Bank of France is not opposed to renewing the French share of the loan, amounting to \$22,500,000, the French bank is insisting on different terms, in view of Germany's refusal to pay further reparations.

It is understood the French will agree to renewal on the condition that Germany amortize 20% of the debt.

The "Sun" added:

The credit was reduced from \$100,000,000 to \$90,000,000 on March 4 as a condition, said to have been imposed mainly at the instance of the Bank of France, of renewal for three months. A demand for a 20% repayment now would require \$18,000,000 from Reichsbank reserves of gold and foreign exchange, which have not yet shown any appreciable advance over March levels.

The American share, now \$22,500,000, is held by the Reserve banks and probably will be acted upon next week by directors of the local institutions, which does not, as a rule, announce its action until the day the credit is due.

### Germany to Decree New Taxes to Aid Jobless—Average Monthly Dole in 6,000,000 Homes \$13.

In a Berlin cablegram May 20 to the New York "Times" it was stated that despite the Government's assertion last December that the limit of taxation had been reached, new taxes will be introduced next week in another emergency decree that will again force all Germans to tighten their belts for the sake of the public finances, depleted by expenditures for unemployment. The cablegram continued:

The dole will be reduced to an average monthly amount of \$13, which will henceforth be the means of subsistence of 6,000,000 Germans and their families, and a new tax will be levied upon each citizen gainfully employed.

The decree, which is now before the Cabinet, is necessary to raise the more than 3,000,000,000 marks (about \$715,000,000) necessary to support an average number of unemployed of 5,900,000 in 1932 and help the municipalities that bear most of this burden and are threatened with financial collapse.

It is hoped the new revenues will cover the deficit of the municipalities, which was 350,000,000 marks last year and it is estimated it will be 750,000,000 by the end of the current fiscal year.

The decree will also contain a program for the creation of additional work, to be financed by a domestic lottery loan.

The "Times" of May 21 commenting on the above said:

Under the emergency decree issued Dec. 8 1931, the German Government resorted to what was then described as the last taxation reserve by increasing the turnover tax on business from .85 to 2%. Previous decrees had heavily increased the income and other taxes.

A German earning \$2,000, with a wife and one child now pays an annual income tax of \$215.

### Berlin Discussing U. S. Policy on Gold—Believes Any Change Would be Disastrous to World—The "Open-Market Policy."

From Berlin May 20 a wireless message to the New York "Times" stated:

The American currency policy is being discussed as an important influence on the course of events in Germany. Apparently sharing the idea prevalent in Europe that the Congressional attitude is dangerous, the bulletin of the Berlin Handelsgesellschaft Bank remarks that, since the dollar has for a decade past been the world standard for measuring the value of gold, any conceivable amendment of the gold standard by America would introduce incalculable factors of uncertainty into the whole world's currency position.

England's experience, adds the Handelsgesellschaft, proves that abandonment of the gold standard is an unsuitable means for advancing world prices. It expresses the positive opinion that if its abandonment by America could be imagined, that action would cause a new deflation process, not only in countries which still adhere to the gold standard but in countries already on a paper basis.

The official Institute for Studying Trade Fluctuations expresses the opinion, in its current bulletin, that America's experience so far proves that little actual improvement can be obtained by measures applied directly to the money market. It recognizes that the open-market policy of the Federal Reserve may have checked insolvencies of banks and increased their available resources. It does not see, however, that the Reserve Bank policy has as yet had any tangible effect in reanimating industry.

### German Mark Now Stands Above Parity in Rate on All Gold-Paying Countries.

Advices as follows from Berlin May 20 are from the New York "Times":

Although the foreign trade returns for April show a heavily diminished export surplus, the immediate outlook for the reichsmark's stability seems to have improved. At Berlin dollar exchange continues, as it has done ever since the July crisis, to be officially quoted at 4.13, but most exchange rates of gold-paying countries on Berlin have sunk, and in foreign gold-currency countries as a whole the mark quotes above par.

This improvement in the mark seems to be partly due to fear of inflationist measures in gold countries, which has led to selling of dollars and other gold currencies in Berlin. But the improvement is also partly due to the spread of the practice of invoicing in reichsmarks and to the shortage of marks abroad, due to the German prohibition against export of marks. Furthermore, the Government's latest reduction of the ratio of foreign currency allowed to importers has begun to take effect. These factors all explain the considerable increase in the Reichsbank's exchange reserve as reported.

The banks, however, are not inclined to ascribe much importance to this new firmness of the mark. They still hold that the ultimate course of the currency will depend on the foreign trade balance and the decision arrived at in July regarding the debt question.

Cereal crops are reported as greatly improved during the last fortnight. There is now a possibility of an early harvest with a record yield. These expectations led to a sharp fall on Thursday in July wheat on the Berlin grain exchange.

### Amsterdam Lays Large Dutch Withdrawals of Gold from U. S. to Misgiving Over Attitude of Congress—Gold Shipments Said to Insure Maintenance of Standard in Holland, Belgium and Switzerland.

The Amsterdam correspondent of the New York "Times" had the following to say under date of May 19:

The persistence of dollar exchange at a point favoring gold imports to this market from America and the resultant large shipments from New York to Amsterdam during recent weeks—about \$50,000,000 since the beginning of April—are ascribed by the market to the misgiving which seems to prevail in this country regarding the attitude of the United States toward the gold standard. The attacks on dollar exchange have been directly stimulated by the proceedings of the American Congress, especially its slowness and hesitation in restoring budget equilibrium. From a purely market point of view, the recent gold imports from America are explained by the low quotation of dollar exchange. Notwithstanding the large gold shipments, this rate remains at 246.375, or much below the gold parity of 248.

Further gold engagements from New York, amounting to some millions, are expected before the gold parity is restored. There is a considerable bear position outstanding in dollars, which is demonstrated by the important discounts on foreign exchange. These range from 20 to 120 Dutch cents per \$100 to 190 to 220 for three months' contracts.

Gold holdings of the Netherlands Bank on May 17 were 937,000,000 guilders, as against 703,000,000 on Sept. 21, when England went off the gold standard. As against this increase of 234,000,000 guilders, or \$94,000,000, foreign bills held by the bank have fallen in the same period from 231,000,000 guilders to 88,000,000, a decline of 143,000,000 guilders, or \$57,200,000. One result of this large return of money previously loaned abroad is that Dutch lenders are now vainly seeking to find use for their idle capital.

One year Treasury bills have recently been discounted here at 1¾%. There is also a large amount of foreign money offering in this market; that development also being in the main ascribed to feeling about the dollar, which has been diverting liquid funds to this country. The gold movements have been generally encouraged by the extremely low interest rates elsewhere.

Partly in consequence of the gold received from America, it is now recognized that no danger exists to maintenance of the gold standard in Holland, Switzerland or Belgium. The general comment is, however, that in the other smaller European countries the gold standard is only nominally maintained, and that at the moment it is France, Holland and Switzerland which are leading in the European fight for maintenance of gold.

### Netherlands Plans Issue—Proceeds Will Be Used to Refund 150,000,000 Guilder Maturity.

The Netherlands Government will offer for subscription on June 2 an internal 250,000,000-guilder 5% issue at par, according to advices received here by A. P. von Hemert, New York representative of De Twentsche Bank, N. V., of Amsterdam. The New York "Evening Post" of May 25 in reporting this said:

Part of the proceeds will be used to refund the 150,000,000-guilder 6% Kingdom of Netherlands bonds, series B, which are quoted on the New York Curb Exchange and have been called for payment on July 1, it is understood. Payment on subscriptions to the new loan will be due July 1. Coupon dates have been fixed at Jan. 1 and July 1.

### Hungarian Stock Market (Budapest) Closed for 10 Months—Situation Little Improved in Central European Country—Bounty on Wheat and Rye To be Discontinued June 30.

Budapest's stock market has been closed for more than 10 months now, an arresting symbol of the rather disquieting economic and financial condition in Hungary, due mainly to the increased strangulation of foreign trade, prospects of an unbalanced budget without recourse to further inflation, the straits of agriculture, and the depressed state of industry, all of which lack any visible signs of improvement for the first quarter of 1932, according to a cable to the Commerce Department from Acting Commercial Attache George Wythe, Budapest. Conditions were further indicated in the following issued by the Department May 20.

The Government is concentrating its efforts on temporary measures to bridge the difficult summer months with prospects that the next agricultural crop will bring relief, it was stated.

United States firms have immobilized in Hungary about \$1,749,000, it is estimated, representing collections of commercial accounts which are impossible to transfer from the "blocked" accounts, and which cannot be disposed of even in Hungary, without the permission of the National Bank, which has resorted to these measures because of the difficult financial problems.

The note circulation of the National Bank amounted to 374,000,000 pengos on March 31, the statutory reserve 123,200,000, the bill portfolio 407,200,000, and the gold cover 29%, as compared with note circulation of 422,794,000 on Dec. 31 1931, reserve 101,990,000, bill portfolio 440,850,000, and the cover 34.5%.

On Jan. 20, the discount rate was reduced from 8 to 7% owing to the present abnormal and controlled credit situation. Considerable agitation has occurred in favor of further reductions, but this is not possible until satisfactory arrangements have been made with foreign creditors. According to a recent statement by the Finance Minister the Government is now endeavoring to convince foreign creditors that the existing rates of interest must be reduced.

Hungary's agricultural situation is in a particularly difficult situation, owing to the short crops of last season, and to the rapid decline of export markets. All of her principal foreign markets are restricting imports of agricultural products, especially livestock, which during the last two years has been Hungary's most profitable class of exports.

Various measures are being adopted by the Agrarian bloc in Parliament to improve the purchasing power of the rural population. The bounty on wheat and rye will be discontinued on June 30, however, but it is proposed to relieve agriculture by abolishing the ground tax and reducing other assessments in the farming communities. A price examination commission was created, and on March 31, prices of various essential farm supplies were reduced from 8 to 24%.

The Government appropriated 20,000,000 pengos to aid farmers with their crops this spring, through the Central Banking Corporation and the National Credit Corporation at 8½% interest. Steps were also taken to relieve the heavy burden of the agriculturists.

Industry is sharply depressed, iron, steel and machinery industries being sharply affected, working about one fifth of capacity, with further reduction expected in a few months.

Insolvencies rose by 15% during the first quarter of this year, as compared with the same period a year ago.

(Pengo equal to about 17.49 cents, U. S. par.)

### Rumania's Prohibition Against Transactions in Foreign Exchange.

The Department of Commerce on May 20 issued the following announcement regarding the above:

Rumania has prohibited all transactions in the sale or purchase of foreign bank notes, coins, checks, drafts and balances, except through the National Bank, according to official confirmation of recent reports received by the Commerce Department in a cable yesterday from Commercial Attache Sproull Fouche, Bucharest.

Foreigners may transfer bank balances, the cable stated, presumably within the country. Banks have a right to settle foreign debts from balances abroad. The lei (Rumanian currency) may be exported only on authority of the National Bank; and export of foreign currency is prohibited.

A reference to Rumania's restrictions on foreign currency appeared in our issue of May 21, page 3734.

### Central Bank of Turkey to Issue Silver Coins.

The following from Paris, May 23, is from the New York "Times":

The Central Bank of Turkey will soon issue silver coins to replace the nickel counters now in use.

The issue will be in denominations of 5, 10 and 25 plasters and 1 Turkish. It was originally intended to issue only silver coins of 1 value.

Arabic numerals will be replaced by Latin characters, another step in the Westernization of Turkey.



### Czechoslovakian Government Offers to Restore Nobleman's Land—Drop in Agrarian Prices Lowers Demand for Farmers.

The following Prague cablegram, May 24, is from the New York "Times":

The Czechoslovak Government, departing from its policy of confiscating the estates of nobles and dividing them among Czech farmers, has offered to restore a 75,000-acre farm to Prince Francis of Liechtenstein on the payment of \$500,000 to the Moravian farmers' co-operative society.

A similar offer has been made in connection with the 50,000-acre estate of the Schwarzenbugs in Bohemia.

The slump in agrarian prices, which has greatly lowered the demand for land, is believed to be one of the reasons for the change in policy.

### Bonds of Finland Drawn for Redemption.

The National City Bank of New York, as fiscal agent, is notifying holders of Republic of Finland 5½% external loan sinking fund gold bonds, due Feb. 1 1958, that \$125,000 principal amount of these bonds have been drawn for redemption at par on Aug. 1 1932. Such drawn bonds will be paid at the head office of the bank upon presentation on and after the redemption date from which date interest on the drawn bonds will cease.

### Funds Received for Payment of June 1 Interest on German Consolidated Municipal Loan.

Chase Harris Forbes Corporation, as paying agents, announces that funds have been received to make the June 1 1932 interest payment on the outstanding \$15,850,000 German Consolidated Municipal Loan, 6% bonds, due June 1 1947.

### Funds Available for Payment of July 1 Interest on Republic of Colombia 6% External Sinking Fund Bonds Due 1961.

Hallgarten & Co. and Kidder, Peabody & Co., Fiscal agents for the \$25,000,000 Republic of Colombia 6% external sinking fund gold bonds dated July 1 1927, due Jan. 1 1961, announce that they have received funds for the payment of of coupon interest due July 1 1932 on all outstanding bonds of that issue.

### Panama Gets \$100,000 Loan—Borrows from National City Bank to Pay Salaries.

The following special correspondence from Panama, May 18, is from the New York "Times":

The Panama Government has negotiated a loan for \$100,000 with the local branch of the National City Bank to run for a period of four months with interest at 7%, the money to be used to pay salaries of Government employees and take care of other pressing local bills.

The loan will be repaid at the rate of \$25,000 a month and Government revenues collected at Colon will be devoted to the payments at that rate, the Government retaining the balance, if any, each month.

### Partial Payment of Bank Interest to Be Made on Three Peruvian Loans.

J. & W. Seligman & Co. and the National City Bank of New York, fiscal agents of the Republic of Peru, are notifying holders of Peruvian National Loan 6% bonds, first and second series, that, on and after May 26, they will be prepared to make a partial payment of interest on the June 1 1931 coupons of the first series bonds at the rate of \$4.46 for each \$30 coupon, and on the April 1 1931 coupons of the second series bonds at the rate of \$15.70 for each \$30 coupon and \$76.40 for each £30 coupon. The further notice (May 25) said:

J. & W. Seligman & Co., as fiscal agents of the Republic of Peru 7% bonds (Tobacco Loan), 1959, and Province of Callao (Peru) 7½% bonds, are notifying the holders thereof that, on and after May 26, they will be prepared to make a partial payment of interest on the Sept. 1 1931 coupons of Tobacco Loan bonds at the rate of \$17.94 for each \$35 coupon, and on the Jan. 1 1932 coupons of Province of Callao bonds at the rate of \$32.50 for each \$37.50 coupon.

Substantially all the funds which are now being distributed to the holders of Peruvian National Loan and of Tobacco Loan bonds were deposited by the Peruvian Government for the service of such bonds prior to the issuance on May 29 1931 of a decree suspending temporarily the payment of service charges on the entire public debt of the Republic. The funds which are being distributed to the holders of Province of Callao bonds represent the available balance of a reserve fund established when the bonds were issued, as additional security for payment of the service of the bonds.

When the decree of May 29 1931 was issued, it was hoped that economic and political conditions would improve sufficiently to permit payment in full on the coupons against which part of the required funds had already been deposited. However, in Peru, as elsewhere in the world, economic conditions became progressively more unsatisfactory after the issuance of this decree, and last January a law was promulgated extending indefinitely the moratorium for the payment of service charges on the external debt. The fiscal agents are advising bondholders that they are continuing to maintain an office in Lima and will do their utmost to protect bondholders' interests.

### New York Stock Exchange Notices Regarding Peruvian Bonds Dealt in "Flat."

On May 25 the following notices were issued by the New York Stock Exchange:

#### Republic of Peru.

*Peruvian National Loan, 6% External Sinking Fund Gold Bonds, First Series, Due 1960—Interest.*

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.  
Committee on Securities.

May 25 1932.

Referring to the ruling of the Committee on Securities dated May 26 1931, SEC-223.

Notice having been received that payment of \$4.46 per \$1,000 bond will be made beginning May 26 1932, on account of the interest due June 1 1931, on

#### Republic of Peru

*Peruvian National Loan, 6% External Sinking Fund Gold Bonds, First Series, due 1960:*

The Committee on Securities further rules that the bonds be quoted ex-interest \$4.46 per \$1,000 bond on Thursday, May 26 1932; that the bonds shall continue to be dealt in "Flat" and to be a delivery after May 26 1932, must carry the June 1 1931, coupon stamped as to payment of \$4.46 per \$1,000 bond and subsequent coupons. Such coupons must be securely attached and bear the same serial number as the bond.

ASHBEL GREEN, Secretary.

#### Republic of Peru

*Peruvian National Loan, 6% External Sinking Fund Gold Bonds, Second Series, Due 1961—Interest.*

May 25 1932.

Referring to the ruling of the Committee on Securities dated Mar. 30 1931, SEC-183.

Notice having been received that payment of \$15.70 per \$1,000 bond will be made beginning May 26 1932, on account of the interest due April 1 1931, on

#### Republic of Peru

*Peruvian National Loan, 6% External Sinking Fund Gold Bonds, Second Series, due 1961:*

The Committee on Securities further rules that the bonds be quoted ex-interest \$15.70 per \$1,000 bond on Thursday, May 26 1932; that the bonds shall continue to be dealt in "Flat" and to be a delivery after May 26 1932, must carry the April 1 1931, coupon stamped as to payment of \$15.70 per \$1,000 bond and subsequent coupons. Such coupons must be securely attached and bear the same serial number as the bond.

#### Republic of Peru

*Secured 7% Sinking Fund Gold Bonds, Due 1959—Interest.*

May 25 1932.

Referring to the ruling of the Committee on Securities dated Sept. 1 1931, SEC-293.

Notice having been received that payment of \$17.94 per \$1,000 bond will be made beginning May 26 1932, on account of the interest due Sept. 1 1931, on

#### Republic of Peru

*Secured 7% Sinking Fund Gold Bonds, due 1959:*

The Committee on Securities further rules that the bonds be quoted ex-interest \$17.94 per \$1,000 bond on Thursday, May 26 1932; that the bonds shall continue to be dealt in "Flat" and to be a delivery after May 26 1932, must carry the Sept. 1 1931, coupon stamped as to payment of \$17.94 per \$1,000 bond and subsequent coupons. Such coupons must be securely attached and bear the same serial number as the bond.

### Payment of Overdue Interest on Bonds of State of Minas Geraes.

The National City Bank of New York, as fiscal agent, is notifying holders of State of Minas Geraes 6½% secured external sinking fund gold bonds, due March 1 1958, and secured external gold loan of 1929, series A, 6½% bonds, due Sept. 1 1959, that upon presentation on and after June 6 1932 of interest coupons due March 1 1932 of each of the above issues, there will be paid to bearer, on account of the amount due thereon, the sum of \$6.56 with respect to each \$32.50 coupon and \$3.28 with respect to each \$16.25 coupon.

### Receipt of Funds Announced for Payment of July 1 Interest on Outstanding Bonds, Series A, of El Salvador Issued Under Loan Contract—Republic Defaults on Two Other Charges.

Manufacturers Trust Co., successor to Chatham Phenix National Bank & Trust Co., as fiscal agent under the loan contract between the Republic of El Salvador and Minor C. Keith, dated June 24 1922, and supplementary contracts, has received funds sufficient to pay the interest due July 1 1932 on the outstanding bonds of series A issued under said loan contract, and has also received a remaining sum of \$81,900 which it will apply to the purchase of bonds of series A as provided in Article XII of said loan contract.

From the New York "Evening Post" of May 25 we take the following:

The Republic of El Salvador will default in the payment of service due July 1 on its series B 7% sterling bonds and series C 7% dollar bonds, it was announced to-day.

Funds are on hand with the Manufacturers Trust Co. to pay the interest and sinking fund due July 1 on the Republic's series A 8% customs lien sinking fund bonds, but payment of service due Jan. 1 next is doubtful, according to a statement issued to-day by the law firm of Guggenheimer & Untermeyer.

The series A bonds have a prior lien which will enable the Manufacturers Trust to pay the interest, the statement points out. A protective committee, headed by Montgomery Schuyler, is acting for the bondholders.

with Manufacturers Trust Co. as depository and Guggenheimer & Untermyer as counsel.

"Until shortly after the recent revolution in El Salvador," the attorneys' statement said, "the customs service of the Republic was administered by W. W. Renwick, fiscal representative for the fiscal agent, who remitted monthly to the fiscal agent in New York amounts sufficient to defray the service of the loan contract for all three series of the bonds. The revolutionary Government has taken over the customs receipts and declined to permit transmittal thereof to the United States.

"Unless the revolutionary Government sees fit to remit funds, it is doubtful whether the Jan. 1 1933 installment of interest on the series A bonds will be met."

### All Banks in Mexico Called Upon to Maintain Reserves with Bank of Mexico—Branches of Foreign Banks Included in Decree.

Press advices from Mexico City May 20 said:

Pending enactment of a general banking law of executive nature and in order to accelerate the creation of the Bank of Mexico as a reserve unit as provided in the Presidential decree issued April 12, Secretary of Treasury Pani has issued a decree calling upon all banks to maintain certain reserves with the Bank of Mexico.

One of the principal provisions which will become effective immediately requires all foreign banks operating in Mexico to invest an equivalent of at least 6% of their capital and reserves in Series B shares of the Government-controlled Bank of Mexico. Further provisions are made that 5% of all national currency deposits shall also be deposited with the Banco de Mexico.

A copyright cablegram May 20 from Mexico City to the New York "Herald Tribune" stated:

Determined immediately to set Governmental machinery in motion to bring to completion the plans to create a Federal Reserve System centered about the Bank of Mexico and at the same time quashing recurring charges of purposely delaying the founding of the new system, Alberto J. Pani, Secretary of the Treasury, to-day caused an executive presidential decree to be issued ordering both foreign and national banks to become associated with the Bank of Mexico.

This is the first concrete step taken in carrying out provisions of the original law of April 12 which provided for reorganization of the Bank of Mexico as the nucleus of a reserve system. That the new amendatory law becomes effective immediately is highly regarded by foreign bankers, who state that it marks the beginning of a modern reserve which heretofore has not existed in Mexico. Without changing the sense of the original law of April, the new law merely clarifies and amplifies certain provisions. It also acts as an executive writ in setting the new reserve system in motion.

The first article of the new law or decree provides that all institutions receiving deposits from the public at thirty days or less, thereby excluding certain savings banks, must become associated immediately with the Bank of Mexico. To become an affiliate of the new system, all banking institutions must subscribe to series B shares of the bank in an amount not less than 6% of their capital. Series A shares constituting 51% of the capital of the Bank of Mexico are held by the Federal Government. In this manner the Government retains absolute control of the bank and the new reserve system. The remaining 49% consisting of Series B shares are subscribed to by foreign and national banks within the country.

Certain restrictions are placed on foreign banks as they are denied the right to receive savings deposits, act as trustees, issue cash or mortgage bonds, shares, deposit certificates or collateral bonds. With the exception of receiving savings deposits and, at times, serving as estate trustees, foreign branch banks in Mexico seldom engage in other activities denied them in this particular article of the law. To permit these banks ample time to settle matters falling under this provision the new law allows them three months time to liquidate all such pending affairs. Like officials in many Latin-American countries, Mexican Treasury officials look with a certain amount of doubt upon accounts of foreign currency carried in foreign branch banks, as they see in this a manifest skepticism on the part of depositors as to the stability of the national currency.

Foreign currency accounts also serve, in their opinion, as a ready means for speculators to manipulate foreign exchange which has long been a thorn in the side of Treasury officials. The new law provides a control of foreign currency deposits in foreign branch banks, stating that these deposits must be covered by "cash in gold at its corresponding equivalent or by deposits in the Bank of Mexico or in foreign banks of first class standing in the opinion of national banking commission on the understanding that the cash on hand or deposits to which this clause refers must be kept at a minimum amount to be determined by the national banking commission."

### Criticism of Federal Farm Board by President Carey of Chicago Board of Trade—Says Exchange Could Dispose of Government Wheat at Advancing Prices—Chairman Stone of Farm Board Defends Operations of Grain Stabilization Corporation.

In response to inquiries of newspaper correspondents, James C. Stone, Chairman of the Federal Farm Board, had the following to say on Sunday, May 22:

Newspaper reports of statements of Peter B. Carey, President of the Chicago Board of Trade, in regard to methods of disposal of the stock of the Grain Stabilization Corporation, indicate an attitude towards liquidation of these stocks strictly in conformity with the long-established viewpoint of Board of Trade members. They look upon themselves as middlemen, entitled by custom to take a heavy toll from American wheat producers for so-called services which consist chiefly in the pocketing by themselves of the largest possible share of the consumer's dollar. Every suggestion so far made in the present depressed situation to this Board for their assistance has contained, as its chief element, a personal profit to those tendering aid, either by buying at prices ridiculously below the market or for commissions on huge volume.

Liquidation of the stocks of the Grain Stabilization Corporation under the plan announced June 30 1931, has proceeded in such a manner that American wheat prices have been maintained at substantially 5 to 15 cents a bushel higher than world market price parity in the face of the most trying marketing conditions known to any living man. Let the grain gambling critics explain to the public how and why this has happened.

The crop outlook to-day leads qualified observers to conclude brighter days are in prospect for our wheat producers. Winter wheat reports in-

dicating low production. Spring areas do not promise excess supplies. No wonder the speculatively inclined seek wheat stocks on the bargain counter. The Grain Stabilization Corporation has none to offer on that basis.

Wheat is the only great major commodity which for the last five months has shown a definite upward trend. Its influence under the present favorable statistical position may well lead other commodities to higher ground. That opportunity will not be risked in the hands of people in a group representative of those who have grown rich from the profits gained by market manipulation. The recent disclosures as to the operations of broker speculators in stocks does not encourage the placing of great powers in such hands. The orderly method of distributing as demand arises will be continued.

The public shouldn't be fooled by such attacks on the Farm Board as those of Mr. Carey. Their purpose is not to help in the present situation but to prevent the farmer organizing his business so that he, in a measure, can control the method under which his products are sold.

In a criticism of the "so-called farm leaders," Peter B. Carey, President of the Chicago Board of Trade, stated on May 21 that six members of his organization could dispose of all the Farm Board's wheat for cash "at a steadily advancing price." Associated Press dispatches from Chicago May 21 reporting this added:

"There is a tremendous demand for American hard wheat right now," he declared. "I could appoint a committee of six of our members who in a short time and with absolutely no drain on the taxpayer could and would dispose of all of the Government wheat at a steadily advancing price with the inevitable favorable reflection on the general condition of the country."

"I believe wheat should and would advance if the Farm Board were forced by Congress to desist at once from their senseless efforts which have so far resulted in practically destroying the free, open, liquid grain markets which the farmer of this country has hitherto enjoyed," he said. "Such interference with normal business as is now contemplated by the Jones bill, the McNary bill and the Strong bill, make only for more bureaucracy, more Federal employees and lower prices."

He referred to bills pending in Congress designed to regulate trading on the commodity exchanges or put additional farm relief proposals into effect.

### Text of Bill Signed by President Hoover Making Debentures of Federal Intermediate Credit Banks Eligible for 15-Day Loans by Federal Reserve Banks to Member Banks.

Last week (page 3738) we referred to the signing of the bill (on May 19, not May 20) by President Hoover whereby debentures of Federal Intermediate Credit Banks are made eligible for 15-day loans from Federal Reserve banks to members of the Federal Reserve System. As we have heretofore noted, the bill passed the Senate on April 25, and it was passed by the House on May 16. Referring to the passage of the bill by the House on May 16, a Washington account on that date to the New York "Times" said:

Its principal features, Representative Steagall, Chairman of the Banking and Currency Committee, told the House, are as follows:

Intermediate Credit Banks may accept drafts or bills of exchange issued or drawn by such banks when secured by warehouse receipts or shipping documents covering staple agricultural products.

Federal Reserve banks are authorized to purchase and sell in the open market, either from or to domestic banks, firms, corporations, or individuals, acceptances of Federal Intermediate Credit Banks.

In the event of an impairment of the paid-in capital of any Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Farm Loan Board may determine and assess the amount thereof against the other Federal Intermediate Credit Banks.

Any Federal Reserve bank may make advances to its member banks on their promissory notes for a period not exceeding 15 days at rates to be established by such Federal Reserve banks, subject to the review and determination of the Federal Reserve Board, provided such promissory notes are secured by such notes, drafts, bills of exchange or bankers' acceptances as are eligible for rediscount or for purchase by Federal Reserve banks under the provisions of this Act, or by the deposit or pledge of bonds or notes of the United States, or by the deposit or pledge of debentures or other such obligations of Federal Intermediate Credit Banks which are eligible for purchase by Federal Reserve banks under Section 13 (a) of this Act.

Discussing the amendment authorizing Intermediate Banks to accept drafts or bills of exchange, the committee report said it would make it possible for the banks to obtain funds at the prevailing acceptance rate and would open an additional channel through which agricultural producers could receive financial aid in marketing their products.

Opposition to the bill was voiced in the House of Representative McFadden of Pennsylvania, former Chairman of the Banking and Currency Committee.

"If you want to go ahead and weaken the American dollar," he said, "then go ahead."

Only 40 minutes of debate was allowed under suspension of the rules, and no amendments were offered. It was the first time this session that a bill has been passed under suspension without a record roll call.

"We are always suspicious of anything from the Banking and Currency Committee," a prominent Republican said, "but we went out this afternoon and telephoned to the Federal Reserve Board and to the Treasury. They both said the bill was all right, so that's why it is going by so easy."

Before the House, on May 16, Representative Steagall, indicating the purport of the bill, said:

It comes before the House with a unanimous report from the Committee on Banking and Currency, with possibly one exception. The bill has passed the Senate, and if it is proper to say so, I may add, without any objection from the members of the Banking and Currency Committee of that body or from the membership of that body at large. It represents an effort of farm organizations and members of the House to enlarge the service rendered to agriculture by the Intermediate Credit Banks. The first four sections relate to the Federal Farm Loan Act. The first section permits Intermediate Credit Banks to purchase acceptances secured by warehouse receipts or documents covering farm products. This would give the banks the benefit of the accepted rate of interest, which is usually lower than interest paid on debentures of the banks.

Section 2 provides for assessing all the banks to take care of any possible impairment of the capital of any one of the 12 banks. This is only a simplification of methods for doing what must be done under existing law.

The third section fixes the distribution of earnings of the banks, so as to require the accumulation of surplus equal to capital before paying earnings into the Treasury as a franchise tax.

Section 4 only provides in detail for transfer of funds from one of the banks to another to meet any obligation for which each of the 12 banks is responsible. There is no difference of opinion as to these sections.

These are two provisions which amend the Federal Reserve Act; and in view of the fact that the gentleman from Pennsylvania has just assented to my statement, I shall limit my remarks to the two sections to which I have referred. The first of these is Section 5.

The Federal Reserve banks are permitted under existing law to rediscount the very kind of paper, notes, drafts, or bills of exchange that are provided for in this bill if offered by member banks.

The Federal Reserve banks may rediscount for the Intermediate Credit Banks this same class of notes, drafts, bills of exchange, if purchased by the Intermediate Credit Banks.

The purpose of the amendment is to permit Federal Reserve banks to rediscount the same notes, drafts, bills of exchange held by Intermediate Credit Banks covering loans and advances made directly by Intermediate Credit Banks to agricultural corporations and banks and other financial institutions to which Intermediate Credit Banks are permitted to make direct loans.

It is simply a piece of lost machinery in the Intermediate Credit Banks that we are attempting to supply.

I will say that with possibly one exception I have not heard of anybody who is opposed to that provision of the bill.

Now, there is another provision, and that is that banks that have debentures and obligations of the Intermediate Credit Banks may use them for rediscount for 15-day loans by the Federal Reserve banks. These obligations are secured by every one of the 12 Intermediate Credit Banks. The stock is owned by the Government of the United States, \$60,000,000 of it, and half of that stock is now held in the Treasury for the support of the obligations of the Intermediate Credit Banks.

These obligations may be purchased now from Federal Reserve banks. They are as sound and desirable as commercial paper, which the banks are permitted to accept for advances under existing law. They are secured by the entire 12 banks, and the Government owns the capital in those banks. The provision would make these securities more desirable by member banks and reduce the interest which is paid by farmer borrowers.

The following is the text of the bill as signed by President Hoover, May 19:

#### AN ACT

To amend Title II of the Federal Farm Loan Act in regard to Federal Intermediate Credit Banks, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Section 202 (a) of Title II of the Federal Farm Loan Act, as amended (U. S. C. Title 12, ch. 8, Sec. 1031), is hereby amended by substituting a semicolon for the period at the end of clause (3) and adding thereto the following new matter: "and to accept drafts or bills of exchange issued or drawn by any such association when secured by warehouse receipts and/or shipping documents covering staple agricultural products as herein provided."

Sec. 2. Section 205 of Title II of the Federal Farm Loan Act, as amended (U. S. C., title 12, ch. 8, sec. 1061), is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new matter: "In the event that there shall be an impairment of the paid-in capital of any Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Farm Loan Board, at such time or times as it deems advisable, may determine and assess the amount thereof against the other Federal Intermediate Credit Banks on such equitable basis of apportionment as it shall prescribe. Each bank against which such an assessment is made shall, out of its surplus and/or to an extent up to 50% of its net earnings, in accordance with the terms of such assessment, pay the amount thereof as soon as possible to the bank having the impairment. In such event payments into the surplus fund and payments of the franchise tax prescribed by this chapter shall be determined on the basis of the net earnings remaining after providing for the payment of any such assessment."

Sec. 3. Section 206 (b) of Title II of the Federal Farm Loan Act, as amended (U. S. C., title 12, ch. 8, sec. 1072), is hereby amended (effective Jan. 1 1932) by striking out the first two sentences of said section and substituting therefor the following new matter: "After all necessary expenses of a Federal Intermediate Credit Bank have been paid or provided for, the net earnings shall be paid into a surplus fund until it shall amount to 100% of the subscribed capital stock of such bank, and thereafter 50% of such earnings shall be paid into the surplus. Whenever the surplus thus paid in shall have been impaired it shall be fully restored before payment of the franchise tax herein prescribed. After the aforesaid requirements of this section have been fully met and, except as otherwise provided in this Act, 50% of the net earnings shall be paid to the United States as a franchise tax."

Sec. 4. Section 207 of Title II of the Federal Farm Loan Act, as amended (U. S. C., title 12, ch. 8, sec. 1081), is hereby amended by striking out the period at the end thereof and substituting a colon together with a proviso as follows: "Provided, That in view of the liability of all Federal intermediate credit banks for the debentures and other such obligations of each bank under this Act, the banks shall, in accordance with rules, regulations, and orders of the Federal Farm Loan Board, enter into adequate agreements and arrangements among themselves by which funds shall be transferred and/or made available from time to time for the payment of all such debentures and other such obligations and the interest thereon when due in accordance with the terms thereof."

Sec. 5. The second paragraph of Section 13 (a) of the Federal Reserve Act, as amended (U. S. C., title 12, ch. 3, sec. 349), is hereby amended by adding thereto a new sentence as follows: "Any Federal Reserve Bank may also, subject to regulations and limitations to be prescribed by the Federal Reserve Board, discount notes payable to and bearing the indorsement of any Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, covering loans or advances made by such bank pursuant to the provisions of Section 202 (a) of Title II of the Federal Farm Loan Act, as amended (U. S. C., title 12, ch. 8, sec. 1031), which have maturities at the time of discount of not more than nine months, exclusive of days of grace, and which are secured by notes, drafts, or bills of exchange eligible for rediscount by Federal Reserve Banks."

Sec. 6. The seventh paragraph of Section 13 of the Federal Reserve Act, as amended (U. S. C., title 12, ch. 3, sec. 347), is hereby amended by changing the period at the end thereof to a comma and adding thereto the words "or by the deposit or pledge of debentures or other such obligations of Federal Intermediate Credit Banks which are eligible for purchase by Federal Reserve Banks under Section 13 (a) of this Act."

## Norbeck-Steagall Act Making Debentures of Federal Intermediate Credit Banks Eligible for Loans by Federal Reserve Banks Completes Co-operatives' Credit Circle—Widens Liquidity by Making Drafts Good for Loans.

The following (Associated Press) from Washington May 23, is from the New York "World Telegram":

By making drafts and bills of exchange eligible as collateral for loans at Federal Intermediate Credit Banks, the Norbeck-Steagall bill signed by the President gives farm co-operatives their first complete circle of credit.

Hitherto, acceptance of warehouse receipts and shipping documents covering staple agricultural products stopped at the Credit Banks. There was a limit to the funds they would procure on short time maturity, and no matter how many more the co-operatives held, the amount of their loans was gauged by the funds available to these banks.

Now the Intermediate Credit Banks may rediscount co-operative paper with the Federal Reserve banks and constantly replenish their resources. The last gap will be closed in the circle of credit.

#### Adds to Rediscount Field.

The bill also makes debentures of the Intermediate Credit Banks eligible collateral for loans from Federal Reserve banks to members of the Federal Reserve system. That is a member State or National bank may purchase Credit Bank debentures with the assurance that Federal Reserve banks will accept them as security for 15-day loans.

This added liquidity is calculated to make debentures more attractive to commercial banks, increase their sale and lower the interest at which the debentures are sold.

It is through the sale of their debentures that Intermediate Credit Banks obtain the funds which they lend to local credit corporations and livestock loan companies which discount the individual farmer's notes.

#### Brought Reduced Interest.

Assurances by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation that unless the public bought more freely it would enter the market for Credit Bank Debentures, characterized by Andrew Mellon, former Secretary of the Treasury, as "high grade investments," are accredited with considerable influence in reducing the interest rate on the May 15 sale of these securities to 3%.

In some instances the interest rate has run as high as 5%, further increasing the lending charge to agriculture. It is the belief of Federal Farm Loan Board officials that enactment of the bill may further reduce the interest on debentures by  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ %. Another sale is to be made June 15.

Intermediate credit is a type of credit advanced by the 12 Federal Intermediate Credit Banks to local lending institutions such as agricultural credit corporations, livestock loan companies and State and national banks, based upon the notes of farmers and stockmen whose financial statements and collateral security entitle them to credit.

#### Biggest Credit Year.

During 1931 the Credit Banks discounted paper for, or made loans to approximately 450 financing institutions, including 144 agricultural credit corporations, 28 livestock loan companies and 23 commercial banks which previously had not established loan and discount relations. The total number using these facilities to date is 987.

The total credit extended by the 12 banks in 1931 was \$122,733,361—the largest volume for any year since organization of the system and exceeding the total for 1930 by \$13,686,295.

Direct loans to farmers' co-operative marketing organizations on pooled warehouse agricultural commodities aggregated \$145,260,386 which was the largest volume of such credit ever granted by these banks.

## Charles R. Dunn on Effect of Enactment of Bill Making Debentures of Federal Intermediate Credit Banks Eligible for 15-Day Loans by Federal Reserve Banks to Member Banks.

Commenting upon President Hoover's signing of the bill on May 19 making the debentures of the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks eligible for 15-day loans by the Federal Reserve Banks to banks which are members of the Reserve System, Charles R. Dunn, Fiscal Agent for the Intermediate Credit institutions who directs their public financing from New York, said on May 21:

"This is a long hoped-for step in the right direction, as it will not only facilitate the future financing of the Intermediate Credit Banks, but will also cut the cost of borrowing by the farmer who pays as high as 9% under existing conditions. It was an oversight that the debentures were not made eligible when the bill creating the Intermediate Credit Banks was passed in 1923."

Short-term financing is engaged in by the Intermediate Credit Banks monthly and although the Reconstruction Finance Corporation offered to subscribe for any unsubscribed portion of the debentures offered in recent months, that has not been necessary owing to the public demand for the debentures that has existed up to the present. The banks expect to enter the market the first of next month with a large offering. The signing of the bill by President Hoover was noted in our issue of May 21, page 3738. It is proper to state however that the date the bill was signed is May 19, not May 20, as previously reported.

## All But One of Federal Intermediate Credit Banks Reduce Interest to Farmers' Co-operative Associations—Action Results from Enactment of Norbeck-Steagall Bill.

All but one of the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks have reduced their interest charges recently to farmers' co-operative marketing associations and to financing institutions offering eligible agricultural paper to them for

discount, as a result of the passage of the Norbeck-Steagall bill through Congress and its signatures by President Hoover, May 19 according to an announcement issued May 24 in behalf of the Intermediate Credit Banks. The announcement also says:

All but one of the banks are charging  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  interest whereas in March the rate reached the unprecedented level of  $5\frac{1}{2}\%$  in 10 of them. The Norbeck-Steagall bill makes these debentures eligible for 15-day loans from Federal Reserve Banks to members of the Federal Reserve System and will broaden the market for these securities and make it possible to float them at a lower rate of interest. It will now be easy to get cash upon them instantly.

The effect of placing these amendments to the Federal Reserve and Agricultural Credits Acts upon the statute books was felt in the market even before the bill was passed by both Houses of Congress, and shortly after the bill passed the House, May 16 the early high-interest-rate debentures were selling at a marked premium. More recent issues bore 3% interest and prospects are excellent for a lower rate of interest in the near future which will be reflected in rates charged farmers.

Although the passage of the Norbeck-Steagall bill cured a temporary situation in which banks and other big institutions sought to keep themselves much more liquid than normally and therefore invested in very liquid securities, the passage of the bill provides for all time for a more desirable debenture. The bill further strengthens and broadens the activities of the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks in that they have another source of funds, namely the authority to sell acceptances of drafts and bills of exchange, drawn by farmers' co-operative marketing associations. Since the acceptance market frequently is lower than the debenture market, the banks periodically should be able to sell acceptances bearing a lower rate of interest than their debentures. This is rather important to these institutions since approximately one-half of their business is lending to farmers' co-operative marketing associations, taking warehouse receipts representing staple agricultural commodities stored in acceptable warehouses or shipping documents covering staple agricultural commodities.

The Norbeck-Steagall Act further perfects the Agricultural Credits Act which created the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks by amending it to make it possible immediately to assess all of the banks to take care of any impairment of capital of any one of the 12 banks—a mere simplification of the method delineated in the original law. It further strengthens the banks by requiring accumulation of surplus equal to capital before paying earnings into the United States Treasury as a franchise tax.

It also authorizes, with the acquiescence of the Federal Farm Board, the transfer of funds from one bank to another for the payment of obligations for which each of the 12 banks is responsible. Another rather important change made by this act permits Federal Reserve Banks to discount notes payable to and bearing the endorsement of any Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, covering loans or advances made by such bank which have a maturity at time of discount of not more than 9 months, when secured by notes, drafts or bills of exchange eligible for rediscount by Federal Reserve Banks. This means that Federal Reserve Banks may now discount for Federal Intermediate Credit Banks notes payable representing direct loans or advances by the latter Banks to farmers' co-operative marketing associations when they have a maturity of not more than 9 months.

#### Crop Production Loans of \$63,902,000 Approved by Department of Agriculture to 504,442 Farmers.

With the period for application for crop production loans this year ended May 15, the Department of Agriculture has approved \$63,902,000 of loans to 504,442 farmers all over the country, and has now passed upon all but a few thousand of the applications, according to an oral statement, May 19, by Henry S. Clarke, in charge of the loan office for the Department. We quote from the "United States Daily" of May 20, which further said:

The remaining applications cannot bring the total much above \$65,000,000, Mr. Clarke said, and the final total will be about that figure. The following additional information was provided:

The loans have averaged \$126.68 each. They are due Nov. 30, and organization of collection forces already has begun. The loans are secured by the growing crops which they financed.

Meanwhile, between 400 and 500 men have been placed in the field by the Department to check up on farmers who received loans and insure that the crops pledged as security actually are planted and properly cared for. These men will range over the country, visiting the farmers and inspecting their growing crops.

The decline in number of applications for loans near the close of the period for applications is believed to indicate that the need for loans has been about fully met. There will remain available to the loan office about \$10,000,000 of unexpended funds, from which expenses will have to be paid. The balance would be available in case any outstanding disaster such as flood, tornado, or other natural phenomenon should create distress which would necessitate reopening of loans in any area.

Numerous requests for continuance of the loans have reached the office, as occurs after every loan operation, but no sound reason for continuing lending operations has been presented, in view of the fact that the law restricts loans to financing crop production and practically all crops already have been sown.

The loan funds came from \$50,000,000 of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation's original capital, set aside by Congress for the purpose, and from expansion of that capital by issuance of securities by the Corporation. This expansion was authorized up to a total of \$200,000,000, but only \$25,000,000 in addition to the original \$50,000,000 of capital has yet been made available for farm loans, and this has been more than sufficient to meet the need.

#### As a Spur to Farm Workers Russian Soviet Abolishes State and Local Taxes on Sales Other Than Under State Contracts.

Associated Press accounts from Moscow, May 21, said:

As a further spur to the workers on the collective and private farms to engage in private trade and thus increase food supplies in the city and stimulate farm production, the Soviet Government decreed to-day the abolition of all State and local taxes which heretofore have been assessed against these groups if they sold their products outside of State contracts.

The new order was issued by the Executive Committee of the Communist party and the Council of People's Commissars. It applies not only

to the sale of surplus bread and meat, such as was authorized by an order a few days ago, but also to the sale of chickens, eggs, dairy products, vegetables, fruit and other farm commodities.

The sale of such produce by peasants peddling in the streets has been permitted for some time, but to-day's was the first organized effort to encourage the practice on a large scale. In effect, it completes the liberalization of the whole agricultural policy of the Soviet Union.

The decree provides that individual peasants must sell at open market prices so as to compete with illegal private traders and speculators, and the collectives must charge prices not exceeding the average received in the Government's commercial or high-priced stores.

This was expected to keep food prices somewhat high still, but it was considered certain that it would improve the general supply available for purchase by the people, especially the supply of eggs, vegetables and fruit, shortages of which has been felt for some time.

#### New York Stock Exchange Widens Rules for Listings—Companies Must Agree to Publish Annual Reports at Specified Dates—Paramount Publix and Pan American Petroleum First Companies to Face Latest Policy.

The New York Stock Exchange has sought to obtain early publication of annual reports of companies whose share are listed on the Exchange by getting definite agreements, when applications are made for listing additional securities, that reports will be published not later than specified dates. This was noted in the New York "Times" of May 27, which further said:

The new policy was revealed in the applications for the listing of stock [May 17] of the Paramount Publix Corporation and the Pan American Petroleum and Transport Co., which were approved by the Exchange on Wednesday.

The Paramount Publix Corporation agreed to publish the balance sheet and income account of the previous year at least once in each year, and to submit it to stockholders at least 15 days in advance of the annual meeting, but not later than 14 weeks after the end of the fiscal year of the corporation.

The listing application of the Pan American company contained a similar provision under which the company agreed to issue its report not later than 15 days in advance of the annual meeting, and not later than a specified date.

Hitherto the Exchange's formal listing agreement contained no clause requiring companies to issue their reports not later than a certain date. The new policy is expected to be extended to other companies as they apply for the listing of additional securities.

#### New York Stock Exchange Notice Regarding New Ruling on Bond Sales—Sellers Must Be Notified of Flat Price on Defaulted Issues.

The New York Stock Exchange amplified on May 23 its recent ruling on changes in limited selling orders on bonds on which interest payments have been defaulted. The original ruling stated that when the basis of trading in bonds changes from "and interest" to "flat," limited selling orders should be raised in price by the amount of the accrued interest.

This week's notice of the Stock Exchange follows:

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.  
Committee of Arrangements.

May 23 1932.

To the Members of the Exchange:

Referring to Circular C-4915, dated May 4 1932, which reads as follows: "When the basis of trading in bonds changes from 'and interest' to 'flat', limited selling orders should be raised in price by the amount of the accrued interest.

"This should be done by the member in the Bond Crowd to whom the order has been entrusted for execution, and confirmed immediately to his principal," the said change in the price of limited selling orders should be made at the same time that the change in the basis of trading, pursuant to the ruling of the Committee on Securities in the particular case, becomes effective. This change in price is intended to protect the interests of sellers who may not be aware that the basis of trading is being changed.

The party who has originally given the order to sell should be immediately notified of the change in the basis of trading, and informed that his order to sell at a price "and interest" is no longer valid and has, for his protection, been replaced by an equivalent order on the "flat" basis, pending his further instructions.

ASHBEL GREEN, Secretary.

#### Odd Lot Trading on New York Stock Exchange on New Basis—Differentials Fixed at $\frac{1}{8}\%$ .

Regarding exchange in the basis of odd lot trading on the New York Stock Exchange, the following notice was issued on May 26:

On and after June 6 1932, we will trade in odd lots on the following basis:

All stocks, irrespective of price or par value, will be traded in on both buying and selling orders at  $\frac{1}{8}\%$  from sales or on the bid and offer as formerly, but to that price there will be added, in the case of your buying orders only, the amount of the cost to us of the stamp taxes involved.

The changing rates of taxation on stock transfers imposed by the State and Federal Governments lead us to believe this method to be the most equitable and fair to all concerned. Very truly yours,

V. C. BROWN & Co.  
CARLISLE MELLICK & Co.  
DeCOPPET & DOREMUS,  
JACQUELIN & DeCOPPET,  
TEFFT & Co.

Noting that the present is the second change made within a few months, and that it provides that instead of setting up fixed differentials to care for the increase in State and

Federal transfer taxes the amount of the taxes would be added to the cost of odd lots bought, the New York "Journal of Commerce" of May 27 said:

Upon the recent passage of the State tax of 4c. a share on stocks of \$100 par or no par to be paid by the seller, against the former tax of 2c. a share, the odd lot firms, being dealers and hence subject to the tax, raised the differentials between the floor prices for 100-share lots and the price of odd lots. The differentials on odd lot sales by the public remained unchanged. Since the tax scaled down with the par value, the differentials were adjusted to cover the taxes on broad par value divisions. The inequalities which arose from the placement of fixed differentials on different par values below the fixed limits led to the change.

The earlier change was referred to in our issue of March 5, page 1678.

#### D. M. McKeon Suspended by New York Stock Exchange for One Year.

Daniel Manning McKeon, an independent floor broker with offices at 71 Broadway, this city, was suspended by the New York Stock Exchange for the period of one year on Thursday of this week, May 26. The announcement of the suspension was made from the rostrum of the Exchange by Richard Whitney, President of the New York Stock Exchange, at 10.20 o'clock Thursday morning and was as follows:

"A charge and specification having been preferred under Sections 4 and 7 of Article XVII of the Constitution of the Exchange against Daniel Manning McKeon, a member of the Exchange, said charge and specification were considered by the Governing Committee at a meeting held on May 25 1932, said Daniel Manning McKeon being present.

"The substance of the charge and specification was that on April 28 1932, said Daniel Manning McKeon made offers to sell securities for the purpose of upsetting the equilibrium of the market, and bringing about a condition demoralization in which prices would not fairly reflect market values, and thereby was guilty of acts inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade.

"Although said offers were not accepted and did not cause a decline in prices, said Daniel Manning McKeon was found by the Governing Committee guilty of said charge and specification and was suspended for one year."

Yesterday's New York "Herald Tribune," in reporting the matter, said in part as follows:

McKeon was a private trader and was admitted to membership March 1 1929. He made his office with Drysdale & Co., but was not a member of that firm. He declined to make any comment.

Although reputed to be a fairly active trader, he was not identified with any particular issues, and the Exchange officials would not make public the names of stocks which, it is alleged, he tried to depress.

The Stock Exchange began a thorough inquiry into practices of short selling a year ago and from time to time has tightened its regulations, but this is the first time in the bear market that disciplinary action has been made public. It has been rumored once or twice that certain members sold their seats in a hurry as a result of the inquiry, but there has been no other suspension. There have been numerous cases of members being called upon to explain their operations on the long as well as short side of the market.

#### New York Curb Exchange Suspends Samuel S. Campbell.

Samuel S. Campbell, of the firm of S. S. Campbell & Co., 74 Trinity Place, this city, has been suspended from regular membership of the New York Curb Exchange for failure to meet obligations, according to the "Wall Street Journal" of May 25.

#### Taylor Wilson & Co., Inc., Cincinnati Bond House, in Receivership.

On petition of the stockholders a receiver was appointed for Taylor Wilson & Co., Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio, bond house, in Common Pleas Court, that city, according to Cincinnati advices on Thursday, May 26, to the "Wall Street Journal." The dispatch added:

Edward G. Taylor, President, stated the depressed bond market brought on the action. L. I. Levi has been appointed receiver.

#### J. Nevin Roberts and Walker P. Hall, Former Partners in the Defunct Brokerage Firm of Roberts & Hall, of Cincinnati, Ohio, Sentenced to One Year Each in Ohio State Penitentiary—Appeal to Be Filed.

Judge Thomas H. Morrow, in the Criminal Court at Cincinnati, Ohio, this week sentenced J. Nevin Roberts and Walker P. Hall, former partners in the failed Cincinnati brokerage house of Roberts & Hall, to serve one year each in the Ohio Penitentiary, following their conviction recently on two counts of an indictment charging them with having converted securities in their possession belonging to a customer. Cincinnati advices to the "Wall Street Journal" on May 25, from which the above information is obtained, furthermore said:

Judge Morrow pronounced a sentence of one year upon each of the two counts upon which the brokers were convicted but ordered that the sentences run concurrently. Counsel for the brokers stated that an appeal on error was filed. Roberts & Hall failed in December 1929.

Our last reference to the affairs of this firm, the failure of which was noted in the "Chronicle" of Jan. 4 1930, page 51, appeared in our issue of May 25 1931, page 2813.

#### Inquiry by Senate Committee into Stock Exchange Trading—Profits of \$5,000,000 Reported Realized in Alleged Pool in Common Stock of Radio Corporation of America—John J. Raskob, W. F. Kenny, Nicholas F. Brady and T. J. Regan Reported Participants—Operator Tells of Guiding the Market, Illustrating Method Used by Deals in Kolster.

A brief reference to the resumption of the hearings in Washington on May 19 of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee into Stock Exchange trading appeared in our issue of May 21, page 3740. Indicating that profits of almost \$5,000,000 realized from an alleged pool in common stock of the Radio Corporation of America, which operated for one week in March of 1929 with an original investment of \$12,683,000, were described before the Committee on May 19, the Washington advices on that date to the New York "Times" said:

Senator Glass compared the pool operations with the playing of a card game with a card up your sleeve.

From this pool Nicholas F. Brady, Thomas J. Regan, W. F. Kenny and John J. Raskob, the four heaviest participants, realized \$291,710 each in return for original commitments of \$1,000,000 each, according to records gathered by William A. Gray, Committee counsel, which were verified by Thomas E. Bragg, one of the two managers of the pool. Walter P. Chrysler, the Fisher brothers, Charles M. Schwab, Percy A. Rockefeller, and J. A. Stillman were lesser participants.

Mr. Bragg, although ill in Florida while the pool was being operated, testified that he received one-fourth of a commission of \$547,119 as co-manager.

##### Division of the Commission.

Bradford Ellsworth, the other manager of the pool, who is sought by the Committee, received the same commission as Mr. Bragg, the latter said, and the brokerage firm of M. J. Meehan & Co., agents for the pool, received half of the commission, in addition to \$500,000 paid them in regular brokerage commissions.

Mr. Gray presented brokerage records showing that during the week in which the pool was operated, from March 12 through March 20 1929, it bought and sold 1,493,400 shares, with a total cash turnover of \$141,424,328. This represented 12% of the outstanding Radio stock, he said.

Outstanding points in to-day's testimony included:

Evidence from brokerage records that in this pool operations stocks were bought and sold for the alleged purpose of creating an active market, by brokers for the pool and participants in the pool among themselves.

Testimony by George F. Breen, a prominent trader, that the rise and fall of quotations of a stock can be controlled, as he illustrated in describing the selling of 250,000 shares of Kolster Radio common.

##### Brokers Are Questioned.

Mr. Gray returned from a fortnight of investigations in New York City to lay before the Committee, as he said, "evidence that managers of pools manipulated stocks." During a long day of battering cross-examination he strove to prove his point through questioning, based on voluminous exhibits, not only of Messrs. Bragg and Breen, but of John L. Weeks, an original partner in Luke, Banks & Weeks, brokers, and two members of the Meehan company, James P. McConnochie, managing partner, and Esmond O'Brien, youthful floor specialist in Radio common, who has held that position in the Meehan firm for eight years, although he now is only 33.

Mr. O'Brien was questioned especially about his execution of the Radio pool orders for the Meehan firm while it also was the registered specialist in that stock, a practice which Richard Whitney, President of the Stock Exchange, had testified, violated Exchange rules. Mr. O'Brien said, in effect, that the rule was involved only when the broker, through his confidential information, held an advantage but that in the active market obtaining at the time, this advantage did not exist.

Mr. Weeks described a pool operation in General Asphalt stock, started in 1929, which cost its sponsors several millions of dollars due to the market collapse.

The full Banking and Currency Committee listened with attentive interest throughout the testimony. The hearings will be continued to-morrow.

##### Meehan Has Sailed for Europe.

When the Committee members expressed a desire to question Mr. Meehan, Mr. McConnochie said that "on the advice of three physicians" he had left for Europe "a few nights ago."

"Just when did he sail?" asked Mr. Gray.

"Last night," replied the witness.

Mr. Gray told the Committee that he had informed Mr. Meehan he need not appear immediately, conceding that the 40-year-old broker is in ill health, but that he had no idea that Mr. Meehan would sail for Europe. Mr. McConnochie estimated that he would be gone about two months.

Mr. Gray began his questioning of Mr. Bragg, who had appeared once before to testify regarding his association with Percy A. Rockefeller in other operations, by saying he would describe the Radio pool as "a typical pool operation."

The pool, it was shown, was organized March 7, began operations March 12, concluded operations March 19 and was wound up March 30.

During its life Radio went from 79 on March 4 to a high of 109¼ on March 16; it dropped back to 101 on March 19, then fell into the 90s and on March 19 closed at 96¼. Trading was in the "new" Radio stock listed on the Exchange but not yet actually issued, which was to be traded for then current stock at the ratio of five shares for one. The original stock had had a phenomenal rise from \$8 to \$10 to about \$50 a share.

##### Three Brokerage Houses Used.

Three brokerage houses were used by the pool—M. J. Meehan & Co., the managing brokers; W. E. Hutton & Co., and the Block-Mahoney Co.

An element of mystery entered into the pool records with the discovery that \$92,000 was distributed among individuals including J. P. Tumulty, identified as the former Secretary to President Wilson, and Eddie Dowling, Actor and Director.



"I should say Mr. Spreckels was lucky to get out with what he did," said Senator Couzens.

"Yes, but I think he put it all in sugar," Mr. Breen remarked.

#### Asphalt Pool's Operations.

When Mr. Weeks was on the stand he described the costly Asphalt pool, and in doing so was subjected to severe cross-examination on his testimony that he operated in this stock while he was a member of the board of General Asphalt.

This syndicate operation involved 150,000 shares; its participants were invited personally to enter by Mr. Weeks, himself a director of General Asphalt, and it operated for two and a half years after coming into life on May 15 1929.

The sponsors of the pool originally subscribed \$6,000,000; they later were assessed \$1,369,292, partially offset by dividends of \$613,000, and the pool was closed in May 1931, with the distribution of 132,000 shares of stock.

Purchases were begun when the stock was around 80. More was purchased at much lower prices, bringing the average cost down to \$55.79, Mr. Weeks said. The stock is selling now at very low figures.

Asphalt made by the company, Mr. Weeks interposed, was used to pave most of the streets of the capital. The committee smiled at this remark.

The participants in the pool included M. J. Meehan & Co., committed for 30,000 shares and Horatio G. Lloyd, a partner in Drexel & Co., and Chairman of the Executive Committee of General Asphalt, who took 20,000 shares.

Other participants included Thomas Cochran, identified as a partner in J. P. Morgan & Co., who took 35,000 shares, and S. R. Guggenbeim, who underwrote 10,000 shares.

Mr. Gray, after routine questions concerning these details, plunged into questioning of Mr. Weeks on the organization of the pool a few months before the reorganization of the capital structure of the company. Prior to 1929, Mr. Weeks testified, the company's capital had been represented only by bonds and preferred stock. More than \$7,000,000 was in its treasury as earned surpluses.

#### Offer to Preferred Stockholders.

Then the bonds were paid off and, at Mr. Weeks' suggestion, as he admitted in response to questioning, the option was offered to holders of the preferred stock of turning in the stock at \$110 a share or receiving five shares of common for one of preferred.

"When you organized that pool in May, did you know this plan would be adopted?" asked Mr. Gray.

"I did not," replied Mr. Weeks.

A dividend, more than covered by earnings, was paid late in 1929, Mr. Gray brought out, and diminishing dividends were paid in 1930 and 1931. However, despite the fact the dividends were decreased, earnings in 1930 and 1931 were insufficient to cover them.

"Well, then, Mr. Weeks," asked Mr. Gray, "I suppose you will say that the fact that you were on the board of the company; that you organized the pool; that you suggested the conversion of the preferred stock and that dividends were paid when the company was losing money all was just a coincidence?"

"That's right; I say it," replied the witness.

Mr. Gray presented correspondence designed to show that Mr. Weeks' firm had an agreement with the Block-Maloney Co. to sell stock at prices below the market in order "to maintain an active market," but Mr. Weeks said that records showing sales apparently below the market, on specified days, might have represented delivery of stock previously contracted.

The first intimation of a combination operating short in the market was placed in the hearing record when Mr. Gray, in questioning Mr. McConochie, asked for all the Meehan company records regarding Electric Autolite stock. Mr. Gray said he had found that Joseph E. Higgins and Bradford Ellsworth, with others, had dealt short in that stock, from March 10 to March 27 1931, dealing in 94,000 shares and making a profit for the group of \$35,500.

"I have never heard of a syndicate formed to sell stock short," the witness declared.

### Senate Committee Inquiry Into Stock Exchange Trading—Operations in Transaction in Food Corporation Stocks Detailed by W. E. Sachs of Goldman-Sachs Trading Co.

A complicated transaction involving the purchase for \$23,500,000 of a company with assets of \$1,750,000 and patents on a food-freezing process figured in the stock market inquiry by the Senate Banking and Currency Committee on May 20, it was noted in a Washington account on that date, to the New York "Times" which went on to say:

The deal was described by Walter E. Sachs, President of the Goldman-Sachs Trading Co., which, he testified, lost more than \$12,000,000 in backing the purchase of the General Foods Co. by the Postum Co., now the General Foods Corp.

An intimation that Mr. Sachs' testimony contained only a partial picture of the operation came after the hearing when Senator Norbeck, Committee Chairman, told newspaper men that a representative of J. P. Morgan & Co., whom he did not name, had told him the banking house would like to be heard. The Morgan firm figured in testimony this morning as endorsers of checks given in payment for the food-freezing company.

"The Morgan people insist this is an improper picture and want to present their side," Chairman Norbeck said.

In other testimony to-day, the Committee heard John J. Levinson, a trader, explain how he had backed a brokerage account which made profits of \$19,063.44 between May 3 1921, and March 1 1930, for Raleigh T. Curtis, at that time conducting a financial column captioned "The Trader" in the New York "Daily News." Levinson said he backed Curtis' account out of friendship and a desire to help his family.

However, Richard J. Connell of the New York Bureau of Securities testified that the column had been put in other hands by the newspaper, and that it had ceased to recommend the purchase of stocks after the Securities Bureau had found that in several instances the column boosted stocks while Levinson was conducting operations in them.

Several persons involved in the "bull pool" operation in Indian Motorcycle stock in 1930, including Harry Content, a broker; Norman T. Bolles, President of the Indian Motorcycle Co., and Howard Hansell, an "independent speculator," who handled the flotation of 100,000 shares of Indian stock, also were heard to-day.

The Indian pool figured in testimony before the Committee by Representative La Guardia of New York, who said that A. Newton Plummer had paid several New York financial writers for giving to pool operators, who were his clients, publicity beneficial to their stock operations. Plummer, who is under indictment in New York for possession of forged securities, has been subpoenaed.

#### Tells of Goldman-Sachs Stock.

The Goldman-Sachs Trading Corp. aroused the curiosity of Senator Couzens, who established through questioning that it was founded in December 1928, with the issuance of \$100,000,000 of capital stock, 10% of which was retained by Goldman-Sachs & Co., brokers, and 90% of which was sold to the public.

The stock was issued at 104, later split two for one, and the latter shares, once valued at 52, now are quoted at 1 1/4. Mr. Sachs gave the assets of the trading company, as of Dec. 31 1931, as \$40,269,100.

"You allowed the public to take a big loss," commented Senator Couzens. "Our stockholders lost," corrected Mr. Sachs.

The food company operation, as described by Mr. Sachs, originated in mid-year of 1929, a few months after the Trading corporation was organized.

The Postum Co., which since has become the General Foods Corp., Mr. Sachs testified, wished to acquire the old General Foods Co., which had a patent freezing process known as the "birdseye process." However, it needed capital to handle the purchase.

The Goldman-Sachs Trading Corp. thereupon bought 130,000 shares of Postum stock for \$10,750,000. With this working capital, the Postum Corp. organized Frosted Foods, Inc., as a holding company for the old General Foods Co.

#### Trading Company Bought 49%.

With the \$10,750,000 obtained in the stock sale, the Postum Co., now the General Foods Corp., bought 51% of the General Foods Co., represented by that proportion of Frosted Foods stock. The Trading Corp., Mr. Sachs said, paid \$12,750,000 for 49% of the stock of General Foods Co., and took 49% of the Frosted Foods stock. Thus \$23,500,000 was paid for the small company.

"What was acquired for this money?" asked Senator Glass.

"Stock of a company with an investment of \$1,750,000"—began Mr. Gray.

"And a process for frosting food that appeared to have great value," added Mr. Sachs.

"But the fact is," insisted Mr. Gray, "that all of the money to finance this transaction came out of the treasury of the Goldman-Sachs Trading Corp."

It was developed later that the Trading corporation sold the Postum stock at a loss of \$230,000. It held the Frosted Food stock, after giving the Postum Co. a preference contract on dividends for the first five years, and on Dec. 31 1930 gave the holdings that cost \$12,750,000 a book inventory value of \$1.

One year later, on Dec. 31 1931, the Trading corporation exchanged its Frosted Foods stock for 30,000 shares of General Foods Corp. stock valued at \$30 a share, or the equivalent of \$900,000.

#### Tracing the Purchase Fund.

Checks for the purchase of the small company, signed by the Postum Co. and the Goldman-Sachs Trading Corp., were said by Mr. Gray, committee counsel, to have borne the endorsements of United Foods, Inc. of Canada, a Canadian bank, United Foods, Inc. of Delaware, and J. P. Morgan & Co.

Mr. Sachs said he knew nothing of this phase of the business or of the allegation by Mr. Gray that the two United Foods companies were formed for the sole purpose of handling this money.

"We are tracing this fund," Mr. Gray announced. "We expect to be able to show the tax question had something to do with this transfer."

He did not amplify the possible interest of J. P. Morgan & Co. in the transaction.

#### Levinson Tells of Curtis Account.

Levinson emphatically denied in his testimony that he had backed Curtis' trading account in return for articles boosting his stocks.

"I knew Curtis not as a financial writer," he said, "but as a neighbor in White Plains. I knew him and his family and I liked him. I wanted to help him buy his house."

The witness was unable to say where Curtis may be now. Mr. Gray said a subpoena server had waited at the writer's home for two nights without finding him.

Mr. Cornell, who investigated the Levinson-Curtis transactions in detail and reported his finding to the "Daily News" but did not make them public elsewhere, gave an entirely different picture of them.

As an instance, he cited an operation in Celotex stock which netted Levinson and two associates a profit of \$109,000. While this trade was being conducted the "Trader", on April 27, 29 and 30 and May 2, wrote favorable reports about Celotex. Mr. Cornell testified. On May 1, 300 shares of Celotex were credited to Curtis' account and sold the same day. On May 2, the brokerage house of Burnham, Herman & Co., which carried the account mailed to Curtis a check for \$1,195.50 as his profit. Mr. Cornell asserted.

Under the same circumstances, Mr. Cornell also testified, Levinson made Curtis a present of Consolidated Aircraft stock below the market quotation. It was sold immediately at a profit of \$3,706.14.

"It was just friendship," insisted Levinson when recalled to testify after Mr. Cornell had given his testimony. "I did that for lots of friends in those days."

#### Indian Motorcycle Transactions.

The Indian Motorcycle operation previously has been described in detail before this Committee, but the principals in it were called for questioning to-day.

Mr. Hansell, then operating as a broker under the firm name of Hansell & Co., floated 40,000 shares of Indian stock, for which he paid \$200,000, following negotiations with C. E. Mitchell, Vice-President of the company, and Norman T. Bolles, President.

When asked by Mr. Gray if he had employed "a man named A. Newton Plummer to put false information in the papers," Mr. Hansell replied:

"We did not."

Mr. Hansell admitted, however, that he had paid \$26,880 to Plummer, over \$16,000 in commissions for introducing Mitchell to him and \$10,000 when Plummer threatened to sue him. Mr. Gray tried unsuccessfully to get him to say that Messrs. Bolles, Mitchell and Content had "chipped in" to pay Plummer.

Following a successful operation in floating the 40,000 shares of Indian stock, Mr. Hansell testified that he undertook to market 60,000 more shares, and gave an option for 25,000 of these at \$7.50 a share to Mr. Content and Lawrence R. Wilder.

#### Dispute New Motor Story.

Mr. Wilder later went to England and bought a new-type Diesel motor for what had been reported to be 50,000 shares of stock. Mr. Gray disputed this, charging that 21,000 shares were given to the owner of the British engine, and "the remainder divided between Bolles, Mitchell, Wilder, Content and Hansell." This was denied by the three men who testified.

### Senate Committee Postpones Hearings Into Stock Exchange Trading Until June 3.

It was indicated on May 25 that the next hearing in the stock-market inquiry by the Senate Banking and Currency

Committee was set for June 3 one week later than the previous tentative date for the resumption of the inquiry.

A Washington dispatch May 25 to the New York "Times" from which we quote also said:

Senator Norbeck, Chairman of the committee, said the postponement was made at the request of William A. Gray, Committee Counsel, now in New York City directing an investigation into brokerage accounts.

Mr. Gray assembled the evidence already presented in connection with the Radio pool that made a profit for its operators of \$5,000,000 in one week in 1929 and in connection with profitable sales and repurchases by the Warner Brothers of stock in their motion-picture company in 1930.

Senator Norbeck declined to say whether the stock-market investigation may be approaching a termination, a belief arising from previous committee statements that efforts are being made to end the hearings by June 10.

On March 22 Associated Press advices from Washington said:

Determined to complete before June 10, if possible, its investigation of stock market manipulation, the Senate Banking Committee has sent its corps of investigators back to Wall Street for further data.

William A. Gray, the committee's counsel, has given assurance that he will have additional cases of stock manipulation ready for presentation Friday or Saturday, and at the same time will tie up the loose ends of some cases that have shown the undercover workings of the market.

The committee wants to complete the inquiry by June 10 in order to be ready to quit if Congress does at that time. There is a strong possibility, however, that if Congress meets after the party conventions the investigation will be continued.

### Senate Committee Inquiry into Stock Exchange Trading—H. M. Warner of Warner Brothers Pictures Said to Admit Profit of \$7,000,000 in Own Stock Deals.

By buying and selling the stock of their own company, Warner Brothers Pictures, Inc., in 1930, the three Warner brothers realized a profit of \$9,251,454.50, according to testimony presented on May 21 before the Senate Banking Committee in its investigation of transactions on the New York Stock Exchange. According to a dispatch from Washington May 21 to the New York "Times", Harry M. Warner, President of the company, admitted that he and his brothers, Albert Warner, Vice-President and Treasurer of the company, and J. L. Warner, a director, had traded in the stock, and their counsel, Samuel Schneider, testified their profits in 1930 were \$7,394,459. The Washington advices to the "Times" May 21 continued:

Further testimony was that while the three Warner brothers had lent their company \$3,365,000 in return for debentures that now pay a guaranteed return, dividends on Warner stock are now being passed.

Harry M. Warner denied that he and his brothers sold their stock at a time when they knew earnings of the company were falling or that they knew dividends would be passed, as they were later in the year.

#### Estimates \$9,251,454 Profit.

William A. Gray, counsel for the Committee, who examined the witnesses, asserted that the deals made by the Warner brothers were matched in 50 or 60 other cases, of which Fox Films was one.

On the basis of an audit of the books of Schatzkin & Co., principal brokers for the Warner brothers; by George K. Watson & Co., accountants for the Committee, Mr. Gray stated that the Warners had sold 305,350 shares for \$16,520,986, and later had repurchased \$325,505 shares for \$7,544,481, and had profited in 1930 through these deals by \$8,976,504.50 in cash and 21,155 shares in stock, valued at \$13.50 per share, or \$274,950, a total of \$9,251,454.50.

Mr. Schneider testified that the stock sales had totaled 231,055 shares, bringing \$12,850,540.50, and that 340,400 shares had been purchased for \$6,932,158.42. He estimated the cash profit at \$5,918,382.08 and the stock increase at 109,345 shares, or, on the basis of \$13.50 a share, the equivalent of \$1,476,157, making profits of \$7,394,459. The share value of \$13.50 is an arbitrary figure, considerably above current quotations.

Mr. Gray attempted to prove allegations that in these transactions, in which Mr. Warner testified he and his two brothers, Albert and J. L. Warner, always operated together, they took advantage of impending declines in share values that they knew were coming. Mr. Warner denied this, maintaining that the stocks were sold to raise cash to advance to the company and that the sales were made when prospects were bright. When it developed that the Warner brothers had lent the company \$3,365,000 in return for debentures that now pay a guaranteed return, while dividends on Warner stock are being passed, Senator Norbeck, Chairman of the Committee observed:

"Well, whatever your motives were, you made a pretty good guess."

When Mr. Gray began his examination of Mr. Warner he said he would show "that this man through undercover channels and by covering up his transactions sold his stock while certain journals were boosting the value before the public." When the Warners were buying, the examiner added, these newspapers made unfavorable reports on the stocks.

#### Brothers Acted As One.

Mr. Warner, a soft-spoken man who appeared to be about 40 years of age, testified under oath. He was obviously nervous when subjected to a barrage by news photographers. He stated that he was the son of a shoemaker and had followed that trade himself before going into motion pictures 28 years ago.

Warner Brothers was incorporated in 1925, he said, and on Jan. 1 1930, there were extant about 2,500,000 shares of its stock, of which the brothers held 303,434.

"The Warner Brothers always have construed themselves as one," he explained.

Mr. Schneider, who sat by Mr. Warner's side and whose testimony was accepted as Mr. Warner's own, said the Warners had dealt through several brokerage houses, including Schatzkin & Co., their principal brokers; Goldman, Sachs & Co.; Ira Haupt & Co., and Ernst & Co. They traded under numerous names in addition to their own, such as Moe Rosenberg, Harry Charons, Renraw and Brixton Trading Corp.

"Why did you deal under those names?" Mr. Gray asked.

"We found when we traded in the name of Harry or Albert Warner it influenced others," Mr. Schneider replied, adding that the purpose was to prevent brokers and not the public from knowing their operations.

Examination of the witness by Senator Couzens, who said the Warners "controlled the destiny of their company," revealed that they owned on Jan. 1 1930, only slightly more than 10% of the stock. However, the brothers had three of the 11 memberships in the board of directors.

#### Took Debentures for Loans.

Mr. Warner testified that the Warners sold stock from January of 1930 through June of that year. Mr. Schneider gave the figures for each month which, although they differed from Mr. Gray's figures, indicated the selling and buying trends pictured by Mr. Gray.

"Did you intend to buy that stock back again?" asked Mr. Gray.

"I would not want to say what my thoughts were at the time," Mr. Warner replied.

He then described the sales as being due to a desire to "diversify some of our stock" and to raise money for the company, adding "we wanted to have cash on hand to loan to it, a practice we had carried on since the inception of the corporation."

This money was needed for expansion activities and the brothers lent the corporation \$500,000 in May, \$400,000 in June, \$2,000,000 in July and \$465,000 in August 1930.

"Was any of that paid back in 1930?" Mr. Gray asked.

"It was paid back in debentures of the company," Mr. Warner said, adding, "and I still have them."

"So, in effect," said Senator Couzens, "you sold your stock and took a preferred claim in the form of debentures?"

"I never thought of it in that way," Mr. Warner replied.

Mr. Gray asserted that the average price received for the stock sold in the first half of 1930 was slightly above \$54 a share, while the average purchase price when buying operations by the Warners were being conducted in the latter half of the year was slightly above \$23 a share.

Mr. Gray tried to get a direct admission that the Warners knew the stock would drop in value in the fall and that they knew that on Sept. 1 the customary dividend of \$4 a share was to be discontinued.

"You knew in the spring that was likely to happen?" he asked.

"Not at the beginning," replied Mr. Warner. He insisted that he did not learn of bad business until "later in the year," saying:

"Our business spreads throughout the world and it is impossible for us to know what it has done until Price, Waterhouse audits our books."

"But you knew all through the spring of 1930 that the business of Warner Brothers was falling off," shouted Mr. Gray.

"The beginning of 1930 showed the best business our company ever had done," retorted Mr. Warner. "The most money we ever made was while this stock was being sold."

Mr. Schneider stated that the company made profits of \$10,000,000 in the first half of 1930.

In reply to further questioning by Senator Couzens, Mr. Warner maintained that trading such as he did was "ethical and helpful." He insisted that he "did not trade back and forth."

#### Senators' Comment Caustic.

"I just want to get before the committee the ideals and standards of some of these officeholders whose operations affect the market," Senator Couzens said. "The officers certainly know more than outsiders and have inside knowledge of company affairs."

"He says that to buy and sell with information that other stockholders do not have is perfectly ethical. Why beat about the bush?"

"Do you think," asked Senator Townsend, "that it is a general practice for officers of companies to deal in their own stock?"

"It is done," said Mr. Warner.

"Ah," exclaimed Senator Norbeck, "you people thought that when you clipped the lambs you could take along the skin, too, and the skin would grow wool."

This was prompted by Mr. Warner's assertion that the Warner stock has dropped far below the prices paid for it when it was repurchased.

The hearings of the committee have been discontinued until next Friday or Saturday, when Chairman Norbeck expects Mr. Gray to have additional material.

The steering committee of the full committee held a private conference, following which Senator Norbeck announced:

"We are planning to bring this investigation to a close by June 10. We are assuming that Congress will recess, and it is impossible to bring a complete picture to a head by June 10, but we expect to have a pretty good picture."

Senator Norbeck said the committee hoped to keep within the \$50,000 appropriation made for the investigation, but Mr. Gray said, "we shall need more money before June 10."

### Petition in Bankruptcy Filed by Kreuger & Toll—Recommended in Report by Swedish Investigating Committee—Debts Placed at \$168,300,000.

Kreuger & Toll, the parent company of the vast interests which were headed by the late Ivar Kreuger, filed a petition in bankruptcy on May 24 and applied for annulment of the provisional moratorium granted to it by the Swedish Government. We quote from Associated Press advices from Stockholm May 24, which also stated:

This action followed the adoption by Parliament of a bill amending the bankruptcy law. The purpose of the amendment was to facilitate liquidation of Kreuger & Toll and to give creditors of the company more protection than was provided under the old bankruptcy law.

The Swedish investigating committee, in a report issued May 20, recommended that the firm be declared bankrupt. It is stated that the report revealed that Ivar Kreuger, the so-called "match king" who committed suicide in Paris on March 12 1932 died practically penniless, and owing \$168,300,000. From Associated Press accounts from Stockholm May 20 we quote:

A Swedish investigating committee to-day reported that fictitious assets for large sums were created on the Kreuger & Toll books since 1924.

"As regards many of the assets," the committee continued, "it is impossible to say with certainty whether they should belong to Kreuger & Toll or to one or the other of the various companies under Kreuger's management, or possibly to his own estate."

Asserting that its investigation had shown the Kreuger & Toll Co. has a claim of not less than 200,000,000 kroner (currently about \$37,400,000)



on Kreuger's estate, the report added that the committee had made an investigation of the estate itself.

The assets, apart from certain personal property, consist of various concerns. Some of them are valuable and not affected by the position of Kreuger & Toll, the report said, but even so, their total value will not amount to more than a comparatively small percentage of the personal Kreuger liabilities. Besides, the greatest part of these securities are pledged.

Turning to the Swedish Match Co., another of Kreuger's big concerns, the committee said it was hoping that an arrangement could be made for a standstill agreement covering the next three months "for the purpose of giving the company time to produce a plan of reconstruction whereby Swedish and foreign match interests can as far as possible be kept together."

"A special administration," the committee suggested, "will control the company during the three months' period, and will probably invite foreign and Swedish shareholders to sit as a special committee to formulate a plan of reconstruction."

The report was signed by the four men named by the Swedish Government and various officials to look into Kreuger's tangled affairs. A moratorium was declared by the Government to cover the period of this investigation to prevent dissipation of the assets.

A London cablegram May 20 to the New York "Times" stated:

Bankruptcy proceedings for Kreuger & Toll, holding company for the vast Kreuger interests, were recommended by the Swedish investigation committee in a report issued here to-night by the British protective committee.

The committee reported that it found Ivar Kreuger, who killed himself in Paris on March 12, had personal debts of \$93,500,000 in addition to indirect liabilities of \$74,800,000. The report said the investigation had shown fraudulent manipulations of the Kreuger & Toll books for at least eight years.

"The condition of the books of Kreuger & Toll makes it difficult to produce a definite balance sheet," the committee said, "but there will be little, if anything, for distribution to unsecured creditors."

The committee therefore recommended recall of the moratorium by the Swedish Government and a movement to have the company declared bankrupt. Special bankruptcy legislation, intended to safeguard the interests of the entire body of creditors, is being prepared in Sweden, it said.

Regarding the Swedish Match Trust, it is hoped an arrangement can be made with the creditors for a three-months' standstill agreement giving the company time to produce a plan for reconstruction, a special administration meanwhile controlling its affairs.

A considerable part of the Ericsson Telephone Co.'s share capital may be considered intact provided the difficulties connected with the company's cash position can be overcome, the report said.

### Two Kreuger Directors Reported Bankrupt.

United Press advices as follows from Stockholm are taken from the "Wall Street Journal" of May 26:

Kristen Littorin and Erik Sjostroom, directors of Kreuger & Toll, have been declared bankrupt.

### Announcement by New York Stock Exchange Regarding Transactions in Kreuger & Toll American Certificates.

The Committee on Publicity of the New York Stock Exchange issued the following notice May 25:

Committee of Arrangements announced this morning: Transactions in Kreuger & Toll American certificates below one-eighth may be made in variations of one-thirty-second, such transactions will not be printed on the tape, but will appear in daily sheet.

Admitted to the List.

Kreuger & Toll Co. Guaranty Trust Co. certificates of deposits for 5% secured sinking fund gold debentures, due March 1 1959.

The New York "Sun" of May 25 said:

Selling at an unvarying price on the ticker of one-eighth, the lowest price permitted on the Stock Exchange, except in special cases, Kreuger & Toll stocks was given a chance to find its own market. The Stock Exchange announced that hereafter transactions would be permitted in variations of one-thirty-second, but that such sales would not appear on the tape. After this announcement was made no further one-eighth sales were seen. The bankruptcy of the company on account of the fraudulent deals of the late Ivar Kreuger and some of his associates seems to have wiped out anything of value underlying the stock. Much of the buying doubtless is of the short covering variety, or for wall paper purposes.

It is difficult to list stocks on the Exchange, unless everything appears to be regular; but the authorities usually let a stock hang on to the bitter end. It would be interesting to know how many bought the stock even after much of the irregularities and general crookedness were known, on the assumption that there might be some value in it. Sales were reported from the floor at one-thirty-second.

### Short Sales on New York Curb Exchange Totaled 58,535 on May 16.

The New York Curb Exchange, on May 24, announced that the short position in all securities as of May 16 1932 totaled 58,535 shares, as compared with 57,258 shares on May 2 1932, an increase of 1,277 shares. During the period covered in the compilation 1,440,140 shares were dealt in.

The low record since the Exchange began to issue figures on the short interest was 53,258 shares on Dec. 15 1931, and the high record was 129,542 shares on Sept. 23 1931.

### C. B. Hazlewood of First National Bank of Chicago Sees Need of New Plan of Bank Management in Rebuilding of Banking Business.

Speaking before the convention of the Missouri Bankers' Association, in session at Excelsior Springs, Mo., May 17,

Craig B. Hazlewood, Vice-President of the First National Bank of Chicago, declared that a new plan was essential to the rebuilding of the banking business. He said, in part:

Banking has for the past three years been passing through such a storm as has not been seen for 40 years, a storm such as has previously been experienced by only the oldest inhabitants of our officers' platforms. It has overwhelmed many banks. But from every situation, no matter how bad, some gain must come. The gain for the profession of banking is the increased skill that is accruing to those bankers who are bringing their institutions safely through this financial storm. They will be better bankers than they have ever been. It is not extravagant to prophesy that some of them will be better bankers than this century has yet produced.

That conditions will change there is no doubt. They may get worse before they get better, but the foundation has been laid through continued and drastic deflation of the prices of materials and inventories, the elimination of waste and extravagance, and the reduction of the excessive costs of manufacturing, merchandising and all forms of personal and public service. There will come a time when we will look back to this period as the "bad years" period. In the wisdom of our experience we will advise our successors against the excesses which led up to these present-day conditions, which advice they will probably ignore in another decade or two. In the meantime, there is a very positive need for every one of us to know as nearly as possible the exact situation of our own banks.

The only course open to good banking—and may Heaven protect the man who has not learned this fact from his experience during the past months—is to discover the losses, report them, and take them.

Many bankers adhere to the old tradition that directors should be informed about the favorable circumstances only. This, needless to say, is utterly fallacious. Unless a director can be of some assistance in times of stress, he had better be replaced with one who can be relied upon. And the banker who shields his directors from the less rosy facts of the business is taking upon himself a great deal of responsibility that he should distribute among his associates. Moreover, the director who has been shielded in this way has every right to resent the withholding of essential information, and to complain severely against what is in effect deception. The directors are entitled to full information about the affairs of their bank. They have the ultimate responsibility; they must be expected to assume it. The board which is told of unfavorable developments only when the situation has become serious cannot take the effective steps that it almost surely would have taken had it been informed in time to prevent this very situation arising.

For a long while a good many bankers and directors acted on the assumption that examination and supervision could be relied upon to produce good banking. During this panic we have seen that idea exploded so thoroughly that it can never return to acceptance in the present generation. Examination and supervision cannot be a complete substitute for management. Management is a dynamic, positive force that makes an institution outstanding, good, fair, or poor. Examination and supervision can only warn when the institution has taken a turn in the wrong direction, and eventually can only close the doors when its warnings have been repeatedly disregarded.

Whatever else we may advocate, let us never swerve from a steadfast advocacy of better bank management—in the basic meaning of intelligent administration and operation of our institutions according to knowledge of the facts rather than by guess and hunch.

Management alone will supply the answer to whether any individual bank, now in reasonably good condition, will succeed. For management alone can provide the loan and investment policies and the operating practices that will spell the difference between success and failure.

If this be true, then a double conclusion is forced upon us: First, in relation to our own institution we must study our problems thoroughly, intimately, with the very best thinking at our command, aided by the best advice and judgment we can obtain from our directors, and borrowing from the knowledge and experience of others who have learned the lessons of wise policies, and, as well, the lessons of mistakes. The other conclusion is that we must force the attention of our neighbors and competitors to these same problems, having learned the fate of other institutions affects ourselves. We must break the isolation of self-sufficiency of the banker who thinks he has nothing to gain by conference and co-operation. We must continue our co-operative study of bank management. I have strongly recommended to the American Bankers' Association that they encourage the holding of and actually institute bank management conferences in groups of counties in each State, probably working through and with State bankers' associations. This is the real nub of the County Clearing House idea, which has been advocated for several years; and in my judgment the conference part of the program is more important than the clearing of checks and is possibly more workable than the idea of local and private examination. I commend this idea for development by your Missouri Bankers' Association.

Admittedly what I have said to you to-day is a meagre and wholly insufficient outline of the requirements of banking, but it at least indicates some of the steps we must take if the banking system is to measure up to the responsibilities which are to-day confronting it. Mistakes have been made inevitably from time to time as America has continued her remarkable economic advance, but in the end, right thinking and sound judgment have always prevailed. I, therefore, have a profound faith that we shall bring to these problems, as well, that vision, sound sense, and constructive effort that have over the decades characterized America's economic progress.

### Program of Bank Reform Offered by R. S. Hecht of Hibernia Bank & Trust Co. of New Orleans.

A comprehensive plan of action "to eliminate the weaknesses and add to the strength of modern American banking" was presented at Memphis, Tenn., on May 24 by R. S. Hecht, President of the Hibernia Bank & Trust Co. of New Orleans and Chairman of the Economic Policy Commission of the American Bankers Association, in an address before the tri-State convention of bankers from Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee. Mr. Hecht said:

1. No bank, State or National, should be allowed to begin operations with capital less than \$50,000. If a community cannot support this amount of capital, it would be preferable to accept a branch from a bank in the nearest large business centre in the State rather than to open a smaller bank.

2. Consolidations of banks should be carried out to reduce banking facilities wherever necessary to co-ordinate them with local economic needs and to eliminate weak banks and strengthen the retained institutions.

3. Branch banking within the States should be extended by the States to allow strong local financial centre banks to extend facilities to communities lacking adequate banking facilities.

4. National banks should be given all such branch powers within the States of their domicile as are granted to State banks there.

5. Investment affiliates of all banks, both State and National, should report to and be supervised by the bank supervisory authorities.

6. Corporate group bank organizations should be fully subject, as an operating entity, to the bank supervisory authorities, but the operations of those well conceived and administered organizations of this type which are rendering inestimable services in certain localities should not be interfered with.

7. The Federal Reserve authorities should be given and should exercise reasonable power against improper use of Federal Reserve credit for speculative purposes, but not to an autocratic extent or in interference with normal banking operations.

8. A Federal liquidating corporation to hasten relief to depositors of closed banks is desirable during the period of clearing up the present emergency and its results, but the capital funds should not be forced from the banks, nor should this plan be considered or become established in any sense as a public guarantee of bank deposits.

Lastly, within banking itself must be developed an increasing sense of responsibility toward its depositors and the public at large, who have a right to demand that no matter under what form or character the bank may be operating, its first thought must ever be the continued safety of the institution.

To that end bankers individually and collectively must assume the leadership in guiding banking laws toward higher standards and greater protection of the public, never forgetting, however, that fundamentally our American system of banking, as contrasted with banking systems of other countries, is peculiarly well adapted to the highly diversified community life of the United States.

### Federal Reserve Board's View of Banking Conditions in April—Increase in Liabilities of Federal Reserve Banks—Formula Whereby Gold and Eligible Paper May Be Counted As Collateral Against Federal Reserve Notes Under Glass-Steagall Act.

In its May "Bulletin" (made available May 20) the Federal Reserve Board, reviewing banking conditions for April, discusses the formula used for determining the time and the extent of the use of the authority granted under the Glass-Steagall bill whereby Federal Reserve banks may offer, and the Federal Reserve agents may accept, direct obligations of the United States Government as collateral against outstanding Federal Reserve notes. We quote from the "Bulletin" as follows:

#### Further Improvement in Credit Conditions.

Banking conditions, which had begun to improve in February, showed further progress in April for the third consecutive month. The number of bank failures continued to be relatively small, and there was a further return of currency from hoarding to the banks. Additional purchases of United States Government securities by the Federal Reserve banks were reflected in a decrease throughout the country of member bank indebtedness;\* in addition, reserve balances of the member banks showed a considerable growth, and after the middle of April there was a substantial amount of excess reserves to the credit of member banks, particularly in New York City. In these circumstances money rates in the open market declined to low levels, with rates for prime bankers' acceptances of short maturity at  $\frac{3}{4}$  of 1%, the level in the middle of last year. Member bank credit, as measured by loans and investments, showed an increase at banks in New York City, but declined further at reporting member banks outside New York City.

#### Reserve Bank Purchases of United States Securities.

An important factor in easing the money market during recent weeks, in addition to the continued inflow of currency from circulation, was the purchase by the Reserve banks of Government securities in the open market. During the four weeks from April 6 to May 4 these purchases amounted to \$400,000,000, bringing the increase in the System's holdings since Feb. 24 to \$550,000,000 and the total holdings of the System to approximately \$1,300,000,000, by far the largest that the Reserve banks have ever had. The immediate effect of these open-market operations has been to enable member banks to reduce their indebtedness at the Reserve banks and to accumulate excess reserves. The table shows for the period from Feb. 24 to May 4 changes in Reserve bank credit, in money in circulation, and in member bank reserve balances.

#### RESERVE BANK CREDIT AND PRINCIPAL FACTORS IN CHANGES.

	Feb. 24 1932.	May 4 1932.	Change.
Bills discounted.....	\$835,000,000	\$506,000,000	-\$329,000,000
Bills bought.....	133,000,000	45,000,000	-88,000,000
United States securities.....	741,000,000	1,287,000,000	+546,000,000
Other Reserve bank credit.....	25,000,000	22,000,000	-3,000,000
Total Reserve bank credit.....	\$1,734,000,000	\$1,859,000,000	+\$125,000,000
Money in circulation.....	5,592,000,000	5,448,000,000	-144,000,000
Member bank reserve balances.....	1,878,000,000	2,147,000,000	+269,000,000

#### Position of the Federal Reserve Banks.

Liabilities of the Reserve banks increased somewhat during March and April, reflecting the fact that deposits of member banks and others with the Federal Reserve banks showed an increase larger than the decrease that occurred in the volume of Federal Reserve notes in circulation. Reserves of the Reserve banks increased somewhat during the period, with the consequence that the ratio of reserves to note and deposit liabilities combined showed little change. At the beginning of May the System's reserves in excess of the legal requirements of 35% against deposits and 40% against Federal Reserve notes amounted to \$1,400,000,000. There was, however, a considerable reduction in the amount of eligible paper available as collateral against Federal Reserve notes outstanding, as a consequence of the large decrease in Reserve banks' holdings of discounts and acceptances. While the amount of Federal Reserve notes also declined somewhat, the decrease in eligible paper was larger than this decline, and consequently the Reserve banks were obliged to take gold out of their deposit reserves and to pledge it with the Federal Reserve agents as collateral for Federal Reserve notes. As a result of this transfer of gold from the banks to the agents the ratio of gold reserves held exclusively against Federal Reserve notes increased from 79.2% on Feb. 24 to 90% on May 4, while the ratio of reserves available against deposits declined from 53.1% to 40.2%.

\* Discounts for member banks declined in all Federal Reserve districts, as shown by the chart printed at the end of this review.

#### United States Obligations As Note Collateral.

This increase in the amount of gold pledged with the agents and the corresponding decrease in reserves available against deposits reduced the margin of gold available for operating purposes to a point where the Federal Reserve Board found it necessary to consider whether it would be in the public interest under the terms of the Glass-Steagall Act, which permits such action until March 3 1933 to authorize the Federal Reserve banks to offer and the Federal Reserve agents to accept direct obligations of the United States Government as collateral against outstanding Federal Reserve notes. Before giving this authorization, which was done on May 5, the Federal Reserve Board carefully considered the question of the principle upon which this action should properly be based and of a formula that would carry out this principle in an efficient manner with due regard to the position of each of the 12 Federal Reserve banks. The principle upon which the Board has proceeded is that the authority to pledge obligations of the United States Government should be exercised when, after the available eligible paper has been pledged with the Federal Reserve agents, the operating margin of gold at the Reserve banks shall have declined to a level which it is necessary to maintain in order to assure the efficient functioning of the Reserve banks.

#### The Formula Used.

The formula used in determining the operating margin to be maintained has been derived from a consideration of the legal and operative requirements within which the Reserve banks have to function, including the requirement of 100% collateral, consisting of gold and eligible paper, for outstanding Federal Reserve notes. On May 4 the notes outstanding were \$2,736,000,000 and the eligible paper available as collateral was \$510,000,000, leaving \$2,226,000,000 to be covered by gold. This gold, which under the law can be counted not only as collateral but also as reserve against Federal Reserve notes, was more than ample to provide the 40% reserve required against Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation. When this gold is deducted from the total cash reserves of the Federal Reserve banks the remaining reserves, \$977,000,000, must provide the 35% necessary against the Reserve banks' deposits, the amount necessary for the redemption fund held with the United States Treasury, and such a margin above these amounts as would permit of efficient operation without delay or inconvenience.

In determining upon a formula derived from these considerations the Board decided that in existing circumstances when the margin between (1) total cash reserves of the Reserve banks (in excess of the 35% against deposits) plus eligible paper at the 12 Federal Reserve banks, and (2) Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation shall fall below \$400,000,000, the Reserve banks shall be authorized to pledge a sufficient amount of United States Government securities with the Federal Reserve agents to release enough gold to bring this margin up to the \$400,000,000 level.

This margin of \$400,000,000 is considered adequate to provide for (1) enough Federal Reserve notes in the vaults of the Reserve banks and branches to meet necessary operating requirements, (2) the redemption fund with the United States Treasury, (3) a reasonable margin above the required 35% reserve against deposits, and (4) a slight margin above the necessary collateral requirements against Federal Reserve notes.

In adopting \$400,000,000 as the operating margin for the 12 Federal Reserve banks combined, the Federal Reserve Board has notified each bank of the amount that would be a reasonable margin for that bank, in proportion to its requirements and its volume of operations. In practice, this decision of the Federal Reserve Board will mean that whenever a Federal Reserve bank shall find, after having pledged its available eligible paper, that its operating margin has fallen below the amount determined for that bank, it may pledge with its Federal Reserve agent enough United States securities to release an amount of gold that will bring the margin up to the specified amount.

In adopting this principle and this formula for determining the time and the extent of use of the authority granted under Section 3 of the Glass-Steagall bill, the Board has prescribed for the Federal Reserve banks a mode of procedure by which they can determine quickly at any time the extent to which they may avail themselves of the authority under the law to pledge United States securities as collateral for Federal Reserve notes. For the System as a whole the Board has adopted the principle that in the present circumstances it deems it in the public interest to authorize the use of United States obligations as collateral against Federal Reserve notes at such times and to such extent as may be necessary to enable the Reserve banks to have available at all times a sufficient amount of Federal Reserve notes and of gold not pledged as collateral to permit of unhampered operation of the Federal Reserve System.

### New Inflation Plan Proposed by Senator Carter Glass—Substitute for Goldsborough Bill Would Designate Bonds for Circulation as Consols—Basis for More Currency—Virginian Tells Senate Committee the Present Bill is "Futile."

Temporary currency inflation based on United States Government bonds was tentatively suggested on May 24 by Senator Carter Glass as a substitute for the Goldsborough bill to stabilize the dollar on a 1926 purchasing level. We quote from a dispatch May 24 from Washington to the New York "Times" which also said:

Vigorously opposing the Goldsborough program as "futile and ineffective," Mr. Glass urged the Senate Banking and Currency Committee to consider some "feasible" substitute, and therefore suggested the bond platform, to which, he explained, he was by no means absolutely committed.

Briefly, Mr. Glass has in mind a scheme of "diffusive" inflation, whereby some series of outstanding government bonds could be designated for the same circulation privilege now enjoyed by the 2% consols of 1930, or "Panama 2s," as they are known. Under this plan a national bank possessing \$100,000 worth of bonds might "for a restricted period of time" be able to obtain \$95,000 in bank notes, as may be done with the "Panama 2s."

As a result of the discussion, the Committee, which met in executive session, decided by a vote of 7 to 5 to postpone consideration of the Goldsborough bill until next week. Mr. Glass first moved to postpone it indefinitely, but did not insist. Senator Blaine wished to consider the bill again to-morrow, but finally the matter was put off for a week.

#### Henry Wallace Plan Suggested.

Senator Couzens urged the Committee to consider a plan suggested by Henry Wallace of Des Moines, to stabilize reserves on a 1927 basis, and there may be some discussion of this later on, but Eugene Meyer, Governor of the Federal Reserve Board, is as much opposed to this idea as he is to the Goldsborough bill.

Such conservatives as Senators Walcott, Townsend and Bulkley gave approval to Senator Glass's suggestion, but various other Committee

members are insisting upon the Goldsborough bill. It is understood that Senators Norbeck, Brookhart, Blaine, Morrison Costigan, Fletcher and possibly Senator Carey favor the Goldsborough measure.

Senator Glass considers that the purpose of the Goldsborough bill is impossible to realize, and he also told the Committee that he was unwilling to give "any seven men that God created" the power proposed in the plan. Further, he believes the bill would work great hardship upon the consuming public, by increasing living costs.

"Increasing commodity prices by legislative mandate would affect every consumer, and there are thousands of consumers to every producer," he said this afternoon.

In emphatic fashion he denounced the bill to the Committee, and said also that the present government security-buying program of the Federal Reserve Board was "indirect and futile" if not really dangerous.

"If inflation of credit and currency is the real cure for the existing situation and we must have inflation," he told the Committee, "we should proceed about it in a direct and unmistakable way and not in the indirect and utterly futile, if not dangerous, way now being employed by the Federal Reserve authorities," he went on.

#### Suggests "Diffusive" Inflation.

"In short, I suggest that it would be infinitely better to authorize a plan of 'diffusive' inflation by designating some series of outstanding United States bonds for the same circulation privileges which Panama 2s now have. This would enable national banks throughout the country, for such restricted period of time as might be determined, to increase the volume of bank notes in order to meet the requirements of legitimate business.

"According to my motion, this would be vastly preferable to the threatening scheme now being employed by the Federal Reserve System of concentrating relief in the great money centres with the vain hope and expectation that it will trickle down into the smaller communities throughout the country.

"The plan suggested, purely to tide over the existing emergency would enable every national bank to utilize its holdings of United States bonds for such controlled inflationary purposes as current business would justify and it would put all national banks in all sections of the country upon equal terms in the matter of expansion.

"I do not pretend to say that this would be an absolute cure for the existing situation, but I do insist that it is more equitable than anything which has been proposed or that is being attempted.

"My own orthodox view is that when an individual, community or nation embarks upon an era of wicked extravagance it must eventually pay the penalty. This cannot be avoided by fictitious devices, legislative or otherwise."

After the Committee meeting Chairman Norbeck said he believed that "something along the lines" of the Goldsborough bill would be favorably reported next week. He said a majority of the Committee favored some kind of inflation, and that he would try to have the bill passed "either with or without amendments."

### Tenders of \$334,818,000 Received to Offering of \$60,000,000 or Thereabouts of 91-day Treasury Bills—Bids Accepted \$60,050,000—Average Price 0.29% Lowest on Record.

In the sale of 91-day Treasury bills at an average price of 0.29%, a new low record price for this class of securities is established. The offering of this issue of bills, to the amount of \$60,000,000 or thereabouts, was referred to in these columns May 21, page 3752. The bills will bear date May 25 1932 and will mature Aug. 24 1932. Tenders of \$334,818,000 were received to the same, and the total amount of bids accepted was \$60,050,000. The results of the offering were announced as follows on May 23 by the Treasury Department:

The total amount applied for was \$334,818,000. The highest bid made was 99.945, equivalent to an interest rate of about 0.22% on an annual basis. The lowest bid accepted was 99.927, equivalent to an interest rate of about 0.29% on an annual basis. The total amount of bids accepted was \$60,050,000. The average rate on a bank discount basis is about 0.29%.

Stating that the average rate on the new bills breaks all records and indicates the excessive cheapness of money, a Washington dispatch May 23 to the New York "Times" said:

The situation has resulted from the heavy Government security buying program of the Federal Reserve banks and to the lack of investments regarded as safe by the bankers.

### New Offering of \$100,000,000 or Thereabouts of 91-day Treasury Bills.

Announcement of a new offering of 91-day Treasury bills to the amount of \$100,000,000 or thereabouts was made on May 24 by Secretary of the Treasury Mills. The new issue will replace bills of \$101,412,000 maturing June 1. Tenders for the new issue were received at the Federal Reserve banks or their branches up to 2 p. m. Eastern standard time yesterday (May 27).

The bills will be dated June 1 1932, and will mature on Aug. 31 1932, and on the maturity date the face amount will be payable without interest. They will be issued in bearer form only, and in amounts or denominations of \$1,000, \$10,000, \$100,000, \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 (maturity value). The bills are sold on a discount basis to the highest bidders.

Secretary Mills' announcement also says:

No tender for an amount less than \$1,000 will be considered. Each tender must be in multiples of \$1,000. The price offered must be expressed on the basis of 100, with not more than three decimal places, e.g., 99.125. Fractions must not be used.

Tenders will be accepted without cash deposit from incorporated banks and trust companies and from responsible and recognized dealers in invest-

ment securities. Tenders from others must be accompanied by a deposit of 10% of the face amount of Treasury bills applied for, unless the tenders are accompanied by an express guaranty of payment by an incorporated bank or trust company.

Secretary Mills yesterday reported that the tenders had amounted to \$296,503,000. The highest bid made was 99.975, equivalent to an interest rate of about 0.10% on an annual basis. The lowest bid accepted was 99.915, equivalent to an interest rate of about 0.34% on an annual basis. Only part of the amount bid for at the latter price was accepted. The total amount of bids accepted was \$100,200,000, and the average price was 99.919. The average rate on a bank discount basis is about 0.32%.

### Bill Creating Federal Home Loan Finance Banks Favorably Reported to House.

Legislation designed to make money more easily available to home builders was advanced in the House on May 25, where the Banking Committee favorably reported the Reilly bill creating a system of Federal Home Loan Finance Banks. Associated Press dispatches May 25 from Washington said:

The measure, sponsored by the Administration, to create a fund of \$125,000,000 for the organization of from eight to 12 banks to rediscount real estate paper, faces some opposition. However, Representative Reilly, (Dem.) of Wisconsin, Chairman of the subcommittee which drafted it, plans to ask for special legislative status to-morrow and it may be considered in the House next week.

### Secretary of Treasury Mills in Answer to Former Governor Alfred E. Smith's "Financial Program for Present Crisis" Says Public Works Proposal Would Hinder Recovery—Says Wise Course Is to Balance Budget and End Borrowing.

The proposals embodied in the "Financial Program for the Present Crisis" offered by former Governor of New York Alfred E. Smith on May 16 were the subject of a statement issued May 26 by Secretary of the Treasury Mills. Governor Smith's speech was given in our issue of May 21, page 3764. According to Secretary Mills, "the public works program which he (Mr. Smith) suggests, financed from the Federal Treasury, would destroy what the President, supported by Congressional leaders of both parties, has insisted on as one indispensable foundation for recovery—a balanced budget and an unimpaired National credit." "Public works," says Secretary Mills, "mean public borrowing" and "an unbalanced budget." Secretary Mills refers to Governor Smith as saying that "business cannot get under way on its own initiative." "I believe he is wrong" says Secretary Mills, who adds, "business can and will get under way." Secretary Mills further says:

The one way to give real relief to the American people is to restore confidence and get business going. Give business a chance. Let Congress balance the budget and pass a sound relief measure. Then, with confidence restored, the effective stimulation to productive works, private and public, that can be effected through loans by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in addition to the work it is now doing, the open-market policy of the Federal Reserve System, and the co-operative measures to be taken by business men themselves as developed by the Young Committee in New York, the Avery Committee in Chicago and other similar committees now being formed, may well break the vicious circle of contraction and start the upward movement.

Secretary Mills' statement follows:

Upon my return to Washington my attention has been called to a statement issued by former Governor Smith urging a vast public works program, National, State and local, to be financed from the Federal Treasury.

Governor Smith has shown such a breadth of view and courage in his recent public statements and brings such valuable support by his outspoken declaration in favor of the rest of the President's program that I dislike to find myself in disagreement with him on this point. But this phase of the program upon which we differ is so vitally important that I feel obliged to call attention to it in the hope that if he will but study the problem anew with the intelligent detachment of which he is capable, and the non-partisan spirit which he has shown, Governor Smith may be willing to reconsider his position.

As I view it, the public works program which he suggests, financed from the Federal Treasury, would destroy what the President, supported by the Congressional leaders of both parties, has insisted on as the one indispensable foundation for recovery—a balanced budget and an unimpaired National credit.

Says Governor Smith's Proposals Would Unbalance Budget.

To be sure, in a brief sentence Governor Smith states he favors a balanced budget, but he then goes on at length to elaborate a plan which would involve an unbalanced budget on a large scale.

What do we mean by a balanced governmental budget? Exactly what we mean by a balanced household budget, that expenditures shall not exceed receipts. If, after balancing the budget through reduced expenditures and increased taxes, the Congress then authorizes large expenditures for public works of an unproductive character, the budget becomes unbalanced by just that amount; and since no revenue is available to meet the expenditures the Government is compelled to borrow.

From a budgetary standpoint it makes no difference for what purpose the additional funds are expended, whether for increasing the size of the army, or doubling the number of Government employees, or increasing their salaries, or for public works. The effect on the budget is the same, irrespective of their character.

Capitalizing these expenditures is simply a high-sounding method of eliminating them from the current budget through the creation of an extraordinary budget, a device tried by foreign countries and which in-

evitably brought their finances to the brink of disaster. With the sinking fund provisions applicable to the existing debt inoperative for the fiscal years 1931, 1932 and 1933, there can be no conceivable justification for capitalizing these expenditures, leaving aside all the other basic objections to the abandonment of the policy consistently followed by the Federal Government.

#### *Productive and Unproductive Loans.*

Governor Smith professes to be unable to distinguish between a so-called productive and an unproductive loan, the funds to be obtained in the first case by the sale of Reconstruction Finance securities and in the second by the sale of Treasury obligations. The difference is fundamental, yet simple. In both cases the funds must be obtained from the public. But in the case of productive loans Federal credit is only indirectly invoked in the first instance, and first and last the loan does not constitute a charge on the public funds. For the loan is not made from the Treasury's general fund and the obligations issued are not paid for at maturity from taxes, but from the earnings of the enterprise. Any loss suffered would be a charge against the resources of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and perhaps ultimately against its capital. But this capital has already been fully paid in and is included in this year's budget.

It is clear, then, that this kind of a loan should not be charged against next year's or future budgets.

In the second case, involving unproductive loans made by the Treasury, the initial loan is paid out of the general fund as the result of a current appropriation. The funds are obtained from the sale of Treasury obligations, the interest on which and the redemption of which must be secured from taxes. They are a direct charge on the Treasury, and under our well-established system of budgeting must be reflected in the 1933 budget.

#### *Beer and Sales Taxes Rejected by Congress.*

Governor Smith seeks to overcome the objection of unbalancing the budget, which he recognizes, by talking vaguely of a beer tax and a general manufacturers' sales tax to cover the cost of public works. The first proposal has twice been decisively beaten in both the Senate and the House.

As to the manufacturers' sales tax, no one has suggested superimposing it on the selective sales or excise taxes proposed in the pending revenue bill, and it would be unfair to do so. The manufacturers' sales tax has been proposed as a substitute for these taxes, and as such would not furnish the additional revenue for public works. These are inescapable facts.

Public works, then, mean public borrowing, an unbalanced budget, and a shock to public confidence, for the country has relied on the definite assurance of the Administration and of the Congressional leaders that the budget would be balanced. The only wise and sound course to pursue is to balance the budget and put an end to borrowing. We have been striving to reach this objective for six months. Are we to throw up our hands now? No matter how earnest, sincere and moving the plea, the Treasury Department cannot surrender on this fundamental principle.

The greatest field for the revival of employment is in private industry, and it is that employment that must be revived.

Governor Smith says business cannot get under way on its own initiative. I believe he is wrong. Business can and will get under way. After talking with many business men and canvassing the situation, I am confident that the biggest barrier to-day to a return of confidence and to a gradual recovery is the fear of an unbalanced budget and the Government's continuing on the course of borrowing that has led nations and individuals to disaster.

#### *Public Works Program Would Put Few Unemployed to Work.*

At best, a public works program can put comparatively few of these unemployed to work during the course of the next 12 months.

The pending \$132,000,000 road bill would furnish work to but 35,000 men directly. We spend \$30,000,000 on flood control on the lower Mississippi and give work to 8,000 men. The President, after a careful survey of the situation, has estimated that only \$100,000,000 additional can usefully be spent by the Federal Government during the next 12 months over and above the \$575,000,000 provided for in the budget for public works.

The one way to give real relief to the American people is to restore confidence and get business going. Give business a chance. Then, with confidence restored, the effective stimulation to productive works, private and public, that can be effected through loans by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in addition to the work it is now doing, the open-market policy of the Federal Reserve System and the co-operative measures to be taken by business men themselves as developed by the Young Committee in New York, the Avery Committee in Chicago and other similar committees now being formed, may well break the vicious circle of contraction and start the upward movement.

The destructive effect of an unsound financial program, shaking, as it would do, the confidence of the country, would far outweigh the benefits to be derived from unproductive public construction, for it would retard business recovery and increase rather than decrease unemployment.

### **C. T. Revere of Munds, Winslow & Potter Believes Revival of Defense Council Would Solve Nation's Problems—Could Serve as Democracy's "Man on Horseback"—No New Legislation Needed to Reinstall Such Commission.**

Revival of the Federal Council of National Defense in the form of a peace-time commission would do much in solving the problems now facing the country. This is the opinion expressed by C. T. Revere of Munds, Winslow & Potter, members of the New York Stock Exchange, in an open letter issued May 19. The letter says:

If any country in continental Europe were confronted by a crisis of the character indicated in the United States to-day, there probably would be a demand for a dictator. Unless conditions improve—and improve very soon—we are not certain that we ourselves may not be involved in a situation that will call for just such a radical step.

We do not believe that America, like continental peoples of Europe, would countenance the coming of a dictator, but the creation of a commission similar to the Federal Council of National Defense which was created by Congress in 1916, can, in the opinion of Mr. Revere, act as Democracy's "Man on Horseback." It requires no action by Congress to re-establish such a commission, for the legislative machinery is already in existence.

We believe it would be impossible to over-estimate the constructive importance of such a step. The appointment of this body, selected from the experienced talent in which our Nation is so rich, would exert an influence upon National psychology that would be electrical in its effect.

Undoubtedly the commission would be capable of dealing constructively with emergency problems relating to unemployment, banking and financial conditions, railroads and agriculture. It should be non-partisan, or, so far as possible, bi-partisan in composition. The President undoubtedly would be given credit for initial leadership that could not be reasonably denied, for the magnanimity involved in transferring to the advisory commission the details of rehabilitation would be recognized by a grateful Nation.

Such a body of outstanding American citizens would command the attention, the respect and practical obedience of the whole country. It would be Democracy's way of meeting a crisis instead of a resort to autocracy.

Quite apart from working out the details of mobilizing National resources and solving individual problems, the advisory commission, after making its own study of fundamental questions, could make recommendations of policy that would be immediately accepted by a majority of the whole people. Its judgment on economy, prohibition, war debts and tariffs, for example, would receive such endorsement from an aroused and co-operative public opinion that no candidate for Senate or Congress would rise in partisan opposition except at the risk of his political future.

It is in respect to the dealing with our great fundamental problems that the advisory commission would be able to perform its supreme service for the country. These problems are largely economic, not political, and some of them should be taken forever out of the realm of National political consideration and removed as confusing issues. The commission would be the most effective instrument possible for directing and unifying public opinion on the great problems that confront us.

It is to be assumed that if the President sees fit to take such a step his selections will be made with a view to obtaining superlative service, by the appointment of men whose standing and character would give their recommendations unquestioned authority.

Herein lies an opportunity for leadership—leadership by the President in taking effective recognition of a way out of crisis—and leadership through a non-partisan agency to solve the Nation's problems.

### **Tax Bill Before Senate—Sales Tax Proposal by Senator Walsh—Export Debenture Defeated—Copper, Oil, Lumber and Coal Tariffs Voted—Beer Tax Again Rejected.**

An amendment to the tax bill providing for a general manufacturers' sales tax of 1.75% was introduced in the Senate on May 27 by Senator Walsh (Dem.) of Massachusetts, Associated Press accounts from Washington yesterday (May 27) as given in the New York "Sun" said:

Going ahead with the remaining rate schedules, the Senate restored a 10% tax on furs, adding \$15,000,000 to the measure which is still about \$50,000,000 short of its budget-balancing goal.

By the overwhelming vote of 72 to 3, it also concurred in the Finance Committee's decision to strike from the House bill a provision allowing revaluation of estates for purposes of fixing the inheritance tax.

The House proposal would have permitted revaluation of those estates whose owners died just prior to the start of present economic conditions in order to permit an allowance for depreciated values.

Although advocates of the sales levy claimed a bare majority, this was sharply disputed by the opposition. A showdown is not expected before Monday.

#### *Walsh Bill Provisions.*

The Walsh amendment provides for collecting the sales tax by licensing manufacturers and taxing any articles passing from a licensed manufacturer to any one unlicensed. No tax would be levied on a product transferred from one licensed manufacturer or producer to another.

Exemptions under the Walsh amendment are as follows:

- Food for human or animal consumption.
- Medicine, other than patent or proprietary.
- Wearing apparel, except shoes sold for more than \$5 or anything else for more than \$35.
- Agricultural products, implements and machinery, fertilizer or ingredients.
- Workmen's hand tools.
- Any article on which an internal revenue tax is imposed.
- Newspapers, magazines, books and other periodicals.
- Religious articles.
- Manufacturers and producers would not have to obtain a license if their productions for the preceding year sold for less.

The previous day (May 26) with Senator Walsh claiming that his general sales tax amendment was "gaining strength," the Senate followed the lead of its Committee on Finance, and accepted House proposals to levy a manufacturers' sales tax upon numerous items in the pending revenue bill. The "United States Daily" of May 27, indicating the action taken May 26 said:

The result of the day's action, according to Senator Smoot (Rep.) of Utah, Committee Chairman, was to increase the revenue-producing capacity of the measure by about \$58,000,000.

#### *Excise Levies Restored.*

The Committee, prior to the Senate session, completely reversed its position respecting the so-called luxury or nuisance taxes which the House had passed after it had turned down the sales tax. Through Senator Smoot, the Committee submitted to the Senate a new set of recommendations which resulted in restoring virtually all of the House provisions for excise levies.

Most of these were accepted by the Senate without debate, and were approved as speedily as they could be formally offered and read. Controversies arose over several, however, but the delay was temporary in each instance.

Only in the case of admission taxes and the communications tax was the Committee turned back. The Committee provision to strike out the exemption for press facilities from tax, as carried by the House bill, was rejected and the House exemption restored.

#### *Admission Tax Changed.*

On admission taxes, the Senate made its own rate through an amendment offered by Senator Johnson (Rep.) of California, exempting admissions of 40c. or under from tax. The House had proposed 45c. exemption and the Senate Committee recommended 30c. exemption before the tax of 10% applies.

Senator Walsh stated orally that there was, in his opinion, a "considerable gain" for his proposal of a general sales tax. As the revenue measure moves forward, he said, many Senators recognize the inequities that are the obvious results of attempting to select "spots" for the manufacturers' tax. He declared it could not go on that way, and that when the general sales levy is offered, it will have many more supporters than any one heretofore has supposed.

#### Senate Action on Provisions.

The Senate action (May 26) included the following:

Toilet preparations: House rate of 10% restored, but certain articles exempted.

Jewelry: House rate of 10% restored, with exemption of articles selling for less than \$3.

Automobile parts and accessories: House rate of 1% increased to 2%, but tires and tubes separately taxed.

Mechanical refrigerators: House rate of 5% restored.

Sporting goods: House rate of 10% restored.

Firearms, shells and cartridges: House rate of 10% restored.

Cameras: House rate of 10% restored, with aerial cameras exempted.

Matches: House rate of 4c. per 1,000 changed to 2c. per 1,000 on wooden matches and ½c. per 1,000 on paper matches.

Candy: House rate of 5% reduced to 3%.

Cereal beverages: House rate of 2c. per gallon reduced to 1½c. per gallon; grape juice taxed separately at 5c. per gallon, and House rate of 9c. per gallon on fountain syrup reduced to 6c.

Boats: House rate of 10% of manufacturers' selling price stricken out and a new license tax on an annual basis substituted.

Rubber: House provisions stricken out and tax of 2½c. per pound on tires and 4c. a pound on tubes accepted.

Telephone, telegraph, radio and cable facilities, telephone conversations: Charge of 50c. to \$1, 10c.; \$1 to \$2, 15c.; \$2 or more, 20c. Telegraph dispatches, 5c. Cable and radio messages, 10c. House rates changed in these items, but House exemption for press dispatches and facilities restored. Leased wires, 5% instead of the House rate of 10% of the amount paid, except for broadcasting non-commercial programs.

Admission tax: House rate of 10% accepted, but exemption reduced to 40c. from House figure of 45c.

The Senate, accepting its Committee's recommendation, struck from the bill the increased stamp tax on sales of produce for future delivery, which the House had provided. Senator Frazier (Rep.) of North Dakota, gave notice he would file a motion to reconsider.

On May 25 the Senate without debate, rejected the Committee rate of 4% as an excise tax on the manufacturers' selling price of automobiles, leaving the rate at 3% as fixed by the House, and rejected amendments to place a tax on beer and an import duty on vegetable oils, while its Committee on Finance made changes in its earlier recommendations on rubber and toilet preparations. Recording the Senate action, May 25, the "United States Daily" said:

The vote on the automobile tax was 29 ayes and 42 nays, thus making the second time in two days in which a Committee recommendation was overthrown. At the preceding night session the Committee rate on automobile trucks was reduced by the Senate from 3% to 2%.

#### Rubber Action Reversed.

The Committee, reversing itself for the third time on the rubber paragraph, approved an excise tax of 4 cents per pound on tubes and on-half cent per pound on tires, instead of a 10% ad valorem rate on the wholesale price. The Committee also proposed at the Senate restoration of the excise tax on toilet preparations, which it had once stricken from the bill. The Senate had sustained the Committee recommendation in this regard May 24.

#### Butter Tax Defeated.

After rejecting the amendment to legalize and tax beer, the Senate defeated an amendment by Senator Norbeck (Rep.), of South Dakota, to place a tax on imports of butter of 4 cents per pound and also rejected an amendment by Senator Hull (Dem.), of Tennessee, under which the United States would have agreed to hold its tariff duties without increases during the next two years providing other nations agreed. The Hull amendment was defeated by a vote of 34 to 42.

#### Beer Tax Discussed.

The proposal to place a tax on beer as an amendment to the revenue bill introduced by Senator Bingham (Rep.), of Connecticut, together with the question of national policy respecting United States possessions mainly occupied the attention of the Senate during the day.

At the preceding night session the Senate voted a rate of 2% on the manufacturers' price of automobiles, and thus refused to sustain its Committee for the first time on a major item. The Committee had recommended a rate of 3%.

Senator Bingham offered the amendment to legalize the beer proposal and place a tax of \$6 a barrel. He figured that it would return an annual revenue of at least \$366,000,000 on the basis of records of beer consumption in prohibition years.

Senator Bingham's amendment as well as his argument met with rebuttal from Senator Borah (Rep.), of Idaho, and Senator Robinson (Rep.), of Indiana, but the Connecticut Senator had support from Senator Blaine (Rep.), of Wisconsin, and others as the discussion continued into a night session. The amendment was rejected, 25 to 55.

The Connecticut Senator also brought up the question of tariff policy respecting the Philippines and other territories with an announcement that, as written, the House bill would force a change in a long standing policy of not exacting import duties on consignments to the United States.

#### Exemption in Oil Tariff.

He made reference to it in connection with discussion of the amendment by Senator Shipstead (Farmer-Labor) of Minnesota, to lay an import tax on imports of vegetable oils. Elimination of the language that would accomplish a change in policy will be proposed at the proper time, Senator Bingham said.

After general discussion of the question, the Senate adopted an amendment to the Shipstead vegetable oils tariff to exempt Philippine products from its application, and voted down the Shipstead proposal as amended by 33 to 48.

#### Amendment Is Supported.

The Shipstead amendment was supported by Senator Hastings (Rep.), of Delaware, who said, if passed, it will raise \$25,000,000 in revenue. A tariff on vegetable and fish oils, on copra and certain seeds and nuts, he said, would not increase the price of soap, although used in soap manufacture.

Exemption of products of the Philippine Islands, Mr. Hastings said, would still leave the amendment with "enough merit to do some good to

the farmers and to the fishing industry." The return from Philippine imports would be about \$11,000,000, he explained.

An amendment to exclude Philippine products was introduced by Senator Hawes (Dem.), of Missouri. A proposal to exclude products of possessions of the United States was submitted in the form of an amendment to the amendment by Senator Hawes (Dem.), of Missouri.

Senator Howell (Rep.), of Nebraska, contended that the Shipstead proposal would both produce revenue and help agriculture.

#### Senator Borah Opposes Proposal.

Senator Borah (Rep.), of Idaho, said he did not regard the amendment "as reaching the real problem of agriculture." He emphasized, however, that he does not favor further deal of action on Philippine independence and objected to imposing the additional burden of free competition on the Philippines in the instance of certain farm products.

Senator Hawes (Dem.), of Missouri, said it would "be most unfair to discriminate against these people at this time, because probably within the next 30 days their status with respect to the United States will be definitely determined."

Incorporation of tariff items in the tax bill should be condemned, Senator Robinson (Dem.), of Arkansas, said, declaring that it was "particularly objectionable to impose a tax on imports from the possessions of the United States."

#### Consideration for Philippines.

Senator Pitman (Dem.), of Nevada, argued against "disturbing" conditions in the Philippines by any such amendment at this time.

Senator McNary (Rep.), of Oregon, said that, in view of pending independence legislation, he did not believe the Shipstead amendment should be incorporated in the tax bill at this time.

Senator Bingham announced that he expected later to seek elimination of the House provision making import taxes apply to imports from United States' possessions.

#### Shipstead Amendment Defeated.

The Senate adopted an amendment by Senator Hawes (Dem.), of Missouri, by which the products of the Philippines would be exempted from application of a levy on vegetable oils, by a vote of 56 to 23. The Senate then proceeded to defeat the Shipstead amendment by a vote of 33 ayes to 48 nays.

Before that vote was taken, Senator Tydings invited Senator Smoot to "take the lead and offer to throw out all tariff amendments."

The export debenture plan, proposed as an amendment to the tax bill, was defeated in the Senate on May 24 by a vote of 46 to 33. From the Washington dispatch May 24 to the New York "Times" we take the following:

Following this ballot the Senate made quick work of eliminating the House provisions for excise levies on cosmetics, furs and jewelry; passed over the section dealing with the proposed rubber tax and took up the next controversial item in the bill, the excise on automobiles, trucks and accessories.

As soon as the automobile section was reached Senator Bingham proposed to substitute a tax on 2.75% beer by weight. Senator Vandenberg moved to strike out the entire section, and so the fight on the automobile tax was formally launched.

The Senate gave the first reversal to its Finance Committee by voting 38 to 30 against an amendment raising the House excise on automobile trucks from 2% to 3%. The House provision for the 2% tax was restored.

Immediately after this action the Senate voted down Senator Vandenberg's motion, 40 to 29.

The next vote was for a 4% tax on passenger cars and 2% on parts and accessories.

The House bill carried rates of 3% and 1%, respectively.

The Senate recessed at 10.20 p. m.

#### Norris Urges Debenture.

The tariff barrier, which had held up progress on the bill since last Tuesday night (May 17), crumbled to-night with a vote on the export debenture amendment. It had no more than been defeated when Senator Shipstead offered another "farm relief" amendment, proposing an import duty on vegetable oils and seed of oil-producing plants. He was quickly persuaded to let this go over until to-morrow under an agreement to vote at that time.

Already vetoed by one President and excluded from both the Farm Marketing and Hawley-Smoot Tariff Acts of 1930, the debenture plan was offered yesterday by Senator Norris as a challenge to the high protectionists to turn the revenue measure into real tariff revision.

He argued that the tariffs on oil, coal, lumber and copper, as voted by the Senate, would add to the burden of the farmers and it was no more than just that they should receive some benefits by a tariff adjustment.

#### Debenture Plan.

The debenture plan provided, in brief, for a bounty to American farmers on products grown by them for export. The plan was to return to the farmer one-half of the amount of tariff that would be collected on imports of commodities exported by him.

Defeat of the amendment, which again showed the strength of the tariff coalition, followed an attempt of Senator Frazier to make the export bounty 100% of the equivalent tariffs on like imported products. The Frazier proposal was voted down, 65 to 16, giving ample time for the opposition to the whole plan to mobilize those who were opposed to any further tariff provisions.

Until the tariff jam broke of its own weight, all the coaxing of leaders could not entice the Senate back to consideration of taxes. The Republicans did not speak openly at all, but Senator Robinson of Arkansas, the Democratic helmsman, took the floor in attempt to persuade the Senate to forego further tariff bickerings.

He told the farm relief advocates that he would join them in some other piece of legislation aimed at a similar purpose.

"This Congress cannot quit its labors without considering legislation dealing with the farm situation," he said. "But in my judgment it is unwise to attach this amendment to this bill. Those who are pressing for tariff measures now may be held responsible for defeat of this legislation."

He recalled that the debenture plan had been vetoed by President Coolidge and was opposed by President Hoover. He warned its advocates that a veto might be placed on the whole revenue bill if the debenture provision were included in it.

Senator Norris denied that those behind the debenture were in any way responsible for delay.

#### Deserted by Former Friends.

Senators Glenn, Glass, King and others who formerly had favored the export debenture explained that they could not support an amendment placing it in the tax bill.

"The bill is already carrying tariffs that have no place in it," Senator Glenn said. "If things keep going as they have here for the last few

days, I don't know but what the birth control amendment will be made a part of the emergency tax bill."

Senator Glass explained that he did not propose "to add to the political tragedy enacted in this chamber last week."

The 46 votes against the debenture plan were cast by 30 Republicans and 16 Democrats. Those voting for the amendment (33) were: 21 Democrats; 11 Republicans, and 1 Farmer-Laborite.

Duties on oil and coal, hitherto denied in tariff revision even as general as the Hawley-Smoot Act, were written into the tax bill in the Senate on May 20, while the essential revenue features of the bill were shunted aside, said a Washington dispatch on that date to the New York "Times" from which we also take the following:

The vote on the oil tariff was 43 to 37, and on the coal tariff 39 to 34. Eighteen Democrats joined with 25 high-protection Republicans on the former and 14 on the latter. The second Democrat to vote for the tariffs in each case was Senator Barkley, selected as keynoter at the National convention next month.

The votes increase the possibility of turning the tax bill into a general revision of the tariff.

As soon as the vote on oil was announced Senator Tydings, torch-bearer of the fight against the duties, introduced 504 amendments proposing changes in existing tariffs. Senator Norris immediately presented the old export debenture amendment, which contributed to the long stay of the Hawley-Smoot bill in the last Congress.

Senator Tydings also changed his vote on the oil tariff from "no" to "aye" as a technical preparation for moving reconsideration. He later entered a motion to reconsider the vote, thus forewarning of another possible long fight.

#### George Warns Protectionists.

Another night session wore on to an oratorical finish, in debate over the proposed lumber tariff. At one point Chairman Smoot of the Finance Committee interrupted "to give notice to the Senate and to the country that every day's delay on the tax bill is costing the Government \$2,000,000."

This remark brought Senator George of Georgia to his feet. He charged Senator Smoot and his colleagues were responsible for the delay by inserting the tariff items in the emergency revenue measure.

Mr. George warned the Republican leaders that they could make up their minds whether to take out the tariff items or accept the war-time income tax rates.

"If these duties remain in the bill, my course lies straight before me," declared the Georgian. "That course is to vote for the 1918 income tax rates."

Only nine votes need be changed to reconsider and adopt the Couzens war-time rate amendment, and low tariff Democrats, chafing under the actions of to-day, were considering following Senator George's lead and placing upon the Administration leaders responsibility for "soak-the-rich" income levies because of their insistence for the "four and no more" tariffs.

In voting on the oil duty the Senate merely repeated the action of the House when protectionists took control of the tax bill and began writing a tariff measure. The particular proposal was an amendment to the House bill, which itself provided for a duty of 1 cent a gallon on oil, gasoline and other oil products.

#### Senate Amendment's Provisions.

The Senate amendment provided for a graduated duty on imported petroleum and its products as follows:

Crude petroleum,  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. a gallon.  
Fuel oil, gas oil and all liquid derivatives of crude petroleum except lubricating oil and gasoline,  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. a gallon.  
Gasoline,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. per gallon.  
Lubricating oil, 4c. a gallon.  
Paraffine and other oil wax products, 1c. a pound.  
Natural asphalt and asphalt bitumen derived from petroleum, 10c. per 100 pounds.

Encouraged by their success to-day, proponents of the oil tariff were scanning the rules of parliamentary procedure to-night for plans to amend the Senate provision in order to raise the tax on crude oil to 1c. a gallon, or 42c. a barrel.

The fight over the oil duty was so close that both sides claimed victory right up to the last. Opponents of the amendment conducted an open filibuster until mid-afternoon in the hope that some Senators might change their stand.

Stating that the Senate continued in a jam on Saturday (May 21) over the remaining tariff items in the measure the "Times" in its report from Washington, May 21 added:

Three hours were whiled away in futile debate on the pending tariff amendments and a general discussion of conditions in the country. Leaders heard that still other volumes of oratory were planned by supporters of the import taxes.

Noting that a two-day deadlock on tariff schedules was broken at night, Monday, May 23, when the Senate voted for import duties on lumber and copper, the "Times" in its account from Washington, May 23, stated:

The coalition mustered 36 votes to 24 for an additional duty on lumber of \$3 per 1,000 board feet, and 45 votes to 22 for an import tax of 4c. a pound on copper.

The ballots came at the end of a filibuster staged by opponents of the tariff items in an effort to force Senate leaders to exclude the import duties from the tax bill.

Senator Tydings, leader of the fight against the duties, started to make good his threat to call up 504 separate tariff amendments and force a roll-call on each.

#### Four Efforts Unsuccessful.

After four unsuccessful attempts to write changes in the Hawley-Smoot tariff law through amendments to the tax bill Mr. Tydings temporarily abandoned his fight.

Senator Vandenberg, of Michigan, chief proponent of the copper tariff, jumped in when the opportunity offered and proposed an immediate vote on the copper duty. A few minutes later the Senate voted the lumber duty.

Votes were taken during the afternoon on two amendments to the lumber tariff. In one, Senator Trammell's proposal to place a duty of 8c. a 100 pounds on phosphorus rock was voted down 61 to 15. An attempt by Senator Copeland to have rough lumber exempted from the proposed duty of \$3 per 1,000 feet was defeated, 47 to 26.

## Appeal to Congress by Democratic and Republican Leaders for Immediate Action on Budget and Tax Bill—Nicholas Murray Butler and Alfred E. Smith Among Signers—Reply by Senator Robinson.

An appeal to members of both branches of Congress to lay aside every form of partisanship and unite quickly to adopt a balanced Federal budget and to enact a sound and fair plan of taxation was made public on May 22 over the signatures of 11 prominent citizens, 6 of them, Republicans and 5 Democrats, said the "Herald Tribune" of May 23 from which the following is also taken:

The appeal was in the form of a brief letter posted on Saturday to the majority and minority leaders of both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

#### Text of Appeal.

The letter follows:

"May 21 1932.

"Hon. James E. Watson, Majority Leader United States Senate. | Hon. Charles R. Crisp, Majority Leader House of Representatives.  
"Hon. Joseph T. Robinson, Minority Leader United States Senate. | Hon. Bertrand H. Snell, Minority Leader House of Representatives.

"The undersigned view with so much concern the possible effect upon our social and political institutions of the grave economic and financial problems which confront the American people that on behalf of vast numbers of our fellow citizens, we appeal through you to the members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives to lay aside every form of partisanship and of possible partisan advantage and quickly to unite to adopt a balanced Federal budget for the coming fiscal year, as well as to enact a plan of taxation which shall be economically sound, fair to every group and calling and without discrimination or privilege or class or sectional advantage of any kind.

"It is our judgment that conditions are so grave that this action should be taken at the earliest possible moment.

Nicholas Murray Butler, New York. | Alfred E. Smith, New York.  
William H. Crocker, California. | Wilbur L. Cross, Connecticut.  
John Grier Hibben, New Jersey. | Joseph B. Ely, Massachusetts.  
Alanson B. Houghton, New York. | Roland S. Morris, Pennsylvania.  
Frank O. Lowden, Illinois. | Albert C. Ritchie, Maryland.  
Charles Nagel, Missouri.

#### Speaks for Self, Says Butler.

Asked last night for his comment on the appeal, Dr. Butler said:

"It speaks for itself. It was purposely made brief and confined to two controlling principles rather than extended to urge any specific application of those principles.

"The dawdling of the Congress and the pathetically childish and irrelevant proposals and discussions which are wasting time and contributing not only to prolong but to increase the economic and financial crisis, are rousing the entire country to strong protest. Our national credit abroad and our national reputation are at stake. It was our purpose to make a simple and direct appeal for prompt action on sound principles which all good citizens could support regardless of party names and personal preferences."

It was only last Thursday night that Dr. Butler, in a public address, voiced the opinion that "we are drifting steadily and not so very slowly toward the edge of a political precipice." He told the annual meeting of the National Industrial Conference Board that a recent trip through 24 States had convinced him that "the thoughtful people of the United States are profoundly alarmed at conditions in Washington and at what is going forward politically in the country, and that, if a chance were given them to follow a real leader of large intelligence, demonstrated administrative capacity and intellectual courage, they would rise and sweep the whole discredited fabric of our present-day national political machinery into the dust-bin."

In giving a reply made to the above, by Senator Robinson, Washington advises May 23 to the "Herald Tribune" said in part:

The letter of a group of educational and political leaders, including Nicholas Murray Butler, former Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York, and Governor Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland, calling on Congress for immediate non-partisan action on the tax bill and on the balancing of the budget, drew sharp fire to-day from leaders in the Senate.

From both sides of the Chamber, came expressions in no uncertain terms of belief that the prominent personages who had signed the letter were ignorant of what was going on in Congress.

Senator James E. Watson, Republican leader, was particularly caustic in remarks on the floor, while Senator Joseph T. Robinson, Democratic leader, replied in a letter in which, between the lines, he intimated there was no occasion to admonish Congress to lay aside politics. Senator Robinson put into the record his letter of reply and said he would make no further comment.

Senator Royal S. Copeland, Democrat of New York, backed up Senator Watson and held it was unfair for those outside of Congress to criticize the Senate. He criticized the flood of propaganda which is descending on Congress, and told of getting 1,200 letters signed by employees of one concern urging him to vote to balance the budget.

Senator Simeon D. Fess of Ohio, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, said the country had no conception of the problems before Congress, and all he could see for Congress "is to go ahead and do the best we can."

Senator Ellison D. Smith, Democrat, South Carolina, pointed out that many of the letters which urged balancing of the budget also urged that excise taxes in the bill be put on some one else or some other industry.

#### Puts Economies at 750 Millions.

The discussion branched off into the question of economies, and Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, Republican of Michigan, emphasized that this Congress is effecting much greater economies than those in the one economy bill. He declared he would be disappointed if the economies in the various appropriation bills and the economy bill did not total \$750,000,000.

The letter of Senator Robinson follows:

"May 23 1932.

"The Honorable Nicholas Murray Butler,  
"Broadway at 116th St., New York City.  
"My Dear Mr. Butler:

"I am in receipt of a letter signed by you, W. H. Crocker, California; John G. Hibben, New Jersey; Alanson B. Houghton, New York; Frank O. Lowden, Illinois; Charles Nagel, Missouri; Alfred E. Smith, New York; Wilbur L. Cross, Connecticut; Governor Joseph B. Ely, Massachusetts; Roland S. Morris, Pennsylvania, and Governor Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland, addressed to Senator Watson as majority leader, myself as minority leader in the Senate, the Honorable Charles R. Crisp as majority leader in

the House of Representatives, and Honorable Bertrand H. Snell, minority leader in that body.

"The members of the Senate and the House are requested in the message to lay aside every form of partisan advantage and quickly unite to adopt a balanced Federal budget for the coming fiscal year, &c."

*Partisanship Laid Aside, He Says.*

"May I say in reply that from the beginning of the present session of Congress a sincere effort has been made to pursue the course suggested, and it is my belief that a fair review of the proceedings in both bodies disclose practical unanimity of purpose to balance the budget without regard to partisan advantage.

"This policy has been rendered somewhat difficult by the continuous delivery of partisan addresses and announcements by members of the President's Cabinet and others occupying high places in the National Administration. The injection of tariff provisions in the revenue bill has without doubt resulted in some confusion and is calculated to cause delay in the passage of the revenue bill. The differences which from time to time have arisen touching the legislation seem not so much attributable to sectional or partisan controversies as to varying economic viewpoints.

"Recognizing the grave conditions which prevail it is my purpose, in so far as I am able, to continue to contribute to just and fair conclusions touching the very important subjects referred to in your message.

"Please be kind enough to advise those who joined in your message on this reply.

Sincerely,  
JOS. T. ROBINSON."

### Comedy of Errors at Capital—President Hoover and Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler Involved.

The New York "Herald Tribune" in a Washington dispatch May 23 had the following to say:

Official Washington found amusement to-day in the errors, clerical or otherwise, which crept into the two important public statements on Government issues which were given out yesterday and printed in the front page of all morning newspapers.

President Hoover, who utilized a letter to the American Society of Civil Engineers to state his thorough disagreement with proposals to finance a public works program by Federal bonds, addressed his letter to Richard S. Parker as President of the Society. He should have written to Herbert S. Crocker who really is the President. Beseiged by complaints that Mr. "Parker" could not be located, the White House admitted the error and attributed it to a stenographic mistake. The letter was presumably mailed to Mr. "Parker" and possibly it is still unopened.

In writing to the leaders of Congress in an appeal for a balanced budget and an end of partisanship, a committee which included Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, head of one of the greatest universities and an authority on public affairs, made the error of addressing Representative Charles R. Crisp as the "Majority Leader, House of Representatives."

Although the signers of the appeal included Alfred E. Smith, titular leader of the Democratic party, and several Democratic Governors, they did not correct the letter by sending it to Representative Henry T. Rainey, who actually is the Democratic floor leader of the House. Mr. Crisp is Acting Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

President Hoover's erroneously addressed letter was the subject of considerable chaffing in the Senate. Pointing out that the President had more secretaries than former occupants of the White House, Senator Pat Harrison, Democrat of Mississippi, observed that "it is strange there is not more efficiency there."

"It would seem that the President, being a great engineer, ought to keep better tab on who is the President of an organization like the American Society of Civil Engineers," he added.

Dr. Butler said last night that the addressing of the letter to Representative Charles R. Crisp instead of to Henry T. Rainey was a "mistake that wasn't noticed until the letter was gone" and that then nothing could be done about it.

"It didn't make much difference anyway," Dr. Butler said, "because Mr. Crisp is Chairman of the Appropriations Committee," (Joseph W. Byrns of Tennessee, is Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, of which Charles R. Crisp is not a member.—Ed. "Tribune.")

### President Hoover Gratified at Appointment in New York of Committee of Twelve to Co-operate with Reconstruction Finance Corporation to Further Credit Expansion.

President Hoover on May 20 issued a statement expressing his gratification at the action taken in New York in the appointment of a committee of twelve bankers and industrialists to co-operate with the Reconstruction Finance Corp. and other agencies to widen the use of Federal Reserve Credit. The appointment of the committee under the chairmanship of Owen D. Young, was noted in our issue of May 21, page 3751. President Hoover's statement of May 20 follows:

I am much gratified at the action taken in New York by which a joint committee has been appointed representing financial and industrial leaders of that city for the purpose, among other things, of securing that the expansion of credit facilities made available through the Federal Reserve Banks and the Reconstruction Finance Corp. shall be translated into industry, employment and agriculture.

I am in hopes that similar action may be taken in other Federal Reserve Districts. It would seem desirable that the Governors of the different Federal Reserve Banks should proceed in a similar manner, and as soon as the Chairmen of such Committees are known I shall be glad to invite them to Washington in order that the whole program may be set up on a National basis.

From the "United States Daily" of May 21 we quote:

*Other Committees.*

Other committees of industrialists and financiers such as that formed in New York May 19 by Governor Harrison of the New York Federal Reserve Bank may well be organized in other reserve districts, but the New York committee is not necessarily restricted to that district, Ogden L. Mills the Secretary of the Treasury, stated orally May 20.

The committee formed in New York has more potential power for stimulating business recovery than even the Reconstructive Finance Corp. but its long-time success depends upon the purchasing power of the people

and the country's freedom from fear, according to oral statements May 20 at the Federal Reserve Board and the Treasury Department.

*Purposes of Committee.*

If the committee succeeds only in encouraging replacement and rehabilitation work long overdue, it will begin credit expansion and commodity price stabilization, it was said. Additional information was made available as follows:

It is assumed that the committee will survey the field and discover which industries can best use credit to inaugurate a new era of activity.

Composed of private citizens, the committee has no power to dictate the use of credit piled up in the Federal Reserve Member Banks during the last six weeks by Reserve bank open market operations, but it will mobilize industry and finance to direct and encourage the best use of that credit.

*Effect on Industry.*

Men on the New York committee represent large financial and industrial interests. If they decide that the time has come to start the wheels of industry turning, they can exert a tremendous influence. Whether their power starts a prolonged upward trend, will depend on whether after beginning production, they can find a market for the products.

The problem is largely one of passing on purchasing power. Some economists maintain that launching of production will give people work thereby enabling them to buy and to absorb the goods produced.

Success for the committee will also depend to a large extent upon the psychological attitude of the people. If they take the scheme as a sign that the country no longer needs to be afraid and that the Nation is on the way out of the depression, it probably will be.

*Powers Considered.*

Loans stimulated and guided by the New York committee will be more effective in starting industry than loans made by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Advances by the corporation, with the exception of a few to large railroads, have been to relieve distressed conditions rather than to finance new enterprises. Many of the corporation's loans have been to small banks, and this type of credit is not as helpful in stimulating business as loans to be arranged by the committee.

Undoubtedly there are some cases in which individual industries do not want to borrow money because they see no chance to make a return on the money. But others do want credit, and, although many are not good risks, some are. The committee can guide the banks in making loans out of the idle reserve resulting from the Federal Reserve Bank open market operations. In the last six weeks these operations have increased the reserve bank holdings of Government securities by \$581,000,000 and member bank reserves by \$250,000,000.

In the course of time the open market operations would become effective anyway. The time element, however, is vitally important now. To start the credit stream, someone must answer the banks who say that they are not getting the type of loan application that they want. They must have the co-operation of business such as the committee can furnish.

### Meeting in New York of Committee of Twelve Under Chairmanship of Owen D. Young Named to Assist Government Agencies in Furthering Credit—Subcommittees Named—Reported Studying Bond Pool.

The newly formed committee of bankers and industrialists of which Owen D. Young is chairman, was called into session on May 23 for the first time since its formation on May 19. The appointment of the committee was referred to in our issue of May 21, page 3751. The New York "Evening Post" of May 23 said:

A preliminary session was held at the Federal Reserve Bank this morning by several members of the committee, and a full session was to be held later this afternoon.

It is understood that one of the plans to be discussed in an attempt to put to work the vast credit built up by the Reserve Bank deals with the purchase of corporate bonds.

The reported plan, however, is almost a refutation of the pool idea. It is to the effect that when and if the committee decides to buy corporation bonds as a move to stabilize the bond market, the Federal Reserve authorities will buy as nearly simultaneously as possible Government securities on a co-operative basis.

It has been the apparent determination of the Federal Reserve authorities to maintain an increase credit base of some \$250,000,000 to \$300,000,000 brought about by the purchase of Government securities and further purchases would serve to offset the utilization of the extended credit by the committee if they buy large quantities of the better grades of corporation bonds.

This, in the opinion of some observers does not mean the creation of buying pools so much as it does a co-ordination of buying which will maintain the increased credit position, while the bond market is receiving support.

According to the New York "Journal of Commerce" of May 24 a group of subcommittees to evolve and perfect specific projects for putting excess bank reserves to active use was appointed by the Young committee of bankers and industrialists yesterday at its first meeting. From the same paper we take the following:

Following the meeting, which was held in the building of the Federal Reserve Bank, an unofficial spokesman briefly stated that subcommittees had been formed and that the group would meet again to-morrow afternoon. He said that at the present time no statement could be made as to how far specific projects have been perfected for subcommittees to work upon, or whether they were formed in order to explore the possibilities of vague projects which the entire group might be called upon later to consider.

Indicating that the proposal to form a bond pool, which has been under discussion by leading bankers for months, will be brought before the Young Committee, at an early meeting the "Journal of Commerce" of May 27 stated:

A special subcommittee was appointed last week to study and to report upon the question of whether the formation of a bond pool would be practical at the present time, and it is expected that the report will be delivered to the general committee.

It was pointed out that a favorable subcommittee report would not necessarily indicate that the entire committee would favor such a plan. It has been frequently indicated that the different members of the Young committee hold conflicting views on whether organized bond purchases are desirable at all. Among those who favor such purchases, there are varying opinions as to the methods by which the buying should be carried on.

*Four Subgroups Formed.*

It was learned that the Young committee has to date formed four subcommittees. One of these committees is to study the question of securities purchases, and is still to make its report. There are two subcommittees studying methods for avoiding real estate foreclosures, and for stimulating real estate construction. It was indicated that these two committees combined their work in formulating the plan under which the bonds of the Savings & Loan Bank of the State of New York would be underwritten, the proceeds to be used to refinance maturing mortgages and to keep mortgaged homes in good repair.

The fourth committee, which was formed to find means for expanding credit to business, has already come out in favor of promoting the use of trade acceptances rather than open accounts in the financing of industrial sales. The subcommittee is to report on this to-day to the entire committee. It was expected that the Young committee would favor the plan.

*To Continue Study.*

It was indicated that the work of the subcommittees which already have offered plans will not have been completed when these plans are put into effect. Each subcommittee within its own field will continue to study new measures for accomplishing the ends for which it was appointed.

On the question of whether the banks should use their excess reserves in the organized purchases of securities, there has been a sharp division of opinion among bankers for months. Such plans have been forcefully advanced by some of the members of the Young committee, but up to the present time have failed to win the general indorsement of the banking community. It was said that the division of opinion arises not only from details as to the form which organized buying should take but also the question of whether it is not more desirable that each bank pursue separately its own investment policies.

### Plan to Refinance Home Mortgages Proposed by Young Committee Group—Leading Banks to Subscribe to Bonds of Savings & Loan Bank of New York to Provide the Funds—Proposed Use of Trade Acceptances.

It is learned that arrangements have been made, as the first step in the plans of the Young Committee for making effective the credit-expansion program of the Federal Reserve System, to place funds in the hands of the savings and loan associations of this State which will enable them to refinance the maturing mortgages of the small home owners of the State. As to the proposal we quote the following from the New York "Times" of May 26:

The funds are to be supplied through the subscription by a group of leading banks to bonds of the Savings and Loan Bank of the State of New York, the central bank of the savings and loan associations. The exact amount of the funds to be subscribed was not revealed. It was said that the bond issue would be of an "open-end" variety, so that the Savings and Loan Bank could sell the securities to the subscribing banks from time to time as it required the funds.

The full Young Committee of twelve held another meeting yesterday at the Federal Reserve Bank at which additional plans were considered and turned over to a subcommittee for study. One of these plans involves a proposal backed by a number of important industrialists, including some who are members of the Young Committee, for the increased use of trade acceptances in financing domestic business.

*Plan Credited to du Pont.*

The proposal, which is credited to Irene du Pont, Vice-Chairman of E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., is for the large industrial concerns such as the General Electric Co., the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co. and the General Motors Corp. to buy and sell not for cash or through the use of open-book credits, but by means of trade acceptances which could be discounted in the open market and thus supply a new source of negotiable instruments of credit to form the basis of bank investments and to enlarge the amount of bank credit outstanding.

The advantages of the plan, apart from its value in supplying a more attractive outlet for bank funds than the customary loans against accounts receivable, according to its sponsors, are manifold. A trade acceptance, it is pointed out, is a much more satisfactory obligation for a creditor to hold than an ordinary commercial loan. It provides documentary evidence of a type which in the event of insolvency of the debtor has been held by the courts to entitle the lender to a preferred claim. In addition, it was said, the use of trade acceptance credits rather than open-book credits would benefit the ordinary business man by restraining him from injudicious purchases. A clever salesman, it was said, can usually oversell the average small business man, but the latter, if he had to sign an acceptance, obligating him to pay at a specific date, each time he made a purchase would be inclined to go more cautiously.

*Plan to Aid Home Owner.*

The announcement of the plan for providing funds to take care of distressed home mortgages was announced by William H. Judson, President of the Savings & Loan Bank, which is located at 220 Broadway.

Mr. Judson's statement follows:

The Savings & Loan Bank of the State of New York has made an arrangement with the Young committee of bankers and industrialists by which a group of banks will underwrite an issue of bonds by the Savings and Loan Bank as and when that institution requires funds either (a) to make advances to its 166 member savings and loan associations throughout the State for the purpose of relieving the hardships that in many instances are suffered by solvent and deserving home owners through their inability under present conditions to refinance maturing mortgage obligations, where payment has been called by the holders of such obligations, or (b) to make reasonable advances to its member associations for the purpose of making funds available for repairing and reconditioning owner-occupied dwellings now mortgaged to savings and loan associations when such advances are adequately protected.

It is the aim of the bankers to use the facilities of the Savings & Loan Bank of the State to provide savings and loan associations with additional funds that may enable worthy families having adequate security in the ownership of their home premises to be relieved from the anxiety of threatened foreclosure in those cases where financial ability to meet the savings and loan payments on a new mortgage contract is in evidence.

This program should make further opportunities for employment in many communities in the State.

*Status of Loan Bank.*

The Savings & Loan Bank of the State of New York, which was founded in 1916, occupies the unique position of a central bank for savings and loan banks, comparable in its offices to the position of the Federal Reserve Bank with respect to the commercial banks. As the 166 savings and loan associations which are members require funds to carry on their work they bring the mortgages they hold to the Savings and Loan Bank which de-

posits them with the Comptroller of the State, Morris S. Tremaine, and issues against them their own bonds in the amount of \$100 of bonds for each \$125 of mortgages pledged.

These bonds are 10-year serial issues, carrying 5% interest and redeemable at the rate of 10% each year. Since its inception the Savings & Loan Bank has issued \$27,415,000 of such bonds and at present it has outstanding about \$16,000,000. In view of the comparatively small volume of this business (compared with the huge sums dealt in by the Wall Street banks), it was thought likely last night that the bonds to be purchased by the downtown banks under the plan of the Young Committee would not be likely to exceed \$5,000,000 or so in principal amount, although there were reports that the total might go as high as \$15,000,000.

Under ordinary circumstances the Savings & Loan Bank sells its bonds to savings banks and other institutions. One of the largest purchasers is Comptroller Tremaine himself, who purchases the bonds as investments for the sinking fund. At present, however, the entire capital market is demoralized and it was evidently considered advisable to insure the institution of a sure and ready market for its bonds so as to permit it to go ahead with its work.

*Bank Official Praises Move.*

In commenting upon the usefulness of the plan and its value in relieving the distress of small home owners, former State Senator Charles O'Connor Hennessy, who is Chairman of the executive committee of the Savings & Loan Bank, said:

"The action of the committee of Bankers and industrialists headed by Mr. Young in interesting a notable group of powerful New York banks in the work of financial aid to distressed home owners throughout the State seems to me to be a move of a highly practical and constructive character. The Savings & Loan Bank, the central credit organization of 166 of the leading co-operative savings and loan institutions throughout the State, was the natural medium for doing the essential job that the Young committee had planned. That job, in brief, was, primarily, to put an end to the despairing psychology which, in many parts of the State, had been caused by the inability of solvent and worthy home owners to meet calls upon them for payment of overdue mortgages held by private lenders or by institutions other than savings and loan associations.

"It may now, I think, be reasonably assumed that in all cases of owner-occupied small dwellings the owner who has adequate security and is able to show his ability to carry a long-term savings and loan association mortgage should have no difficulty in refinancing his mortgage debt, and thus be relieved of the danger of losing his home through foreclosure. The suggestion of the banker group that the funds made available might also be used by present borrowing members of savings and loan associations for necessary repairs and rehabilitation of their dwelling houses we also consider to be highly constructive, for, obviously, it should tend considerably to reduce unemployment in many communities throughout the State."

*Division on Acceptance Plan.*

The plan for a wider use of trade acceptances is one that has been under discussion from time to time for many months but which has thus far failed to obtain unanimous support of the financial community. It has behind it, however, a large number of influential industrialists and bankers, and it was thought likely last night that the Young Committee might give the proposal its formal endorsement. Sponsors of the plan said that this was all that was needed to set it going.

In addition to Mr. du Pont, the industrialists chiefly interested in the plan are reported to be:

A. P. Sloan, Jr., President of the General Motors Corp.  
A. W. Robertson, Chairman of the board of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co.  
Walter C. Teagle, President of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey.  
Eugene G. Grace, President of the Bethlehem Steel Corp.  
Owen D. Young, Chairman of the General Electric Co.  
Gerard Swope, President of the General Electric Co.  
Myron C. Taylor, Chairman of the board of the United States Steel Corp.  
Among the bankers who are reported to have endorsed the plan are:  
Percy H. Johnston, President of the Chemical Bank & Trust Co.  
Lewis E. Pierson, Chairman of the board of the Irving Trust Co.  
George W. Davison, President of the Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co.  
A. A. Tilney, Chairman of the board of the Bankers Trust Co.

Not all of these men could be reached yesterday, as several are abroad or out of town. A number of others said that they were familiar with the proposal and that they considered it would be a helpful move.

*Plan Tested Before.*

Percy H. Johnston, President of the Chemical Bank & Trust Co., in discussing the proposal, called attention to the success that had attended the introduction of the bankers' acceptance in this market 15 years ago. At that time, Mr. Johnston said, efforts were made to establish the use of trade acceptances also, but they were unsuccessful because of the difficulties encountered in changing the habits of business men in general.

Among the most active sponsors of the plan, it is understood, have been Robert H. Bean, Executive Secretary of the American Acceptance Council; William W. Orr, Secretary and Manager of the New York Credit Men's Association, and Henry H. Heimann, Executive Manager of the National Association of Credit Men.

The plan was discussed at a number of meetings held recently by bankers and industrialists, including a recent gathering at the home of Ogden L. Mills, when, it is understood, the proposal for the Young Committee was first put forward.

As a result of these conferences, it is understood, Mr. Orr was authorized to canvass the views of leading trade organizations, industrial companies, banks and department stores.

The trade acceptance at the present time has only a limited use in this country, although there is some paper of this type in the market, and bill dealers customarily trade in it at rates about three-eighths to five-eighths of 1% above the discount on prime bankers' bills. Such acceptances arise when the seller of merchandise draws a bill upon the buyer instructing him to pay a specified amount upon a specified date, say 60 to 90 days in the future, and the buyer "accepts" this obligation by writing his endorsement across the face of the bill.

Having been accepted, the bill becomes negotiable and may be discounted in the money market by the seller in order to secure immediate funds. If the bill subsequently acquires a bank's endorsement, it becomes eligible for purchase by the Federal Reserve Bank under their present regulations.

*Notices of Program Broadcast.*

Circulars announcing the arrangements for placing funds at the disposal of the savings and loan associations are being sent out to each of the 302 such institutions in the country. Although only 166 of them are at present members of the group which owns the Savings & Loan Bank, others are eligible and may join upon fulfilling the requirements. At present there are outstanding \$380,000,000 of mortgages made by all savings and loan associations in the State.

The purpose of the move, as it was described by officials of the Savings & Loan Bank, is primarily to enable the member institutions of this organization to aid home owners who are being pressed for payment of their maturing mortgages by institutions or individuals outside the group. Under present conditions, it was pointed out, lenders of mortgage money



are frequently themselves pressed for funds and consequently demand even when the security is good and the borrower in good standing.

Ordinarily it would be simple enough for the home owner to get his mortgage transferred to another borrower, but at the present time this is extremely difficult. Under the arrangement for having the downtown banks subscribe for bonds of the Savings & Loan Association it will now be possible for such distressed home owner to apply to the savings and loan association in his neighborhood, and provided the security for the mortgage is sound the Association can get funds to finance it by pledging its mortgages with the Savings & Loan Bank.

### Committee of Eleven Named in Chicago to Co-operate with Government Agencies to Further Credit Expansion.

At the meeting of representative bankers and business men at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago on May 25 it was decided to appoint a committee to consider ways and means of making more effective the Federal Reserve System's open market policy and of stimulating business. We quote from the Chicago "Journal of Commerce" of May 26, which further reports:

In accordance with this decision, James B. McDougal, Governor of the Chicago Reserve Bank, appointed a committee of 11 members, headed by Sewell L. Avery as Chairman.

In addition to the bankers and industrialists from the Seventh Reserve District and officials of the Chicago Reserve Bank present at the meeting, the conference was attended by Ogden L. Mills, Secretary of the Treasury, and Eugene Meyer, Jr., Governor of the Federal Reserve Board.

#### Return to Washington.

Mr. Mills and Mr. Meyer came to Chicago at the request of the local group and boarded a train shortly after the close of the meeting to return to the national capital. Prior to the conference Mr. Mills stated that he and Mr. Meyer had come to Chicago with the expectation of laying before the local group their opinion on the outlook from the Washington viewpoint. It was planned, also, he said, to discuss prospects in reference to balancing the budget and the open market policy of the Federal Reserve System.

Members of the Committee appointed by Governor McDougal are: George A. Ranney, Vice-President and Treasurer of International Harvester Co.

General Robert E. Wood, President of Sears, Roebuck & Co.

John Stuart, President of Quaker Oats Co.

D. F. Kelly, President of The Fair.

Fred W. Sargent, President of Chicago & North Western Railway Co.

George M. Reynolds, Chairman of the Board of Continental Illinois Bank & Trust Co.

Melvin A. Traylor, President of First National Bank of Chicago.

Albert W. Harris, Chairman of the Board of Harris Trust & Savings Bank.

Philip R. Clarke, President of Central Republic Bank & Trust Co.

Solomon A. Smith, President of Northern Trust Co.

Chairman, Mr. Avery, who is President of Montgomery Ward & Co. and of United States Gypsum Co.

#### Not Administration Project.

Although the Federal Reserve authorities were instrumental in bringing about creation of this Committee to hasten the recovery of trade, it is in no sense an administration project and the affairs of the group appointed will be directed by the membership.

Mr. Avery has not signified the date on which he plans to convene the Chicago group and no definite plan of action has been formulated.

To date steps have been taken in three Reserve districts to organize banking and business leaders for the purpose of devising measures to utilize some of the credit created by the System through the liberal buying policy. Besides the New York committee headed by Owen D. Young and the Chicago group, similar action has been taken in St. Louis.

While some degree of co-operation between the several groups is logical, the variation in problems to be solved in the 12 Districts indicates that no closely-knit central organization of the various committees will be developed.

Opinion still persists that one of the steps which will be taken by the New York and Chicago groups will be a move to obtain funds to counteract the downward trend in bond prices by a concerted buying movement.

With the exception of Mr. Ranney and Mr. Sargent, all members of the Committee appointed by Governor McDougal were present at the conference.

#### Others at Conference.

Others in attendance in addition to Mr. Mills and Mr. Meyer were:

Rufus W. Abbott, Chairman of the Board, Illinois Bell Telephone Co.; Eugene J. Buffington, President, Illinois Steel Co.; D. A. Crawford, President, Pullman Co.; Alexander Legge, President, International Harvester Co.; John McKinlay, President, Marshall Field & Co.; Charles W. Nash, President, Nash Motors Co.; Frederick H. Scott, Vice-President, Carson Pirie Scott & Co.; George E. Scott, President, American Steel Foundries; William M. Scudder, Vice-President, American Radiator Co.; W. B. Storey, President, Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Co.; Frederick H. Rawson, Chairman of the Board, First National Bank of Chicago; Stanley Field, Chairman, Executive Committee, Continental Illinois Bank & Trust Co.; John Ballantyne, director, Detroit branch, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; E. R. Estberg, banker, Waukesha, Wis., and director, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; George J. Schaller, banker Storm Lake, Iowa, and director, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; Max W. Babb, President, Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Co., and director, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; Eugene M. Stevens, Chairman of the Board, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, and Mr. McDougal.

### Proposals Studied to Expand Credits—Secretary of Treasury Mills Says Bill to Extend Borrowing Power of Reconstruction Finance Corporation Will Be Drafted.

The new steps for economic rehabilitation will be taken soon with the drafting of a bill to enlarge the borrowing power of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and with the development of a constructive program by the committee of industrialists and bankers formed in New York last week, Ogden L. Mills, the Secretary of the Treasury, stated orally

May 24. The "United States Daily" of May 24, went on to say:

After conferring on that date with Charles G. Dawes, President of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and Eugene Meyer, Chairman of the Corporation's board, Secretary Mills said they had discussed the proposal to enlarge the borrowing power of the Corporation to \$3,000,000,000 and to use some of the funds for relief.

The New York committee of industrialists and bankers will, in his opinion involve some constructive program to supplement the Government's policies, he said.

No Treasury Department program was submitted to the committee, he explained, but the group was left with the responsibility of working out some scheme. Sub-committees have been appointed, and the study really launched, the Secretary said.

### Proposal that President Hoover Appoint "War Industries Board Against Depression" to Effect Immediate Relief from Present Uncertainty—D. L. Hoopingarner of American Construction Council—Says Billions of Dollars for Construction Awaits Adoption of Definite Program by Government and Business.

Billions of dollars of private capital for construction await only the adoption and application of a definite working agreement between Government and business, says Dwight L. Hoopingarner, Executive of the American Construction Council, in an open appeal to President Hoover and both Houses of Congress issued May 25 urging on behalf of the construction industry of the country as a whole, immediate relief from the present uncertainty of threatened competition between public and private credits if the "unemployed in construction and allied industries are to be taken from the park benches before Thanksgiving."

The plan urged comprises the immediate formation of a workable coalition between both branches of the Government and business through a "War Industries Board Against Depression" appointed by the President in co-operation with Congress, this tripartite board to be made up of representatives of the executive and legislative branches of the Federal Government as well as representatives of an effective number of outstanding organizations in industry and commerce.

This board would define, allocate and co-ordinate present and future efforts to stimulate business, especially in the field of construction, and work out the best relationship between public and private credits. "It would," says Mr. Hoopingarner, "serve to locate and repair the short circuit, still existing between Government and industry, which has for more than thirty months disrupted the currents of credits and confidence."

The appeal warns of menace in further delay at getting a proper nationwide program of construction under way. "Unless something be done at once the best we can hope for this calendar year will be only minor results and another winter of suffering and economic loss must result," he adds, "so far as the greatest benefits of construction are concerned. On the other hand it will serve no good purpose to rush blindly into a widespread program of construction. Consideration must be given to plans which will assure the greatest good to the greatest number of persons. The outstanding need, however, is for speedy action along rational lines. The present proposal suggests a general approach to the problem for working out such plans. The plan, the author makes clear, would in no wise conflict with any specific program already offered or now in operation. On the contrary, he says, it would clarify, unify and give impetus to these efforts. Mr. Hoopingarner says:

Such a board as I have in mind should speedily be able to suggest a three-fold plan for enactment of the necessary legislation by Congress, means for effective enforcement by the executive agencies of the Government and a concrete proposal for industry to reassume its share of initiative and responsibility, without which any general improvement in business will be impossible. Specifically, this board would pick out in joint conference around a common conference table, the types and scope of each activity most feasible on the one hand for the Government to pursue as emergency measures without infringing upon our private institutions, and on the other hand the types of enterprise affected with a public interest for private business to undertake at this time, and then formulate a definite plan of co-operation and mutual support between these two lines of endeavor with respect to the financial support, supervision and control of such projects.

Such an entente cordiale with a joint sharing of plan and responsibility should bring an end to the deadlock now existing between Congress and business, neither of which is able to proceed in a conclusive manner with constructive measures because of the uncertainty as to the possible action to be taken by the other. The result to date has been chaos and a stagnation of new business endeavor and a further hoarding of funds.

Literally hundreds of millions if not billions of dollars of now housing construction on the part of private business enterprise has been scared back into hiding by the combined effect of the present uncertainty and the threat of being forced to compete with direct Government housing subsidies. To my own knowledge projects on new housing construction totalling over fifty millions of dollars have been indefinitely postponed because of this very uncertainty. This beclouded atmosphere must be clarified before progress can be made. The present uncertainty must be supplanted by a certainty and faith that can be born only of complete co-operation between Governmental and business functions, each fully understood by the other.

For example, an enlarged scope of activity for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation would be a fit subject for action by this joint "Ward Board." Likewise the exact scope, nature and size of any public works program receiving Federal support would come under its purview as would the various proposals for relief measures that are so closely interwoven with a consideration of public works at this time. Still another field would be the adoption of exact ways and means to initiate a nationwide quasi-public works program of low-priced housing for families of moderate means and especially on slum clearance. This might well contemplate the possibility of Governmental credits for rediscounting purposes extended through proper channels and with adequate safeguards for quasi-public works in co-operation with private enterprise but without jeopardizing the institution of private property. Certainly this is a field where a partnership between business and Government through which Government can lend support and help stabilize but in a manner that private investment will not be jeopardized, can be satisfactorily accomplished. It might be found feasible, by way of suggestion, to formulate a joint program to furnish the equity financing for low-priced housing through the establishment of a proper relationship between the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and a System of Intermediate Credit Housing Banks, and private capital. It might also be found proper to provide additional support to existing agencies of credit in home ownership and in the building field so as to protect the investments of millions of our citizens in that as well as in other fields of savings.

Without endeavoring to suggest at this moment the complete make-up of the personnel of this board, the following, other than those in Government positions, would be typical of the National business, industrial and welfare organizations to be called in:

American Bankers' Association.  
 American Construction Council.  
 American Economics Association.  
 American Engineering Council.  
 American Farm Bureau Federation.  
 American Federation of Labor.  
 American Institute of Architects.  
 American Legion.  
 American Railway Association.  
 Chamber of Commerce of the United States.  
 Investment Bankers' Association of America.  
 Mortgage Bankers' Association of America.  
 National Association of Building Owners and Managers.  
 National Association of Life Underwriters.  
 National Association of Mutual Savings Banks.  
 National Association of Real Estate Boards.  
 National Automobile Chamber of Commerce.  
 National Farmers' Union.  
 National Grange.  
 National Manufacturers Association.  
 National Retail Dry Goods Association.  
 United States Building & Loan League, and other agencies of a general rather than of a special or localized nature which would have a voice through these more general bodies.

The joint sharing of the financial burden through the adoption of such a plan should also aid greatly in helping to balance the National budget.

**'Five-Year Plan' for Revival of Business Proposed by Department of Economics of University of Chicago—Said to Have Been Drawn at Request of Member of House Committee—Bonus Payment Plan Rejected—Alternative Inflationary Devices Advocated—Government Bond Sale Urged.**

A "five-year plan" for the revival of business, calling for a drastic but temporary fiscal inflation, has been framed and endorsed unanimously by members of the Department of Economics at the University of Chicago. Drawn up as a memorandum at the request of a member of the House Committee on Military Affairs in Washington, which has been considering immediate payment of veterans' bonus, the document discusses the financial situation as a whole, rejects the bonus payment plan, and proposes alternative inflationary devices. Permission to make the memorandum public has now been given. "We are persuaded," the Chicago economists reported to the Committee, "that automatic adjustments in the economic situation have already proceeded to a stage where the necessary inflationary expenditures would be handsomely rewarded, in greater production, larger employment and higher tax revenues."

The memorandum is signed by Professors Garfield V. Cox, Aaron Director, Paul H. Douglas, Harry D. Gideonso, Frank H. Knight, Harry A. Millis, Lloyd W. Mints, Henry Schultz, Henry C. Simons, Jacob Viner, Chester W. Wright and Theodore O. Yntema.

The deflation continues, these observers agree, because costs remain high, relative to commodity prices. This fundamental cost-price maladjustment is aggravated by resistance to the downward swing on the part of wages, rents and other fixed charges involved in production, particularly in the case of goods and services provided by public utilities and other business characterized by "an exceeding politeness of competition."

The major recommendation calls for "generous Federal expenditures, financed without resort to taxes on commodities or transactions." Large-scale sale of Government bonds to the Federal Reserve banks is suggested, the funds thus created being expended heavily for unemployment relief and for public and semi-public improvements which can be readily started and stopped.

This method of inflation, the economists assert, "can now be productive of tremendous gains, with no possible losses

of compensating magnitude." Too meager or too short-lived inflation would be dangerous, they believe, but once the upward swing of prices and production has begun, no attempt should be made to stabilize at a specified level. Inflationary support should be cautiously but promptly withdrawn, so that no boom might ensue. The unlikely but conceivable possibility that America might be forced off the gold standard during the inflationary process they regard without alarm. The document continues:

Severe depression and deflation can be checked, and recovery initiated, either by virtue of automatic adjustments, or by deliberate governmental action. The automatic process involves tremendous losses, in wastage of productive capacity and in acute suffering. It requires drastic reduction of wage-rates, rents and other "sticky" prices, notably those in industries where readjustments are impeded by monopoly. It must also involve widespread insolvency and financial reorganization, with consequent reduction of fixed charges, in order that firms may be placed in position to obtain necessary working capital when and where expansion of output become profitable.

Given drastic deflation of costs and elimination of fixed charges, business will discover opportunities for profitably increasing employment, firms will become anxious to borrow, and banks will be more willing to lend.

As long as wage-cutting is evaded by reducing employment, and as long as monopolies, including public utilities, resist pressure for lower prices, deflation may continue indefinitely. The more intractable the "sticky" prices, the further credit contraction will go, and the more drastic must be the ultimate readjustment.

We have developed an economy in which the volume and velocity of credit is exceedingly flexible and sensitive, while wages and pegged prices are highly resistant to downward pressure. This is at once the explanation of our plight and the grounds upon which governmental action may be justified. Recovery can be brought about either by reduction of costs to a level consistent with existing commodity prices, or by injecting enough new purchasing power so that much larger production will be profitable at existing costs. The first method is conveniently automatic, but dreadfully slow. The second, while readily amenable to abuse, only requires a courageous fiscal policy on the part of the central government.

Heavy contributions toward relief of distress is the most urgent, and, for reflation, perhaps the most effective price-raising measure, the economists believe. Large appropriations for public improvements are also an attractive expedient, provided projects are chosen which can be quickly started and opportunely stopped. Federal unemployment relief and bonus legislation, "both involve a sort of outright gift," but the former "involves allocation according to need, when need is dreadfully acute; the other ignores this criterion completely. Funds spent for relief would certainly be spent for commodities, and very promptly, while less needy veterans might only use additional cash further to increase hoarded savings." The document also says:

One should recognize at the outset a danger that any measures of fiscal inflation might be too meager and too short-lived. Parsimonious inflation is an illusory economy. We might experience temporary revival and then serious relapse. If we endorse inflation, we should be prepared to administer heavy doses of stimulant, if necessary, to continue them until recovery is firmly established. It is obvious that bonus measures fall utterly to provide this necessary flexibility.

Political expediency calls for a method of inflation which will not be alarming, the report states. It adds:

The issue of Greenbacks seems most expedient; but this method must be ruled out unless one is ready to abandon the gold standard, for it would create the greatest danger of domestic drain. Large sales of Federal bonds in the open market would be much less alarming; but the probable effect upon the price of such bonds must give us pause, especially since a marked decline might jeopardize the position of many banks. It would certainly be better for the Government to sell new issues directly to the Reserve banks, or, in effect, to exchange bonds for bank deposits and Federal Reserve notes. Much may be said for issuing the bonds with the circulating privilege.

We must be prepared to see a sort of race between depletion of the gold holdings of the Reserve banks and improvements of business. If the time comes, as it probably will not, when we may choose between recovery and convertibility, we must then abandon gold, pending the not distant time when world recovery would permit our returning to the old standard on the old basis. The supposedly awful consequences of departure from gold are, as England has shown, nothing but fantastic illusions.

With improvement of business, Federal revenues will automatically increase. Indeed, one might maintain that temporary inflation is the most promising means to restore a balanced budget. Congress should record the intention of balancing expenditures and revenues over a period of, say, four or five years.

We have suggested that for the period of the ensuing five years all Federal expenditures, including those of an emergency character, should be covered by tax revenues. To minimize the total necessary outlay, outlays should be very generous now. It would be wise to avoid any new taxes which fall at the producer's (or dealer's) margin. The levies on income, however, should be advanced immediately to the maximum levels which an imperfect, but improving, administrative system can support.

Even after recovery, additional commodity taxes should be resorted to only if more equitable levies prove inadequate to full completion of the "five-year plan." Indeed, by 1940, our Federal debt should stand at a figure far below that contemplated by existing legislation. We should have high income taxes when incomes are high. Such taxes would now have no serious deterrent effect on business, and they could be levied at the present time with least political resistance.

Successful resort to fiscal methods for terminating deflation will present the very serious problem of keeping recovery within safe bounds. A merely salutary inflation-treatment will fail to satisfy many groups. There will certainly be demand for more inflation and more "prosperity" than we can afford or sanely endure. Inflation should be abandoned, and reversed, long before many individual industries and classes have obtained the measure of relief which justice might prescribe. It should not be viewed as a method of solving the agricultural problem or deflating the rentier.

There is no immediate problem of excessive inflation—rather a danger of doing nothing or of a too modest beginning. Once there is clear evidence of revival, however, the mechanism of credit expansion will begin to operate. As soon as this happens, retrenchment must be started. We should not attempt to bring prices to any level we choose to regard as normal. Once recovery is given a sure start, the real task will be that of preventing the recovery from becoming a boom. The seeds of booms are sown by innocent expansion of credit during years of seemingly wholesome revival.

### Call for World Economic Conference by President Hoover Advocated by Otto H. Kahn and John Henry Hammond.

The calling by President Hoover of a world economic conference to hasten recovery from the depression is favored by Otto H. Kahn, a partner in Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and John Henry Hammond, a partner in Brown Brothers & Co. Their views have been expressed in reply to a questionnaire issued recently by Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, as Chairman of the Advisory Council of the League of Nations Association. Mr. Hammond suggested that either President Hoover or Ramsay MacDonald issue the call for such a conference; Mr. Kahn advocated that the President take the initiative in calling an international economic conference said the New York "Journal of Commerce" of May 25, from which the following is also taken:

#### First Replies Received.

The replies of Mr. Hammond and Mr. Kahn were the first received to the Butler questionnaire which sought an opinion from representative business men and economists on the best means for combatting the depression.

Replying to question two which read, "Do you believe that organized and effective intergovernmental co-operation on the part of interested Governments is necessary in order to find reasonable solutions for outstanding international financial and economic problems—and if so, how should it be initiated?" Mr. Hammond said:

"I think the initiative should be taken by the President of the United States and that he should act in conjunction with the representatives of England, France, Germany and Italy. Remedial measures must be political, economic and financial.

"The present emergency, in my opinion, is one of the greatest the world has ever faced. This emergency may create, however, a great opportunity for constructive action. Unfortunately, it is a Presidential year, but partisan political and personal considerations must be disregarded. I believe that the President should ask the Republican Party, the Democratic Party and the Progressives to each appoint a representative to confer with him and that he should take them entirely into his confidence.

#### Proposes World Action.

"In addition, he should take into his confidence, as far as possible the people of this country and of foreign nations. Let him then request England, France, Germany and Italy each to appoint representatives to meet the representatives from the United States and consider the world situation—politically, economically and financially—to recommend remedies for existing evils, if possible, and to inaugurate an era of prosperity, peace and good will. The ultimate remedy may not be found out but the effort should be of value.

"I do not pretend to be wise enough to point the way, but it seems to me that a committee headed by President Butler and associated with, for instance, Sir Arthur Salter, Walter Lippmann, Dr. Cuno, a broadminded and representative Frenchman and an Italian, should be able to suggest the procedure.

"With the present rapid means of communication and transport the world is hardly larger than the United States when our Constitution was adopted. A representative committee might be able to accomplish as much this summer as the convention which inaugurated the Federal Constitution. The other nations of the world should then be given an opportunity to consider the recommendations of the committee."

#### Five-Power Parley.

In reply to the question asking whether he thought unofficial international organizations might help, Mr. Hammond said:

"A small committee appointed by the International Chamber of Commerce, working with the representatives of the five Governments should be of considerable assistance. Possibly the United States Chamber of Commerce and other representative organizations in the various countries should be represented. The National Industrial Conference Board and other fact finding organizations in various countries should be of assistance in compiling accurate statistics—and representatives of the Central Banks should assist in considering the financial questions involved. The League of Nations should be asked to appoint a small and representative committee to keep in active contact with the conference."

The last question, dealing with the relation of disarmament to the depression, brought this reply from the writer:

"Relieving the present economic strain should in itself lessen the probability of war. With the inauguration of an era of good-will, armaments should be reduced. Some way should be found to relieve France of the fear of invasion. The Committee should, of course, consider doing away with some of the manifest injustices created by the Treaty of Versailles."

#### Mr. Kahn's Reply.

Mr. Kahn's reply to the questionnaire read as follows:

"I am not wholly sure that collective action is absolutely necessary in the case of all the principal nations, but I am quite sure that such action is eminently desirable and that it will greatly facilitate and hasten emergence from the depression.

"Same answer as to the word 'necessary.' I think the best medium for endeavoring to inaugurate such co-operation is the League of Nations, through the appointment of a special committee, unless the President of the United States can and will take the initiative with the approval of Congress.

"Such help is undoubtedly desirable and should be initiated by the International Chamber of Commerce in concert with other appropriate unofficial bodies, including perhaps, organizations representing labor and agriculture.

"I doubt whether it would be wise to make the attempt to inject into the problem of establishing 'a satisfactory international economic program' the highly complex and controversial problem of devising 'measures designed to lessen the probability of war.'

"As to measures toward aiding the accomplishment of the latter purpose, I make free to quote the following extract from a speech which I made some time ago:

"What, then, is the answer? Are the results of the handiwork of those who bungled the task of making a peace which should bring the dawn of a nobler day, so incorrigibly faulty that the high aspirations which animated the peoples of the Allied nations during the war and steeled them to untold sacrifice and heroic endurance, are doomed fatally to be frustrated?"

#### Must United States Stand Aloof?

"Must the fine and universally acclaimed purpose to substitute fair dealing and goodwill among the nations for the hideous brutality of war, and to cut the ground from under the sinister growths of international fear, suspicion, covetousness and animosity—must that high purpose be once more abandoned and the world sullenly and hopelessly, confess itself impotent to deal with discords and rivalries between nations otherwise than by the horrors of armed conflict?"

"Must America stand aloof and abstain from giving ear to the plea of those in Europe who call upon us—our views and sentiments unclouded by those of anybody or by racial animosities nurtured through centuries—to bring our disinterested judgment, our well-meaning intent, and our practical co-operation to bear upon the problems the unsettled state of which keeps the old world in distress, turmoil and rancor?"

"With due diffidence I venture to suggest the following as indicating what seems to me a line of approach to these questions:

#### Would Repudiate Force.

"Let the League of Nations set the example of that repudiation of force which constitutes the true underlying purpose and justification of such an organization. Let it cut out from the covenant everything which smacks of compulsion. Let it confine its political functions solely to bring a body to which any nation that feels itself aggrieved or menaced or troubled, can carry its case, and which will examine such case fearlessly and fairly and seek to find redress by no other means than the use of its good offices, the might of public opinion and the appeal of justice.

"Some of the devoted advocates of the League say that this is, in fact, its platform and that it does not mean to avail itself of the power of coercion conferred upon it by the covenant; that, in fact, that power could not be called into operation even if wanted. If that be so, then let the covenant say that this is its meaning. Let it formally and unmistakably eschew all thought and potentiality of coercion.

"Let the League reject every aid and instrumentality but that of rightly informed public opinion. Let it rely upon that, and that only, to prevent aggression, to deflect menaces and to right wrong. It needs no other weapon. It can find none other as powerful for good.

#### Up to League.

"That is not the talk of a sentimentalist. All history shows that the mills of the Gods do grind, and that the nation which defies the conscience of the world and scorns justice will ultimately pay the penalty, as Germany did, in spite of all her seemingly invincible power.

"If that were done, if the League voluntarily and unmistakably stripped itself of every means of action but that of reliance upon public opinion, if it surrendered every attribute which smacks of 'supergovernment,' if it were relieved of peremptory 'involvements' in the peace of treaties, then I, for one, venture to think that America's just objection would be overcome and that she could and should take her place in such a council of the nations. And I feel well assured that such a council, in due course of time, would develop effectively into that blessed instrumentality for peace and righteousness among the nations which is the hope and aim of all right minded men."

### President Hoover Submits 12-Point Program in Which Government Can Aid in Business Recovery—Declares Against Issue of Government Bonds to Finance Expansion of Public Works Construction—Views Indicated in Letter to President of American Society of Civil Engineers.

Opposition to a suggestion that "the depression can be broken by a large issue of Federal Government bonds to finance a new program of huge expansion of 'public works' construction, in addition to the already large programs now provided for in the current budgets," is voiced by President Hoover in a letter addressed to the President of the American Society of Civil Engineers. President Hoover, who indicates that the suggestion for a new bond issue came from a subcommittee of the Society, declares that "the back of the depression cannot be broken by any single Government undertaking. That can only be done," he adds, "with the co-operation of business, banking, industry and agriculture in conjunction with the Government." The President lists 12 procedures wherein the Government may aid in effecting business recovery, viz.:

- (a) The quick, honest balancing of the Federal budget through drastic reduction of less necessary expenses and the minimum increase in taxes;
- (b) The avoidance of issue of further Treasury securities as the keystone of national and international confidence upon which all employment rests;
- (c) The continuation of the work of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, which has overcome the financial strain on thousands of small banks, releasing credit to their communities, the strengthening of building and loan associations, the furnishing of credit to agriculture, the protection of trustee institutions and the support of financial stability of the railways;
- (d) The expansion of credit by the Federal Reserve banks;
- (e) The organized translation of these credits into actualities for business and public bodies;
- (f) Unceasing effort at sound strengthening of the foundations of agriculture;
- (g) The continuation of such public works in aid to unemployment as does not place a strain on the taxpayer and do not necessitate Government borrowing;
- (h) Continuation of national community and individual efforts in relief of distress;
- (i) The introduction of the five-day week in Government which would save the discharge of 100,000 employees and would add 30,000 to the present list;

(j) The passage of the Home Loan discount bank legislation which would protect home owners from foreclosure and would furnish millions of dollars of employment in home improvement without cost to the Treasury;

(k) Financial aid by means of loans from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to such States as, due to the long strain, are unable to continue to finance distress relief;

(l) The extension of the authority of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation not only in a particular I called attention last December—that is, loans on sound security where they would sustain and expand employment—but also in view of the further contraction of credit to increase its authority to expand the issue of its own securities up to \$3,000,000,000 for the purpose of organized aid to "income producing" works throughout the nation, both of public and private character.

According to the President, "the vice in that segment of the proposals made by your Society and others for further expansion of 'public works' is that they include public works of remote usefulness; they impose unbearable burdens upon the taxpayer; they unbalance the budget and demoralize Government credit. A larger and far more effective relief to unemployment at this stage can be secured by increased aid to 'income-producing works.' The proposal to build non-productive 'public works' of the category I have described," says the President, "necessitates making increased appropriations by the Congress. These appropriations must be financed by immediate increased taxation or by the issuance of Government bonds. . . . If such a course is adopted beyond the amounts already provided in the budget now before Congress for the next fiscal year, it will upset all possibility of balancing the budget; it will destroy confidence in Government securities and make for the instability of the Government which in result will deprive more people of employment than will be gained."

While the letter, as given out at the White House on May 22, is addressed to "Richard S. Parker, President of the American Society of Civil Engineers," it appears that Mr. Parker is not President of the Society. As to this we quote the following (United Press) Washington dispatch to the "Wall Street Journal" of May 23:

President Hoover's week-end letter condemning bonded public works programs was addressed to the wrong man, it developed to-day.

The announcement of the President's attacks on proposals for huge bond issues carried the statement that the letter was sent to "Richard S. Parker, President American Society of Civil Engineers."

The President of the Society is Herbert S. Crocker.

"Just a mechanical error," one of Mr. Hoover's secretaries explained. "A stenographer made a mistake."

In a Washington account, May 22, to the New York "Times," it was stated that the letter was prepared by President Hoover at his Rapidan camp, where he had been spending the week-end, and was sent to Washington by a courier. It was issued at the White House soon after 4 p. m., May 22, after Secretary of the Treasury Mills had gone over it to verify fiscal figures.

The letter, as made public in Washington, follows:

May 21 1932.

Richard S. Parker,  
President American Society of Civil Engineers,  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Parker: I am in receipt of your kind letter of May 19, and I have also the presentation of the subcommittee of the Society suggesting that the depression can be broken by a large issue of Federal Government bonds to finance a new program of huge expansion of "public works" construction, in addition to the already large programs now provided for in the current budgets. The same proposals have been made from other quarters and have been given serious consideration during the past few days.

The back of the depression cannot be broken by any single Government undertaking. That can only be done with the co-operation of business, banking, industry and agriculture in conjunction with the Government.

#### Twelve-Point Aid By Government.

The aid the Government may give includes:

(a) The quick, honest balancing of the Federal budget through drastic reduction of less necessary expenses and the minimum increase in taxes.

(b) The avoidance of issue of further Treasury securities as the very keystone of national and international confidence upon which all employment rests.

(c) The continuation of the work of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation which has overcome the financial strain on thousands of small banks, releasing credit to their communities; the strengthening of building and loan associations, the furnishing of credit to agriculture, the protection of trustee institutions, and the support of financial stability of the railways.

(d) The expansion of credit by the Federal Reserve banks.

(e) The organized translation of these credits into actualities for business and public bodies.

(f) Unceasing effort at sound strengthening of the foundations of agriculture.

(g) The continuation of such public works in aid to unemployment as does not place a strain on the taxpayer and do not necessitate Government borrowing.

(h) Continuation of national, community and individual efforts in relief of distress.

(i) The introduction of the five-day week in Government, which would save the discharge of 100,000 employees and would add 30,000 to the present list.

(j) The passage of the Home Loan Discount Bank legislation, which would protect home owners from foreclosure and would furnish millions of dollars of employment in home improvement without cost to the Treasury.

(k) Financial aid by means of loans from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to such States as, due to the long strain, are unable to continue to finance distress relief.

(l) The extension of the authority of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation not only in a particular I called attention to last December—that is, loans on sound security to industry where they would sustain and expand employment—but also in view of the further contraction of credit to increase its authority to expand the issue of its own securities up to \$3,000,000,000 for the purpose of organized aid to "income producing" work throughout the nation, both of public and private character.

#### Distinction Between Income-Producing Works and Those Non-Productive.

1. The vice in that segment of the proposals made by your Society and others for further expansion of "public works" is that they include public works of remote usefulness; they impose unbearable burdens upon the taxpayer; they unbalance the budget and demoralize Government credit. A larger and far more effective relief to unemployment at this stage can be secured by increased aid to "income-producing works." I wish to emphasize this distinction between what for purposes of this discussion we may term "income-producing works" [also referred to as "self-liquidating works"] on the one hand and non-productive "public works" on the other. By "income-producing works" I mean such projects of States, counties and other subdivisions as water works, toll bridges, toll tunnels, docks and any other such activities which charge for their service and whose earning capacity provides a return upon the investment. With the return of normal times, the bonds of such official bodies based upon such projects can be disposed of to the investing public and thus make the intervention of the Reconstruction Corporation purely an emergency activity.

I include in this class aid to established industry where it would sustain and increase employment, with the safeguard that loans for these purposes should be made on sound security and the proprietors of such industries should provide a portion of the capital. Non-productive "public works," in the sense of the term here used, include public buildings, highways, streets, river and harbor improvement, military and naval construction, &c., which bring no income and comparatively little relief to unemployment.

#### Loan to Pennsylvania RR.

2. I can perhaps make this distinction clear by citing the example of the recent action of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in the matter of the Pennsylvania RR. Co., on one hand, and the recent bill passed by the House of Representatives for increased road building on the other. The railroad company applied to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for a loan of \$55,000,000 to help finance a fund of over \$68,000,000 needed to electrify certain of its lines. By so doing it would employ directly and indirectly for one year more than 28,000 men distributed over 20 different States. An arrangement was concluded by which the Reconstruction Finance Corporation undertook to stand behind the plan to the extent of \$27,000,000, the railway company finding the balance. This \$27,000,000 is to be loaned on sound securities and will be returned, capital and interest, to the Corporation.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation is acting as agent to make available otherwise timid capital for the Pennsylvania RR. in providing employment. There is no charge upon the taxpayer. On the other hand, the proposal of the House of Representatives is to spend \$132,000,000 for subsidies to the States for construction of highways. This would be a direct charge on the taxpayer. The total number of men to be directly employed is estimated at 35,000, and indirectly 20,000 more. In other words, by this action we would give employment to only 55,000 men at the expense by the Government of \$132,000,000, which will never be recovered.

In the one instance we recover the money advanced through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation; we issue no Government bonds; we have no charge on the taxpayer. In the other instance we have not only a direct cost to the taxpayer but also a continuing maintenance charge; and, furthermore, the highways in many sections have now been expanded beyond immediate public need.

3. These proposals of huge expansion of "public works" have a vital relation to balancing the Federal budget and to the stabilizing of national credit. The financing of "income-producing works" by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is an investment operation, requires no Congressional appropriation, does not unbalance the budget, is not a drain upon the Treasury, does not involve the direct issue of Government bonds, does not involve added burdens upon the taxpayer, either now or in the future. It is an emergency operation which will liquidate itself with the return of the investor to the money markets.

The proposal to build non-productive "public works," of the category I have described, necessitates making increased appropriations by the Congress. These appropriations must be financed by immediate increased taxation or by the issuance of Government bonds. Whatever the method employed, they are, inescapably, a burden upon the taxpayer. If such a course is adopted beyond the amounts already provided in the budget now before Congress for the next fiscal year, it will upset all possibility of balancing the budget; it will destroy confidence in Government securities and make for the instability of the Government, which, in result, will deprive more people of employment than will be gained.

#### All Branches of Government Have Expanded Public Works.

4. I have for many years advocated the speeding up of public works in times of depression as an aid to business and unemployment. That has been done upon a huge scale and is proceeding at as great a pace as fiscal stability will warrant. All branches of government—Federal, State and municipal—have greatly expanded their "public works" and have now reached a stage where they have anticipated the need for many such works for a long time to come. Therefore, the new projects which might be undertaken are of even more remote usefulness.

From January 1930 to July 1 1932 the Federal Government will have expended \$1,500,000,000 on "public works." The budget for the next fiscal year carries a further \$575,000,000 of such expenditures [compared with about \$250,000,000 normal], and includes all the items I have felt are justified by sound engineering and sound finance. Thus by the end of next year the Federal Government will have expended over \$2,000,000,000 on public works, which represents an increase over normal of perhaps \$1,200,000,000.

Thus we have largely anticipated the future and have rendered further expansion beyond our present program of very remote usefulness and certainly not justified for some time to come, even were there no fiscal difficulties. They represent building of a community beyond its necessities. We cannot thus squander ourselves into prosperity.

5. A still further and overriding reason for not undertaking such programs of further expansions of Federal "public works" is evident if we examine the individual projects which might be undertaken from an engineering and economic point of view. The Federal "public works" now authorized by law cover works which it was intended to construct over a long term of years and embrace several projects which were not of immediate public usefulness. In any event, the total of such authorized projects still incomplete on the first of July will amount to perhaps \$1,300,000,000.

If we deduct from this at once the budgeted program for the next fiscal year—\$575,000,000—we leave, roughly, \$725,000,000 of such authorized

works which would be open for action. If we examine these projects in detail, we find great deductions must be made from this sum.

Construction of many projects physically requires years for completion, such as naval vessels, buildings, canalization of rivers, &c., and therefore as an engineering necessity this sum could only be expended over four or five years; a portion of the projects not already started will require legal and technical preparation and therefore could not be brought to the point of employment of labor during the next year; a portion of these authorized projects are outside the continental United States and do not contribute to the solution of our problem; a portion are in localities where there is little unemployment; a portion are in the District of Columbia, where we already have a large increase in program for the next fiscal year and where no additional work could be justified. A portion are of remote utility and are not justified, such as extension of agricultural acreage at the present time.

Deducting all these cases from the actual list of authorized Federal public works, it will be found that there is less than \$100,000,000 [and this is doubtful] which could be expended during the next fiscal year beyond the program in the budget. That means the employment of, say, less than 40,000 men. Thus the whole of these grandiose contentions of possible expansion of Federal "public works" fall absolutely to the ground for these reasons if there were no other.

If it is contemplated that we legislate more authorizations of new and unconsidered projects by Congress, we shall find ourselves confronted by a log-rolling process which will include dredging of mud creeks, building of unwarranted postoffices, unprofitable irrigation projects, duplicate highways and a score of other unjustifiable activities.

6. There is still another phase of this matter to which I would like to call attention. Employment in "public works" is largely transitory. It does not have a follow-up of continued employment as is the case with "income-producing works." But of even more importance than this, the program I have proposed gives people employment in all parts of the country in their normal jobs under normal conditions at the normal place of abode, tends to re-establish normal processes in business and industry, and will do so on a much larger scale than the projects proposed in the so-called "public works" program.

#### *Balancing of Budget Indispensable to Recovery.*

7. To sum up, it is generally agreed that the balancing of the Federal budget and unimpaired national credit is indispensable to the restoration of confidence and to the very start of economic recovery. The Administration and Congress have pledged themselves to this end. A "public works program," such as is suggested by your Committee and by others, through the issuance of Federal bonds, creates at once an enormous further deficit.

What is needed is the return of confidence and a capital market through which credit will flow in the thousand rills with its result of employment and increased prices. That confidence will be only destroyed by action in these directions. These channels will continue clogged by fears if we continue attempts to issue large amounts of Government bonds for purposes of non-productive works.

Such a program as these huge Federal loans for "public works" is a fearful price to pay in putting a few thousand men temporarily at work and dismissing many more thousands of others from their present employment. There is vivid proof of this since these proposals of public works financed by Government bonds were seriously advanced a few days ago. Since then United States Government bonds have shown marked weakness on the mere threat. And it is followed at once by a curtailment of the ability of States, municipalities and industry to issue bonds and thus a curtailment of activities which translate themselves into decreased employment.

#### *Effect on Foreign Countries of Resort to "Extraordinary Budget."*

It will serve no good purpose and will fool no one to try to cover appearances by resorting to a so-called "extraordinary budget." That device is well known. It brought the governments of certain foreign governments to the brink of financial disaster. It means a breach of faith to holders of all Government securities, an unsound financial program, and a severe blow to returning confidence and further contraction of economic activities in the country.

What you want and what I want is to restore normal employment. I am confident that if the program I have proposed to the Congress is expeditiously completed and we have the co-operation of the whole community, we will attain the objective for which we have been searching so long.

Yours faithfully,  
HERBERT HOOVER.

### **Engineers, in Reply to President Hoover, Clarify Stand—Statement Disowns Quotations Attributed to Society in Letter Barring Bonds—Never Asked Relief Bonds.**

Complete accord with President Hoover in his insistence upon the need for actual and rapid balancing of the budget and for extension of credit relief was expressed in a statement issued here in New York on May 23 by the American Society of Civil Engineers, to which the President addressed his letter of May 22 regarding the proposals for Federal bond issues to finance a huge expansion of public works as part of a relief program. The New York "Herald Tribune" of May 24, from which we quote, continued:

At the same time, the Society pointed out that several statements which the President's letter mentioned as coming from it did not in fact originate with the Society.

The statement, issued over the signature of John P. Hogan, Chairman of a Committee of the Society, was as follows:

"The Committee is in complete accord with the President on the necessity of a quick, honest balancing of the Federal budget, and the provisions for the extension of credit relief. There are, however, in the President's discussion several statements attributed to the Society which must have originated from some other source.

"Referring to the first paragraph of the President's letter, the American Society of Civil Engineers did not suggest 'that the depression can be broken by a large issue of Federal Government bonds to finance a new program of huge expansion of public works construction.' While the Society, in its program, discussed various methods of financing, it declared its preference for the following method as quoted from the memorandum presented to the President:

"The legislation necessary to effect the purpose proposed could be based upon that which has already found successful application in the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, i. e., the credit of the Federal Government could be extended to reinforce the securities of States, counties and

municipalities that may be issued to finance necessary and useful public works. It is possible that this function might be assigned directly to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation or to some affiliated agency. If this be not feasible, an independent but analogous agency should be set up for this purpose.

"In operation, a Federal credit corporation, as here proposed, would examine and pass on State, county and municipal projects for which money cannot now be raised. If these projects were found to be economically sound, properly planned and administered, it would purchase the necessary bonds or other approved obligations of the States or municipalities at reasonable interest rates and would hold them until such time as they could be sold in the public market without loss. The Federal Government thus would be eventually reimbursed, the cost of improvements assessed on the beneficiaries and supervision would be provided to curb wasteful expenditure."

#### *Society's Stand on Public Works.*

"The American Society of Civil Engineers did not advocate a huge increase in the Federal program of public works, but made the following statement in its memorandum:

"Federal public works alone, however expanded, cannot possibly meet the requirements of the situation. The major effort must be exerted through the State, county and municipal programs, which normally provide the bulk of our public works construction. But it is the municipalities and some of the States which have found great difficulty during recent months in raising sufficient funds at reasonable interest rates to finance their 1932 programs, and this is despite of urgent need for many such works, for which plans are already prepared and construction organizations in existence."

"While Federal public works have been expanded during the current depression, State, county and municipal public works, for which the normal expenditures during the last eight years were \$2,500,000,000, will not exceed \$800,000,000 for the current year, on account of the difficulty experienced by these latter subdivisions in obtaining money at reasonable rates of interest. The net effect of this decrease will be that more than a million additional people will be thrown out of work during the present year on the work itself and in the industries furnishing materials.

#### *Mystified by One Sentence.*

"The Committee is at a loss to know what is meant by the first sentence under Topic 1 of the President's letter, which states that 'the proposals made by your Society and others for further expansion of public work include public works of remote usefulness.' The Society submitted no list of projects but urged 'the enactment of the necessary legislation to extend Federal credit facilities to solvent States, counties and municipalities to enable them to carry out their programs of necessary and productive public works.'

"The Society in its memorandum thus emphasized the point made by the President that any works undertaken by the States, counties or municipalities should be of a productive or self-sustaining nature. Many types of public works not ordinarily self-sustaining, from the point of view of revenue, can be made so by allocating a sufficient portion of the revenues created by such projects to the service charges and amortization of the securities issued against them. Thus, in the States of Missouri and North Carolina, a portion of the gasoline taxes has been definitely allocated to the service charges and amortization of the bonds issued against roads.

#### *Favors Housing Projects.*

"It is the universal experience after a depression that the first revival in building is in construction of cheap housing either in individual dwellings, or in low-priced apartments. The initiation of this work is universally recommended, both in the President's program and all of the various programs or bills which have been submitted to date. Such programs cannot go forward unless financing is provided for the necessary municipal improvements, such as water supply, sewerage and street paving. Normally this work is done through special assessments repaid by the property owner. Special assessments of this character should be included in any program of Federal credit since it encourages private work several times the amount of municipal improvements and unless municipal work of this character is permitted to go forward, it will be very difficult to finance the housing projects.

"The Committee reiterates the concluding statement of the memorandum of the American Society of Civil Engineers. 'Steps should be taken at once, therefore, to embody a program of public works construction in appropriate legislation, either as an amendment to existing law, as a new bill or as a provision of some appropriate bill now under the consideration of Congress. There is urgent need for the trade stimulus that can be realized through a public works program, soundly planned and adequately safeguarded as here proposed. The guaranty of Federal credit has been a healthy influence in restoring the security and stability of the financial structure; now is the opportunity to apply it to the actual stimulation of business recovery.'

Colonel Herbert S. Crocker, the President of the Society, is in the West, and could not be reached yesterday.

### **House Caucus Adopts Garner Unemployment Relief Bill Calling for Federal Aid of \$2,100,000,000—Majority Approves Two-Billion Plan Drafted by Speaker.**

In a caucus of the majority members of the House, May 26, the \$2,100,000,000 proposed emergency relief program, sponsored by Speaker Garner (Dem.), of Uvalde, Tex., was approved. The "United States Daily" of May 27 said:

The Speaker stated orally that the bill will be introduced by Majority Floor Leader Rainey (Dem.), of Carrollton, Ill., on May 27 and hearings will be started before the Ways and Means Committee on May 30.

The bill proposes an authorization of \$100,000,000 to be given to the President for his use in relieving distress throughout the country;

Provides \$1,000,000,000 additional capital for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to be used in making loans to stimulate employment, and

Provides for a bond issue of \$1,000,000,000 to make money available for rivers and harbors projects already and to be authorized, public buildings, roads and flood control.

After a conference with President Hoover at the White House May 26 on the legislative situation in Congress, Representative Crisp (Dem.) of Americus, Ga., acting Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, said he told the President that in his opinion some form of unemployment relief would have to be adopted before adjournment.

"Something must be done," said Mr. Crisp following his conference with President Hoover. "I feel sure we won't adjourn until we do get a relief measure passed." Mr. Crisp expressed the belief that there was hope of a compromise between the relief program suggested by Mr. Hoover and the plans advocated by the leadership of his party in Congress. He declined, however, to say what form he thought the compromise might take.

Mr. Crisp said he also had talked over the general legislative program but had made no specific mention of the manufacturers' sale tax which he supported when the Ways and Means Committee formulated its tax bill. He said he had received reports that about 30 Representatives who voted against the sales tax would favor it if they were given an opportunity to vote on the proposal again. He voiced the opinion that if the sales tax were placed before the House again it would have an excellent chance of passage.

### **\$2,300,000,000 Asked for Unemployment Relief in Senate—Wagner Presents Democratic Measure, Calling for \$500,000,000 Works Bond Issue—\$300,000,000 State Loans—\$1,500,000,000 Would Be Used for Self-Liquidating Enterprises Through Reconstruction Finance Corporation.**

Senator Wagner, Chairman of a special Democratic committee of the Senate, introduced on May 25 the party's relief bill providing \$2,300,000,000 for immediate State loans for unemployment, Federal works and loans for self-liquidating enterprises. It was referred to the Banking and Currency Committee, pending disposal of the tax and economy bills. According to a Washington dispatch May 26 to the New York "Times" which likewise said:

The bill embodies provisions previously announced by Senator Robinson of Arkansas, the minority leader, and includes detailed instructions concerning the use to which the money for public works is to be put.

#### *Chief Provisions of the Bill.*

The principal provisions of the bill are:

1. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized to prorate a \$300,000,000 fund among the States in proportion to their population in loans for immediate relief, the Corporation to be reimbursed from Federal highway grants to States, beginning in 1937.

2. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized to issue securities amounting to \$1,500,000,000, from the proceeds of which \$1,460,000,000 will be used for loans for self-liquidating enterprises, such as bridges, tunnels and slum-clearance projects, and \$40,000,000 will be advanced to the Secretary of Agriculture for financing agricultural exports.

3. A Federal emergency construction bond issue of \$500,000,000, maturing in 25 years is authorized for use to the extent of \$309,000,000 on specified projects, the remainder to be devoted to projects selected by the President.

The projects specified in the bill to which most of the public works bond issue would be devoted are:

- (a) Additional highway grants to States, \$120,000,000.
- (b) Emergency public road construction, \$16,000,000.
- (c) Authorized river and harbor projects, \$30,000,000.
- (d) Authorized flood control projects, \$15,500,000.
- (e) Hoover Dam construction, \$10,000,000.
- (f) Air and ocean navigation facilities, \$7,500,000.
- (g) Authorized naval yards and docks, \$10,000,000.
- (h) Public buildings outside of the District of Columbia, but in the continental United States, \$100,000,000.

#### *Some Compromise With Hoover.*

The bill was written by a subcommittee of the Democratic steering committee, whose membership included, in addition to Senator Wagner, Senators Robinson, Walsh of Montana, Pittman and Bulkley.

The first and second provisions are generally in harmony with the proposals made by President Hoover. The public works item is strongly opposed by the President on the ground that a bond issue at this time is inadvisable. The Democrats compromised to the extent of reducing expenditures under this head from \$1,100,000,000 to \$500,000,000.

A House Democratic bill will be introduced to-morrow by Speaker Garner. This will advocate a \$2,100,000,000 bond issue, of which \$1,000,000,000 would be devoted to public works, \$1,000,000,000 to self-liquidating enterprises and \$100,000,000 turned over to the President for use as he might see fit.

Senator Wagner defended a bond issue when he introduced the bill, saying:

"In view of the irrepressible need for employment and trade revival; in view of the saving which can be effected by the Federal Government in securing its necessary construction at present low costs; in view of the savings which can be effected by removal from high-rental quarters to economically constructed government buildings, and in view of the policy we have laid down in the Employment Stabilization Act of 1931, it is my judgment that borrowing in such circumstances is the essence of economy. In that view I am supported by the weight of opinion of those who speak with authority on the subject."

### **Wage Inequalities Hindering Return to Prosperity According to Administrative Board of American Engineering Council—Unlikelihood of New Bond Issue for Public Works While High Wages of Construction Industry Remains Out of Harmony With Wages in Other Fields.**

Wage inequalities are hindering the return to prosperity, declares the Administrative Board of the American Engineering Council, public service body of the nation's engineering profession. Commending President Hoover's compromise relief plan, the Board adopted a report of its Committee on Governmental Expenditures, which asserts that the business of the Government should be controlled by the same principles which govern all other sound business. The report said:

The Committee believes that one of the most serious obstacles now retarding recovery from the prevailing depression is the disparity between the wage scales of certain highly paid groups of workers on the one hand, and the wages received by other groups and the reduced income of the average citizen on the other.

The public cannot be expected to vote bonds for new public work on any large scale until the present relatively high wages of the construction industry are brought into harmony with wages paid for comparable services in other fields.

The Committee, of which John Lyle Harrington of Kansas City, Mo., Vice-President of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, is chairman, urged that all Governmental budgets, Federal, State, and municipal, be properly balanced. The report continued:

These budgets should be balanced by a courageous and intelligent reduction of Governmental expenditures. Taxes should be increased as a last resort when necessary to balance sound and economical budgets.

The functions of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation should be so broadened that, with proper safeguards, it may make credit more readily available to industry.

We endorse in substance the pending legislation in Congress for the creation of Federal Home Loan banks. The Committee is of the opinion that the effect of this legislation would be to provide, through proper channels and upon liberal terms as to time and interest, the funds necessary to take care of maturing mortgages on many homes and to encourage the building of homes under liberal but financially safe terms.

We approve in principle a normal program of Federal, State, and municipal public works construction as an effective and immediate means of increasing purchasing power, stimulating trade recovery and reviving employment. No Governmental public works should be undertaken which would essentially be in competition with private business.

Other members of the Council's Committee on Governmental expenditures are Frank M. Gunby of Boston, R. C. Marshall Jr., of New York, C. E. Stephens of New York, L. B. Stillwell of New York, Francis Lee Stuart of New York, and Edwin F. Wendt of Washington, D. C.

The American Society of Civil Engineers has sought the aid of the Council, which represents 62,000 professional engineers, in effecting a public works plan. The Society, it was explained, has approved in principle a normal program of public works construction as the most effective immediate means of increasing purchasing power, stimulating trade recovery, and reviving employment.

The Society has asked the Council, of which it is a constituent body, to join with it in urging on Congress "the enactment of the necessary legislation to extend Federal loan facilities to solvent States, counties, and municipalities to enable them to carry out their normal programs of necessary and productive public works."

### **President Buckland of Railroad Credit Corporation Advises Inter-State Commerce Commission That Needs of Roads Cannot Be Met Unless Additional Funds Are Provided—Yield from Increased Rates Not Up to Expectations.**

Pointing out that receipts from increased rates granted by the Inter-State Commerce Commission in Ex Parte 103, have not been up to expectations, E. G. Buckland, President of the Railroad Credit Corporation, told the Commission on May 25 that his organization can not meet the requests of the various needy railroads for loans unless additional funds are forthcoming.

He urged that States which so far have not adjusted their intrastate rates so as to conform to the increases allowed by the Commission, be required to do so in order that the financial relief intended by the Commission can be provided for needy roads to the fullest extent possible under the decision.

Mr. Buckland appeared in furtherance of the investigation which the Inter-State Commerce Commission has instituted due to the refusal of the regulatory bodies in ten States to permit increases in intrastate rates similar to those permitted by the Commission. The States are Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas and Utah. Mr. Buckland said:

"In its decision handed down on December 5 1931, the Inter-State Commerce Commission authorized comparatively small increases in rates and permitted the carriers to proceed with the plan which they had proposed. In the decision, the Commission expresses its reliance on the carriers to apply the funds derived from the authorized increases in rates according to the representations that had been made.

"The necessary assents having been signified, the Marshalling and Distributing Plan, 1931 was declared effective January 1 1932. Master tariffs were filed making the interstate rate increase effective January 4 1932. Some intrastate rates became effective on the same date.

"The Railroad Credit Corporation was incorporated on December 14 1931, and is the medium through which the increased revenues, Ex Parte 103, are to be marshalled and distributed to needy carriers.

"The funds collected by The Railroad Credit Corporation have been used for making loans to prevent defaults in fixed interest obligations in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Marshalling and Distributing Plan.

"The first problem which confronted the Railroad Credit Corporation was the rendition of relief before it had any money to administer. Fortunately, provision had been made for the interest requirements of the carriers due in January. February requirements did not amount to a great deal. The interest obligations to be made on March 1st were large. The Credit Corporation gave assurances by resolutions that if and when funds were available, it would take over any loan which the Credit Corporation would have made if it had then been in funds. This, while not constituting discountable bank paper, was accepted by some banks interested in the affairs of certain railroads, but the most assistance came from the fortunate organization of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in season to help with the March 1st maturities.

"The Inter-State Commerce Commission's estimate of yield from the increased rates during the fifteen months period was between \$100,000,000

and \$125,000,000. In making this estimate, the 1930 freight revenue was apparently used as a basis, the 1931 reduction trend being applied thereon. The estimate contemplated that the increases would be applicable not only to interstate business, but also to all traffic handled in intrastate business. The estimate did not contemplate the drastic reductions in railroad traffic thus far occurring in 1932.

"The Railroad Credit Corporation will receive, during the year 1932, the increased rates accruing to the participating carriers during the period from January 4 1932 to October 31 1932 inclusive. Our present estimate is that the ten months period will make available to the Credit Corporation, for purposes of the Plan, the approximate sum of \$60,000,000.

"According to present indications, requirements for loans to meet fixed interest obligations during the year 1932 will exceed \$100,000,000."

**Advancing of Date for Pennsylvania R.R. Loan Asked—  
Five Installments of Reconstruction Loan Before  
Oct. 1 Requested in Application to Inter-State  
Commerce Commission.**

Due to inability to sell its securities at a reasonable cost at this time, the Pennsylvania R.R. filed with the Inter-State Commerce Commission and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation on May 25 an amended application seeking to secure the \$27,500,000 loan from the Corporation approved by the Commission in five installments, starting June 1, instead of the entire sum on Oct. 1, as originally planned. The "United States Daily" of May 26 in its report of the matter states:

The road requests that the \$27,500,000 be delivered to it in installments of \$5,000,000 on June 1; \$9,000,000 on July 1; \$4,500,000 on August 1; \$4,000,000 on Sept. 1; and \$5,000,000 on Oct. 1.

The amended application states:  
"Owing to changed conditions which have made it impracticable to make a public offering of securities at this time at reasonable cost, the Pennsylvania R.R. hereby further amends its application now before the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in the following particulars, to the end that the construction program therein outlined may proceed."

The application then proceeds to enumerate the installments it desires and the dates thereof. It then states:

"The company has undertaken to raise an additional \$27,500,000 necessary for its 1932 construction work program, by sale of securities through banking and investment channels before the end of the year if the business and financial conditions make it possible to do so upon reasonable terms."

**Railroad Securities Pledged.**

As security for the loan sought, the Pennsylvania proposes in its amended application to pledge \$18,500,000 of 7% common stock of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago R.R.; \$5,280,000 of Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railway 5% bonds; and \$2,500,000 of 5% capital stock of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Ry.

The railroad originally had sought a loan of \$55,000,000 for a three-year term, of which approximately \$47,000,000 was to be used for the electrification program between New York, Philadelphia and Washington, and some additional money for improvement work at Newark, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

By amended application the railroad declared that it would cut the amount sought to \$27,500,000 and finance the balance itself if the Reconstruction Finance Corporation would definitely "commit itself at this time" to deliver the \$27,500,000 to the Pennsylvania on Oct. 1.

It now proposes to secure most of the money before that date.

Full details regarding the approval of the \$27,500,000 loan from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation were given in "Chronicle" of May 21, page 3762.

**Loans Aggregating \$2,598,500 from Reconstruction  
Finance Corporation Approved by Inter-State  
Commerce Commission to Two Railroads—Applica-  
tion Filed by Three Additional Roads Totalling  
\$1,156,000.**

Loans aggregating \$2,598,530 to two additional roads from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation have been approved by the Inter-State Commerce Commission bringing the total approved to date to approximately \$167,200,000 to 38 railroads. The roads receiving approval are the Alton R.R. for a loan of \$2,500,000, being the amount sought and the Wisconsin & Michigan R.R. for a loan of \$98,530. This road originally asked for a loan of \$200,000, but amended its application by eliminating \$24,470, making the net amount asked for \$175,530.

Applications have been filed by three additional roads for authority to borrow \$1,156,000 from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. This brings the total amount sought by the railroads to about \$347,999,000, taking into consideration the amended applications of some of the roads reducing their original requests.

The report of the Commission approving the loan of \$2,500,000 to the Alton R.R. says in part:

**The Application.**

The applicant requests a loan of \$2,500,000, to be repaid three years from date and to bear interest at a rate to be fixed by the corporation. The loan is sought for the following purposes:

Payment of receivers' certificates	\$1,500,000
Payment of principal of overdue equipment obligations	600,000
Payment of maturing equipment obligations	200,000
To aid in payment of taxes	200,000

Total.....\$2,500,000

The applicant requests that \$1,000,000 of the loan be made available to it immediately, and that the corporation use the remaining \$1,500,000

applied for to redeem the receivers' certificates, and hold them as part security for the loan.

The applicant represents that because of the prices at which railroad securities are now selling and the consequent high cost of carrying indebtedness represented thereby, it can not through customary channels obtain funds to meet its obligations maturing in 1932. It is our view that the question of the ability of the applicant to obtain funds upon reasonable terms through banking channels or from the general public is committed by Section 5 of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation Act primarily to the corporation.

**Necessities of the Applicant.**

The applicant's requirements for 1932 are stated in the application as follows:

Receivers' certificates, issued by receivers of the Chicago & Alton R.R., assumed by applicant, due April 30 1932	\$1,500,000
Demand notes, covering deferred equipment trust obligations of the Chicago & Alton R.R., assumed by applicant	600,000
State of Illinois, taxes due and payable May 1 1932	587,376
Payment of principal of maturing equipment obligations, issued by receivers of the Chicago & Alton R.R. and assumed by the applicant, due May 15 1932	200,000
Payment of principal of maturing equipment obligations issued by receivers of the Chicago & Alton R.R. assumed by the applicant, due Nov. 15 1932	200,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,087,376</b>

In addition to the above, the applicant had on April 30 1932 unpaid vouchers amounting to \$382,732. It reports no loans or bills payable or receivable as of that date. It expects to provide for the items not covered by the loan out of earnings during the latter part of the year.

The applicant is a party to the "Marshalling and Distributing Plan, 1931" of the Railroad Credit Corporation. None of its listed requirements for which a loan is sought are interest obligations and none therefore constitute a proper basis for loans from that organization. The applicant states that as yet it has not applied for or received loans from that body, and that it will make such application only in the event of unforeseen contingencies.

**Security.**

As security for the loan applied for, the applicant offers the following:

Receivers' certificates	\$1,500,000
Joliet & Chicago R.R. guaranteed 7% stock, 6,494 shares, par value	\$649,400
Kansas City St. Louis & Chicago R.R. guaranteed 6% preferred stock, 3,072 shares	307,200
Common stock, 25 shares, par value	2,500
Louisiana & Missouri River R.R. guaranteed preferred 7% stock, 1,250 shares, par value	125,000
Preferred stock, 164 shares, par value	16,400
Common stock, 329 shares, par value	32,900
Alton Grain Elevator stock, par value	105,500
Monongahela Ry. stock, par value	1,666,666
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,905,566</b>
Alton Grain Elevator Co. notes	44,939
Kansas City Terminal Ry. notes	421,650
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,872,155</b>

In addition, the applicant offers the unconditional guaranty by the Baltimore & Ohio R.R., owner of all of its capital stock, of payment of the notes given for the loan.

As of Dec. 31 1931, the applicant's capital obligations consisted of capital stock of a par value of \$25,000,000, and long-term debt in the amount of \$50,307,567. The latter is composed of \$45,350,000 of refunding mortgage 3% 50-year gold bonds; \$1,500,000 receivers' certificates; equipment obligations totalling \$3,284,400, and \$173,167 debts to affiliated companies on open account.

**Conclusions.**

Upon consideration of the application and after investigation thereof, we conclude:

(1) That we should approve a loan of \$2,500,000 to the Alton R.R. by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, for a period not to exceed three years from the date thereof, to be used for payment of matured receivers' certificates, \$1,500,000, principal of matured and maturing equipment obligations, \$800,000; and taxes, \$200,000;

(2) That the applicant should pledge with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, as collateral security for the loan, \$1,500,000 of the receivers' certificates issued by the receivers of the Chicago & Alton R.R. and assumed by the applicant; 6,494 shares of the guaranteed 7% stock of the Joliet & Chicago R.R., 3,072 shares of the guaranteed 6% preferred stock of the Kansas City St. Louis & Chicago R.R., 1,250 shares of the guaranteed 7% preferred stock of the Louisiana & Missouri River R.R. and stock of the Monongahela Ry. Co., par value, \$1,666,666;

(3) That the Baltimore & Ohio R.R. should: (a) Endorse and pledge with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation all notes now held by or which may be delivered to the railroad company during the life of the loan evidencing indebtedness to it of the Monongahela Ry., (b) assign to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation all claims of the said railroad company upon the Monongahela Ry. on account of advances or open accounts, and (c) agree with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation that if any of the aforesaid claims or any indebtedness of the Monongahela Ry. evidenced by a note be funded during the life of the loan, the bonds issued thereunder will be pledged as additional security for the loan;

(4) That the loan should be further secured as to both principal and interest, by the unrestricted endorsement and guaranty of the Baltimore & Ohio R.R.; and

(5) That the applicant should be required to notify the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and this Commission, in writing, within 30 days from the time the funds are made available to the applicant, of the expenditure thereof for the purposes for which the loan is authorized.

The report of the Commission in approving the loan of \$98,530 to Wisconsin & Michigan R.R., in part, follows:

**The Application.**

The applicant requests a loan of \$175,530 for the full term of three years, and desires that the entire amount be made available on or before May 1 1932. The purposes for which the loan is requested are classified as follows:

Overdue vouchers	\$27,396.54
Accounts payable	25,546.62
Loans and bills payable	102,000.00
Federal income taxes overdue	20,587.14
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$175,530.30</b>

An itemized statement of the overdue vouchers, filed in support of the application, shows amounts ranging from \$0.23 to \$11,325.12, due to 106 creditors, including certain railroad companies. About one-half this indebtedness was incurred prior to Dec. 1 1931. The accounts payable, which are also shown in detail, are mainly with railroad companies and private car lines, and include 57 items, in many cases overdue for more than 90 days. The accounts receivable amount to \$13,022.37, but because of the receivership of the Ann Arbor R.R. and other companies there will

be delay in collection. The loans and bills payable consist of a note of April 15 1932, a note of \$10,000 to the Commercial Bank of Menominee due \$15,000 to the First National Bank of Menominee, due May 5 1932, and a note of \$77,500 to John Marsch, Inc., due May 1 1932. The latter debtor is a contracting company, but Marsch, as has been stated herein, is the applicant's President. Various amounts have been borrowed from the contracting company since June 1929, and interest at 6% was paid up to Nov. 1 1931, when a note for \$77,000 was executed to cover the balance then due. It is represented that the contracting company is in urgent need of this money. All the loans mentioned are unsecured. The loans and bills receivable consist of the amount of \$41,771.75 due from a sand and gravel company for rails and other materials furnished by the applicant. No payments on this amount are expected until the fall of 1932.

The item of Federal income tax overdue, \$20,587.14, has been explained hereinbefore as a claim of the Government for income tax payments covering the applicant's operations during the years 1924 and 1925. The Government also had a tax claim for 1926 and 1927. The latter was brought before the Board of Tax Appeals and, since the filing of the application, was settled by stipulations requiring the applicant to pay the Government a total of \$20,966.65 to fully discharge all income tax claims for the period 1924-27.

The applicant has not become a party to the "Marshalling and Distributing Plan, 1931," of the Railroad Credit Corporation created to carry out the purpose of our order in *Fifteen Per Cent Case*, 1931, and is not eligible to receive any benefits from the Railroad Credit Corporation. The increase in revenue from the advances in rates permitted by our decision cited above is estimated not to exceed \$3,200 during the year 1932.

#### Necessities of the Applicant.

The applicant's gross revenues have declined almost uniformly each year since 1925, and in 1931 were not much more than sufficient to cover tax accruals, despite a substantial reduction in maintenance expenditures. The total gross income was \$4,975, while hire of freight cars amounted to \$5,224, joint facility rents were \$6,465, and interest on unfunded debt was \$6,392. This resulted in a deficit of \$13,105 in the net income of 1931. On Dec. 31 1931, total current liabilities exceeded total current assets by \$73,522. Borrowings were begun in June 1929, when \$50,000 was advanced by John Marsch, Inc. A general reduction of 15% in salaries was made in July 1930, and on Jan. 1 1931, a further reduction of 12.5% was put into effect. The salary of the President had been reduced to a nominal sum in 1928. The decline in earnings has been about proportional to that of several other carriers in the same general territory.

#### Security.

As security for the loan, the applicant offers to pledge a requisite amount of its 5% gold bonds, maturing May 1 1935. Such bonds are proposed to be issued under a general mortgage, dated May 1 1932, in which the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is named as mortgagee. This mortgage will constitute a first lien on all the applicant's properties and assets. A copy has been filed in Finance Docket No. 9321, in which proceeding the applicant has sought our authority to issue \$200,000 in bonds.

#### Conclusions.

Upon consideration of the application and after investigation thereof, we conclude:

(1) That we should approve a loan of \$98,530 to the applicant, for a term not exceeding three years, by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, for the purpose of paying overdue accounts, loans, bills and Federal income taxes, as described in the application and this report;

(2) That the applicant should pledge with the corporation \$99,000, principal amount, of its bonds, issued under a first mortgage which shall be in form satisfactory to the corporation;

(3) That before any advance upon the loan is made the applicant should deposit with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation evidence satisfactory to that Corporation that the note of \$77,000 to John Marsch, Inc., will be extended to a maturity date not earlier than the maturity date of the loan herein conditionally approved;

(4) That the applicant should be required to report to the corporation and to us, in writing, within 30 days from the making of the loan, the expenditure of the proceeds thereof for the purposes for which the loan is authorized.

The following additional roads have filed applications with the I.-S. C. Commission to borrow from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in the amounts shown:

Carlton & Coast RR.....	\$981,000
Georgia Southwestern & Gulf RR.....	60,000
Nelsonville Athens Electric Ry.....	115,000

#### Carlton & Coast RR.

The road has asked for a loan of \$981,000 for a three-year period. The loan would be secured by a mortgage on property of the road and funds used to pay bonds, purchase equipment and construct extensions.

#### Georgia Southwestern & Gulf RR.

The company has asked permission to borrow \$60,000 for three years and use the funds to pay taxes, interest and inter-line freight balances. It offers stock of Albany Passenger Terminal Co. and its first mortgage bonds as collateral security.

#### Nelsonville Athens Electric Ry.

The company seeks approval to borrow \$115,000 for three years to pay accounts payable, notes, wages, bonds, interest and taxes. A first mortgage on its property is offered as security.

### Resolution Adopted by House Directing Opening to Public Inspection of Payrolls of House of Representatives

On May 20 the House of Representatives adopted unanimously the following resolution, introduced by Representative Warren (Democrat) opening to public inspection the payrolls of the House:

*Resolved*, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives is hereby authorized and directed to keep open for public inspection the payroll records of the disbursing officer of the House of Representatives.

With regard to the resolution, Washington advices, May 20, to the New York "Times" said:

South Trimble, Clerk of the House, almost immediately made public the April payroll, the last one prepared by his office, revealing that 100 members employed office help with the same names as theirs.

No relationship was shown by the payroll names, and clerks of the House, who were believed to have known the "family connections," would not commit themselves when questioned. It was therefore necessary for the

reporters to copy names of only those employees whose names were identical with that of the Representative in whose office they are engaged.

#### Garner Aids Passage.

Representative Warren of North Carolina introduced the so-called anti-nepotism resolution three days ago. He is Chairman of the Accounts Committee and the resolution was referred to that Committee. It was adopted by the Committee yesterday and Mr. Warren, with the assistance of Speaker Garner, elected to bring it up for consideration when the House convened to-day.

His move caught some members by surprise, but before objection could be voiced, Speaker Garner declared the bill would be considered as passed.

Mrs. Garner, who is one of the hardest working secretaries about the Capitol, was the most prominent name discovered on the list. The April payroll also carried the name of Tully Garner, the Speaker's young son, but it was said that he is not now carried on the rolls. Mrs. Garner's salary was \$325, while that paid to Tully in April was \$91.66.

Two New York Republicans, Mr. Cook of Alden and Mr. Crowther of Schenectady, have persons of the same name employed in their offices, while Representative Griffin, Democrat, of New York City, was shown by the records to employ Katherine L. Griffin at a salary of \$166.66 per month.

None of the other New York Representatives apparently employed persons of the same name. Camilo Osias, Resident Commissioner of the Philippine Islands, employed Ildelfonsa Osias at a salary of \$208.33 a month, and James Wickersham, Delegate from Alaska, employed Grace E. Wickersham at a salary of \$91.66.

#### Blanton Causes Surprise.

Republicans had a slight edge on the Democrats in the list made public, but neither side of the House elected to bring the matter to the attention of Congress during the day.

One of the Democrats who has consistently opposed double pay for employees of the Veterans' Bureau who are drawing salary and disability pay was shown to have a clerk of the same name. He was Representative Blanton, of Texas, and the revelation that Anne L. Blanton was drawing \$250 a month caused surprise in the House. Another prominent Democrat, Representative Bankhead, of Alabama, the record showed, employs Florence Bankhead at a salary of \$166.66 a month.

Several members privately showed concern over the action of the House in adopting the resolution, and others commented that publication of the names might defeat more than one Representative in the fall campaign for re-election.

### Board of Governors of Investment Bankers Association Declares That Right of Member Banks in Federal Reserve System to Deal in Securities Is Essential to Economic Welfare of Country.

The underwriting and distribution of securities by member banks of the Federal Reserve System is essential to the economic welfare of the United States, the Board of Governors of the Investment Bankers' Association of America unanimously declared at its annual meeting on May 17 at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., according to telegraphic advices to the New York "Times," which also reported:

After consideration of the apparent effects of the Glass bill, the Board adopted this resolution:

"The Board of Governors of the Investment Bankers' Association of America hereby record their unanimous conviction that the right now held by member banks of the Federal Reserve System of underwriting and merchandising securities is essential to the economic welfare of this country, and that experience, here and abroad, has shown that these functions, properly safeguarded, are a vital factor in providing for the normal and necessary flow of capital into business and commerce."

### F. W. Mathison Elected President Chicago Financial Advertisers.

F. W. Mathison, Assistant Vice-President of the Security Bank of Chicago, was elected President of the Chicago Financial Advertisers, Chicago chapter of the Financial Advertisers Association, at the annual meeting held May 11. Other officers elected are:

First Vice-President, Samuel Witting, 2d Vice-President, Continental Illinois Bank & Trust Co.

2d Vice-President, Guy W. Cooke, Asst. Cashier, First National Bank, Chicago.

3d Vice-President, A. E. Bryson, Vice-President, Halsey, Stuart & Co. Recording Secretary, Ruth H. Gates, Advertising Manager, State Bank & Trust Co., Evanston.

Treasurer, Dorothy Trevino, Advertising Manager, Personal Loan & Savings Bank.

Directors elected are: J. F. Gardiner, H. M. Bylesby & Co.; Carl A. Gode, Continental Illinois Bank & Trust Co.; R. R. Jeffris, Harris Trust & Savings Bank; Chester L. Price, Central Republic Bank & Trust Co.; E. T. Cunningham, Halsey, Stuart & Co.; G. Prather Knapp, Rand, McNally & Co., and Charles Frye, Chicago "Journal of Commerce." The by-laws were amended to permit sellers as well as buyers of financial advertising space to become full members.

### Plans for Re-opening of Federation Bank & Trust Co. of New York—14 Business and Union Leaders Proposed for Board of Institution—New Capital Reported Pledged.

The re-opening of the Federation Bank & Trust Co. of New York, which was closed last October because of the non-liquidity and depreciation of its assets, was advanced materially on May 24 (said the New York "Times") with the submission to Joseph A. Broderick, State Superintendent of Banks, of the proposed board of directors of the reorganized



institution. The list includes seven industrialists and an equal number of labor union executives. The "Times" says:

With the submission of the proposed board, the reorganization committee informed the Banking Department that the group interested in reopening the bank had raised in cash and pledges the required \$2,000,000 new capital. The re-opening of the bank under the plans discussed with Mr. Broderick was contingent on the raising of the \$2,000,000 and the assurance that the board of directors would include men of unquestioned standing and experience.

*The 14 Proposed Directors.*

The 14 men proposed as directors are:  
 J. Homer Platten, Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co.  
 Philip D. Reed, General Electric Co.  
 Allston Sargeant, Campbell Metal Window Co.  
 Charles J. Hardy, American Car & Foundry Co.  
 Louis A. Zahn, General Food Corp.  
 Jeremiah D. Maguire, Industries Development Corp.  
 Richard E. Dwight, Hughes, Schurman Dwight, lawyers.  
 William Green, President American Federation of Labor.  
 Edward W. Canavan, President International Association of Musicians of North America.  
 Edward W. Edwards, President New York State Allied Printing Trades Council.

John Sullivan, President New York State Federation of Labor.  
 Louis Gebhardt, President New York Building Trades Council.  
 John J. Mulholland, Vice-President Central Trades and Labor Council.  
 Frank X. Sullivan, attorney for the New York State Federation of Labor.  
 The approval of the list by the Banking Department and the Supreme Court, it was indicated yesterday would follow as those sponsoring the re-opening of the bank presented the formal petition. The plan for the reorganization and re-opening of the bank provided for the raising of the \$2,000,000 by financial, industrial and civic leaders, for the purchase of 40,000 shares of the new stock (par value \$20) at \$50 per share, or that number of shares which remain to be purchased after the stockholders have exercised their right to purchase.

The reorganization plan included the following features:

The par value of the outstanding stock of the bank shall be reduced from \$100 to \$20 a share.

An additional 55,000 shares of stock (par value \$20) shall be issued at \$50 a share.

Fifteen thousand shares shall be purchased by the application of a portion of the deposits in the bank under the following arrangement: The depositors will consent to the setting aside of one-third of their deposits in the bank and will authorize the reorganization committee of the bank to employ, in its discretion, said one-third of the deposits or any portion thereof as follows: (a) to augment the capital structure by the purchase of shares of new stock at \$50 per share (for which purpose it is likely \$750,000 may be employed), or to issue to such depositors the bank's certificates of deposit in the amount of that portion of said one-third not applied to the purchase of stock aforesaid, such certificates of deposit to be payable two years from date of issuance thereof with interest at the rate of 2% per annum and (or) participation certificates.

Each stockholder shall receive one share of the new stock in exchange for each share of the old stock and shall have the right to buy so many additional shares at \$50 a share as will give to each stockholder the same proportionate stock interest in the new issue as he now holds in the old stock issue.

*Had 30,000 Stockholders.*

When the bank was closed it had about 30,000 depositors and its deposits on Sept. 29 were \$12,170,000. The institution, which was the largest bank founded with labor union support, was established in 1923 by Peter J. Brady, labor leader, who was killed in an aviation accident last September on Staten Island.

Items regarding plans for the reorganization appeared in these columns March 26, page 2275, and April 23, page 3038.

**Dismissal of Indictment Against Former Judge Mancuso Growing Out of Charges Incident to Closing of City Trust Co.**

Justice Bleakley dismissed on May 23 in the Criminal Term of the New York Supreme Court an indictment charging Francis X. Mancuso, former judge of General Sessions, with participation in the fraudulent insolvency of the City Trust Co. in 1929. Justice Bleakley previously had directed a verdict of acquittal, said the New York "Herald Tribune" of May 24, which also stated:

The Court held that the prosecution was outlawed, not having been instituted within the two years required under the statute of limitations for misdemeanor cases. An indictment which had been found earlier had been dismissed by Justice Bleakley because it failed to show the insolvency of the City Trust Co.

"It is to be regretted," said Justice Bleakley, "that this proceeding cannot be terminated after a trial upon the merits. As pointed out by the Court in a prior decision, the failure to offer proof before the grand jury of the insolvency of the corporation, a most material element of the crime, is the direct and sole reason for this most undesirable termination of the pending proceedings. The answer must be made by those upon whom the law placed the burden of offering proof.

"It is unfortunate that you gentlemen had to sit here and listen to this. Under the law it was necessary for the people to put in its case before the Court could rule on the motion."

Judge Mancuso was acquitted on March 7 of a charge of perjury relating to testimony he gave during investigation of the failure of the City Trust Co. A similar indictment is pending, the dismissal of which Hiram C. Todd, Assistant District Attorney, said he would recommend.

**ITEMS ABOUT BANKS, TRUST COMPANIES, &c.**

Arrangements were made May 26 for the sale of a New York Stock Exchange seat at \$73,000, off \$7,000 from the previous transaction and the lowest since 1919.

At a meeting of the Governing Committee of the New York Stock Exchange held May 25 the petition of the members to close their Exchange to-day (May 28) was denied. The

Board of Governors of the New York Hide Exchange voted to close the Exchange to-day, May 28. This action gives the Exchange a three-day holiday as it will be closed on Monday, Memorial Day. The Board of Governors of the Rubber Exchange also voted to close their Exchange to trading to-day. Members having rubber to deliver or receive have been requested to keep their places open for completion of such deliveries.

The stockholders of the Hibernia Trust Co. approved on May 25, a proposal of the directors that the name of the company be changed. The New York "Sun" from which we quote, also said:

The proposed new name is the Colonial Trust Co., but the board of directors is authorized to pick some other name if that one proves unavailable.

A letter to the stockholders calling the meeting said that the directors and officers of the company felt that the present name has been a handicap to them in developing its business.

The Fort Hamilton office of the Brooklyn Trust Co., at 8619 Third Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y., will be discontinued to-day (May 28) and its business consolidated with that of the Bay Ridge office, 7428 Fifth Ave. The Fort Hamilton office was opened June 18 1930.

Robert S. Donaldson, President of the Erie County Savings Bank of Buffalo, N. Y., for nearly 25 years, died at his home in Buffalo on May 24 at the age of 80 years. The deceased banker was born in Buffalo and received his education in public and private schools in that City. In 1868, when 17 years old, he entered the employ of the Erie County Savings Bank as a messenger and rose steadily by successive stages until in 1886 he was appointed Treasurer. He served in this capacity for 22 years, or until 1908, when he was chosen President, the office he held at his death. Aside from his banking interests, Mr. Donaldson was active in the civic and social affairs of Buffalo. For many years he was a member of the Chamber of Commerce and always supported civic projects which he held to be of benefit to Buffalo.

Allen Wheelock Johnston, Executive Vice-President and Secretary of the Schenectady Savings Bank of Schenectady, N. Y., died on May 23 at his home here at the age of 85. Mr. Johnston became associated with the Schenectady Savings Bank in 1894. He had been a trustee of the bank since 1901. In 1912 he started the Schenectady system of school savings, said to be one of the earliest plans for systematic savings in the schools of the country.

The First National Bank of South Glens Falls, N. Y., capitalized at \$25,000, closed its doors on May 23, according to Associated Press advices from that place, which added:

Directors announced that business had been suspended to protect the interests of depositors. Deposits totaled approximately \$250,000.

It is learned from the Boston "Transcript" of May 26 that following the decision of the Lee, Higginson Trust Co. of Boston to discontinue operations (noted in these columns to-day), announcement was made on May 26 by Robert H. Gardiner, President of the Fiduciary Trust Co. of Boston, that three senior officers of the Lee, Higginson Trust Co.—Francis C. Gray, David H. Howie and Malcolm C. Ware—would become officers of the Fiduciary Trust Co. immediately upon the termination of their present duties. The present officers of the Fiduciary Trust Co., in addition to Mr. Gardiner—as named in the "Transcript"—are as follows: Edward F. MacNichol, Vice-President; James O. Bangs, Treasurer, and F. Haven Clark, Richard C. Curtis, Frederick S. Goodwin, Francis Gray, Charles Higginson, Richard C. Payne, John G. Palfrey and W. Rodman Peabody.

A Boston dispatch to the New York "Journal of Commerce," reporting the matter, gave the following additional information:

It is also understood in banking quarters that accounts of Lee, Higginson Trust Co. will go to the Fiduciary Trust.

Announcement was made early Wednesday morning, May 25, by Francis C. Gray, President of The Lee, Higginson Trust Co. of Boston that the trust company would discontinue operation as soon as depositors could be paid off and arrangements made for turning over the assets of trusts in its charge. Cash for the full amount of deposits was on hand, it was stated. Boston advices to the New York "Times", from which the above information is obtained, went on to say:

The investment banking firm of Lee, Higginson & Co. will continue its usual activities, a supplementary announcement on its behalf stated. The trust company was affiliated with the banking house but was operated as an independent institution.

The latest statement of the trust company, as of March 31, showed total resources of \$9,956,582.98. Included were cash and due from banks, \$1,992,043.03; United States bonds, \$1,540,512.12; other bonds and securities, \$3,924,861.26; loans and discounts, \$2,141,647.90; customers' liabilities and acceptances \$200,000, and other assets \$157,418.67.

Deposits were listed as \$7,671,413.25. Capital was \$500,000; surplus and undivided profits, \$805,393.05; reserves, \$779,776.68, and acceptances, \$200,000.

Among its directors are former Governor Allen of Massachusetts, Thomas N. Perkins, Chairman of the Board of the Boston & Maine RR., and L. Edmund Zacher, President of the Traveler Insurance Co. George C. Lee is Chairman of the Board.

When the trust company was organized, in the fall of 1927, it was announced that Ivar Kreuger, late Swedish financier, would be a member of its Board of Directors.

Supplementing our item of last week (page 3769) relative to the taking over by the Rockland Trust Co., of Rockland, Mass., of the Cohasset National Bank of Cohasset, Mass., we are advised that the enlarged trust company has combined capital, surplus and undivided profits of \$511,095; aggregate deposits of \$4,801,394, and total resources of \$5,867,338. The personnel is as follows: Alfred W. Donovan, Chairman of the Board; Frank H. Wright, President; John F. Spence and Albert S. Peterson, Vice-Presidents; James H. Hunt, Treasurer; Arthur R. Brewster, Elliott W. Crowell and Roy E. Litchfield, Assistant Treasurers, and C. Elmer Askland, Trust Officer.

Depreciation, in some cases as much as 40% in the assets of the Hamden Bank & Trust Co. of Hamden, Conn., which closed its doors Dec. 17 last, was shown in an appraisal filed on May 24 in the Civil Superior Court, according to a dispatch by the Associated Press from New Haven on that date, which went on to say:

The appraisal listed a book value on bank stocks, first mortgage loans cash items, cash on hand and other financial assets of \$707,785.83, with an appraised value of \$594,097.75. The appraised value of commercial department assets was estimated at \$594,097.75, as against a book value of \$1,088,047.83.

Concerning the affairs of the Asbury Park and Ocean Grove Bank of Asbury Park, N. J., which has been closed since December 1931, an Associated Press dispatch from Trenton on May 23 stated that a proposal to abandon plans to reopen the old institution and establish a new bank, made by the New Jersey State Banking Department, had been favorably received by a depositors' committee on that day. The dispatch went on to say:

After a conference with William H. Kelly, Banking Commissioner, and George Compton, Chief Banking Examiner, Howard Hulick, Chairman of the Committee, said a new bank would very possibly be formed with a capital and surplus of \$200,000. The Asbury Park and Ocean Grove Bank was closed last Dec. 24, after shrinkage of assets.

Mr. Compton said it was probable liquidation of the bank would continue with a dividend paid shortly to depositors. Merritt Lane, counsel to the Committee, said the new bank would probably make use of the name and property of the present institution.

The failure of the institution was recorded in the "Chronicle" of Jan. 2, page 79, and reference was made to its affairs in our April 9 issue, page 2657.

The plan looking towards the reopening of the Pennsylvania Bank & Trust Co. of Pittsburgh, Pa. (one of the Pittsburgh banks which closed in September 1931) has been abandoned, according to the Pittsburgh "Post Gazette" of May 24, which stated that announcement was made late the day before by Thomas McCaffrey, Jr., Chairman of the reorganization campaign, that money subscribed for the reopening of the institution would be returned to the subscribers under a plan to be adopted at a mass meeting to be held next week, and that the reopening move would be dropped "unless we decide to make a brand new start under the Enabling Act of 1930." The paper mentioned furthermore said in part:

The bank at the "Forks of the Road," Penn Avenue, Thirty-fourth and Butler Streets, is in as good financial condition as any of the closed State banks, McCaffrey said. Lack of co-operation of the State banking department, which "changed appraisals and new money quota requirements as the stock and bond market fluctuated," was blamed by McCaffrey, Butler Street realtor, with failure of the reopening efforts.

"Another factor," he said, "was that our plan embraced a guarantee of 100% return of the more than \$2,000,000 deposits to our 7,600 depositors. No State bank in Pennsylvania has been able to reopen on that basis."

"If the State Banking Department had listened to our plea six months ago, we should now have our bank open as a going institution. The department first told us we must raise \$320,000 'new money,' which meant the sale of 4,000 shares at \$80. We worked on that and reported progress when we had sold 1,100 shares, but received no reply from the department to our letter."

"Later we were informed we must raise \$400,000 of 'new money.' We were at work on that, with good prospects of success and not until 10 days ago did we learn this would not satisfy the Department. Then the State Secretary of Banking, Dr. William D. Gordon came to Pittsburgh and told us the bank's assets had depreciated a little more than an additional \$100,000 during the preceding three weeks, and that we would have to make another setup."

"We prepared a new setup, calling for raising \$560,000 of 'new money' through the sale of 7,000 shares at \$80. We felt that would be a hard

goal to reach, but we hoped that if conditions improved within 60 or 90 days the Department would grant us easier conditions. But we were simply told our plan was impractical."

A press dispatch from Media, Pa., on May 19 to the Philadelphia "Ledger" contained the following regarding the defunct Suburban Title & Trust Co. of Upper Darby, Pa.:

Assets of the Suburban Title & Trust Co., Upper Darby, which closed May 19 1931, were \$869,622 on April 22, sufficient to pay approximately 40% on depositors' balances. This is revealed in a report filed by Gerald H. Effing, special deputy in charge of the closed bank. The depositor claims total \$2,370,573, of which \$356,199 has already been paid.

That a stock-selling campaign will start June 1 for a new State bank at Washington, Pa., which is to replace three closed banks in that borough, is indicated in the Pittsburgh "Post Gazette" of May 24 from which we quote below:

With the Colonial Trust Co. of Pittsburgh designated as trustee depository, plans for a stock-selling campaign for a new state bank at Washington, Pa., starting June 1, were completed yesterday (May 23). James C. Chaplin, Colonial Trust Co. President, and J. D. Swigart, State Bank Examiner, were designated by State Banking Secretary W. D. Gordon to assist a committee of Washington business men, headed by John M. Spriggs.

Assets and holdings of the Union Trust Co. of Washington, Pa., are to be the foundation of the new bank, designed to replace three closed state banks in the Washington County seat. Under the reorganization plan, the original stock will be split 60-40, the present stockholders to receive the latter share. The 60%, or 3,000 shares, is to be sold to raise capital for the new bank, which will have a total capital of \$340,000, its sponsors state.

The probable reopening in the near future of the Central Trust Co. of Frederick, Md. (the closing of which on Sept. 5 last was noted in our issue of Sept. 9, page 1871), is indicated in the following Associated Press dispatch from Frederick, under date of May 18:

Depositors representing more than half of the \$11,252,000 on the books of the closed Central Trust Co. of Frederick and its 11 branches, that suspended last September, have signed a reorganization program, Benjamin B. Rosenstock, Secretary of the Executive Committee for reorganization of the bank, said to-day (May 18).

Under the provision of the plan, Rosenstock said, a realization company would be organized, "to be controlled by the depositors and will own all of the assets of the Central Trust Co. and will sell to the new bank the good assets, as appraised by the appraisal committee, for which the depositors will be paid by having entered to their credit in the new bank the proportionate share of the value of the good assets as assessed by the appraisal committee."

Sponsors of the program said they had been working on the plan since December and will continue in an attempt to obtain the signatures of 80% of the depositors so that the plan can be carried out.

The company, when it closed its doors, had 19,000 depositors and 25,000 accounts.

Since September some of the branches have taken individual steps to reorganize, and others have sought through the courts to have their merger with the bank set aside on the ground of fraud and misrepresentation by the officials of the Frederick company.

State Senator Emory L. Coblenz, President of the bank; George W. Page, State Bank Commissioner, and four officers of the Frederick bank now are under indictment in Howard County, where one of the branches was located.

Norman Bell, President of the Seaboard Citizens' National Bank of Norfolk, Va., died of heart disease at Virginia Beach on May 22. Mr. Bell was a lifelong resident of Norfolk. He was 55 years of age.

The reopening, on May 18, of the Dollar Savings & Trust Co. of Youngstown, Ohio (an institution with resources of approximately \$20,000,000, which closed Oct. 15 1931), was reported in a dispatch by the Associated Press from Columbus, Ohio, on the date named, which said:

Reopening Wednesday of the Dollar Savings & Trust Co. of Youngstown, Ohio, was hailed by State bank officials as an achievement which they believe will have a wholesome effect upon the Ohio banking situation.

Rehabilitation of the bank, the largest to be reopened in the history of the State, was effected under a plan formulated by Ira J. Fulton, State Superintendent of Banks.

Youngstown advices to the "Wall Street Journal" on the day of the opening contained the following additional information:

The bank is the largest in Ohio to reopen during the present economic depression without a merger or assistance from another institution. Approximately \$5,000,000 in time and demand deposits was freed by the reopening. All time deposits of \$100 or less and all demand deposits are fully available, while \$100 plus 10% of deposits in all savings accounts over \$1,000 can be withdrawn on demand.

A civic holiday accompanied the bank's opening. Only one bank now remains closed in Youngstown. Steel plant whistles, flags, a parade and other demonstrations marked the event.

A Youngstown dispatch, on May 19, appearing in the Cleveland "Plain Dealer," stated that personal felicitations had been received from President Hoover on the reopening of the institution. We quote in part from the advices as follows:

"I was delighted to receive your telegram this morning. The work which you and your committee have accomplished represents that co-operation between citizens of local communities and the Government, which is the way out of our present difficulties," Mr. Hoover wired.

Only about 700 of the 30,000 depositors in the bank appeared on the opening day to ask for money, and their demands for savings deposits

totaled only \$44,000. Bank officials expressed great pleasure at the outcome. Several new accounts were opened.

The officers and directors of the Fifth Third Union Trust Co. of Cincinnati, Ohio, announce that the formal opening of the institution's new main office at the North West corner of Fourth and Walnut Streets, Cincinnati, will take place on Wednesday of next week, June 1, from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.

The Marine Trust Co. of Carthage, Ill., reopened for business recently after having been closed for five months. The institution is capitalized at \$50,000, with surplus and undivided profits of \$11,193, and has deposits of \$174,222 and total resources of \$235,073. The officers are as follows: B. M. Cavanagh, President; R. W. Ferris, Vice-President; Frank D. Thomas, Cashier, and Loy Lovitt, Assistant Cashier.

Effective May 7 1932, the First National Bank of Bessemer, Mich., capitalized at \$100,000, was placed in voluntary liquidation. The institution was succeeded by the Bessemer National Bank of the same place.

The First National Bank of Winnebago, Minn., with capital of \$25,000, went into voluntary liquidation on May 12 last. This bank has been taken over by the Blue Earth Valley National Bank of Winnebago.

The Stewartville National Bank at Stewartville, Minn., was granted a charter by the Comptroller of the Currency on May 18. C. E. Fawcett is President and Homer Woolbridge, Cashier of the new institution, which is capitalized at \$35,000.

It is learned from the "Commercial West" of May 21 that the last legal obstacle to the reorganization and opening of the Davenport Bank & Trust Co. of Davenport, Iowa, as successor to the closed American Savings Bank & Trust Co. was passed when technical objections to the plan were removed May 7 by the Walsh interests of Burlington, Iowa. Reference was made to the affairs of this institution in our issue of Dec. 26 last, page 4273.

That May 21 had been set as the tentative opening date of a new bank in Alliance, Neb., under the title of the Nebraska National Bank, was indicated in the "Commercial West" of May 21. The new institution has combined capital and surplus of \$110,000. Officers were given as follows: W. A. Rose of Florence, Colo., President; E. M. Eldred, Vice-President; Harlan Wells, Cashier, and Carl Hees, Assistant Cashier.

The Union State Bank of Clinton, Clinton, Mo., a newly organized institution, opened for business recently. At the close of business, May 16, a statement of condition showed combined capital and surplus of \$55,700; total deposits of \$88,315, and total resources of \$144,050. George W. Schweer is Chairman of the Board of Directors; Emory Hurt, President, and H. C. McDowell, Cashier.

The National Bank of Burlington, Burlington, N. C., organized as a successor to the First National Bank of Burlington, which closed its doors Dec. 16 1931, was formally opened on May 16. The new organization, which has acquired the assets and assumed the liabilities of the old bank, is capitalized at \$100,000 and has a paid-in surplus of \$50,000. The officers are as follows: J. M. Fix, Chairman of the Board of Directors; R. H. Whitehead, President; L. J. Blakey (who was the receiver for the First National Bank), Vice-President and Cashier, and C. V. Long and B. S. Stack, Assistant Cashiers. The opening was a gala event in Burlington, the citizens celebrating the day as "Burlington Progress Day." President Hoover, in recognition of the successful efforts of the people of Burlington to reopen the closed bank, sent a congratulatory message from Washington, which was received May 14. The President's message (as printed in the Burlington "Daily Times-News") was as follows:

I have learned with much gratification of the reopening of the banks in Burlington, N. C., in response to the splendid community spirit of the people and their practical faith in the future. This is indeed a heartening evidence of the true American spirit.

HERBERT HOOVER.

It is learned from the Burlington (N. C.) "Daily Times-News" of May 14 that a campaign is under way looking

towards the reopening of the branch in Burlington of the United Bank & Trust Co., the head office of which is in Greensboro, N. C. The paper mentioned stated that workers in the campaign have signed up more than 90% of all former depositors, and it was expected that their work would be completed within a week, placing the local branch "in an advantageous position in the plan now in progress for the parent and branch banks." The closing of the United Bank & Trust Co. of Greensboro on Dec. 30 last was noted in our issue of Jan. 2 1932, page 80.

The closing on May 18 of a small North Carolina bank, the Bank of Badin, at Badin, was reported in the Raleigh "News and Observer" of May 19, which said in part:

The bank had \$100,000 in deposits on the date of the last report, Dec. 31 1931, but the amount is understood to have decreased appreciably due to curtailment of operations in the aluminum plants. The bank was capitalized at \$25,000, and had total resources of \$144,326.17 on the last report date.

The Comptroller of the Currency on May 18 issued a charter for the State National Bank of Iowa Park, Texas. The institution is capitalized at \$40,000, John Hirschi is President and H. A. Mills, Cashier.

The Roby State Bank, at Roby, Tex. (representing a reorganization of the closed First State Bank of Roby), opened recently. The institution is capitalized at \$25,000, with undivided profits of \$6,000, and has deposits of \$74,000. J. J. Steele is President; Marvin Carlile, Cashier, and Herbert Lewis, Assistant Cashier.

M. D. Mountain, formerly of Forsyth, Mont., has been elected Vice-President and a director of the First State Bank of Shelby, Mont., according to the "Commercial West" of May 21.

Consolidation of two San Francisco, Cal., banking institutions, the Anglo & London-Paris National Bank and the Anglo-California Trust Co. (affiliated institutions) has been recommended by their respective directors, subject to the approval of the stockholders at special meetings to be held June 24 next. The new organization will have a capital of \$10,400,000, consisting of 520,000 shares of the par value of \$20 each; surplus of \$2,600,000 and undivided profits of \$3,000,000. San Francisco advices to the New York "World-Telegram" on May 26, reporting the above, went on to say:

The consolidation will be effected on basis of eight shares of new bank stock for one share of \$100 par of Anglo-California Trust Co. and four shares of new stock for one share of Anglo and London.

Herbert Fleishhacker, President of Anglo & London-Paris, will be the President of the new bank, and Mortimer Fleishhacker, President of Anglo-California Trust Co., will be Chairman.

The Magnolia Park National Bank of Burbank, Calif., capitalized at \$100,000, was placed in voluntary liquidation effective April 18 last. It has no successor institution.

The Hon. John Hulholland and Benton Jones have been appointed directors of Westminster Bank, Ltd., London, England.

Ready ability to meet rapidly changing conditions and at the same time to maintain its uniformly strong position is shown by the Bank of Montreal (head office Montreal, Canada) in its semi-annual statement issued this week. The statement, which covers the six months ending April 30 1932, shows total assets at \$748,612,481, as compared with \$786,897,706 a year ago. Of this amount quickly available assets are \$385,483,225, or equal to 57.34% of all liabilities to the public. Included in these liquid assets is cash in vaults and in central gold reserves amounting to \$78,491,119, equal to 11.67% of public liabilities.

The most important change in liquid assets is represented by an increase in Government and other bonds and debentures to a total of \$228,901,146. Included among them are Dominion and Provincial Government securities of a value of \$174,730,246, up from \$149,229,626 a year ago. Call loans outside of Canada are \$20,262,324 and are secured by bonds, stocks, and other negotiable securities.

Call loans in Canada secured by bonds and stocks of greater value at current quotations than the loans stand at \$5,645,610, as compared with \$11,347,487 at the same date last year. The total of current loans made to manufacturers, farmers, merchants and others, is reported at \$336,572,388. Deposits have held up remarkably well under prevailing conditions. Total deposits are reported at \$626,701,081.

Total assets of \$748,612,481 are available to meet payment of liabilities to the public of \$672,310,882, which leaves an excess of assets over these liabilities of \$76,301,599. The profits for the six months amounted to \$2,589,292, as compared with \$2,771,753 for the corresponding period last year. These were allocated as follows: dividends, \$2,160,000; provision for taxes Dominion Government, \$228,316, and reservation for bank premises, \$100,000, leaving a balance of \$100,976, which when added to the balance carried forward at the end of the fiscal year brought the total at the credit of profit and loss to \$1,204,403.

**THE WEEK ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.**

Distress liquidation played an important part in the movements of the stock market during the present week, and as a result prices gradually drifted downward until Thursday, when the trend turned upward, following the rumor that the leaders in Congress were optimistic regarding the early passage of the tax bill for balancing the budget. Tobacco stocks have been weak, and so have food issues and public utilities. Railroad shares have been under severe pressure and traction issues have shown little activity. Call money renewed at 2½% on Monday, and remained unchanged at that rate on each and every day of the week.

Following the downward drift during the early trading on Saturday, the market held fairly steady, and some of the early losses were cancelled before the close. Railroad shares were dull and moved toward lower levels, the weak spot being Norfolk & Western, which dipped about 4 points to 76. Atlantic Coast Line was weak, due to some extent to the dividend omission, and there were numerous fractional recessions throughout the group. Changes, on the whole, were small and within a narrow range, the principal recessions being among the preferred stocks. These included American Locomotive preferred, which dropped 2½ points to 32½; American Sugar pref. 8 points to 58; Electric Power & Light 3¾ points to 16; J. C. Penney pref. 2½ points to 75½, and Tide Water Oil pref. 2 points to 38. On Monday trading was down to the minimum, the turnover being the smallest in several weeks. In the morning prices moved around somewhat uncertainly, but later in the day steadied to some extent, and the market closed with gains ranging from fractions to a point or more. The feature of the day was Consolidated Oil pref., which, at one period, showed a gain of 6 or more points. Most of the changes were on the down side, and were again in the preferred group, the declines including, among others, Atchison pref., which dripped 1½ points to 47; Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit pref., which tumbled 3 points to 60; A. M. Byers pref., which receded 4¾ points to 35¼; Westinghouse pref., which dropped 2¼ points to 58½; Studebaker pref., which fell off 2 points to 47; National Biscuit, which declined 2½ points to 31¼, and General Gas & Electric pref., which receded 9¾ points to 10¾.

Trading continued dull on Tuesday, with the tobacco stocks and public utilities leading the way downward. During the first hour the market was fairly steady, but the opening levels were not maintained and prices gradually slipped backward during the rest of the day. Tobacco shares bore the brunt of the recessions, though railroad issues quickly yielded on the appearance of the weekly report on car loadings, showing a shrinkage of over 16,000 cars as compared with a week ago. The losses ranged from 1 to 3 or more points, and included, among others, such prominent issues as Westinghouse, which yielded 1 point to 23; Western Union, which declined 1½ points to 18½; Studebaker pref., which dropped 9 points to 38; Public Service of New Jersey, which tumbled 2½ points to 38; Pan American Petroleum, which receded 3¾ points to 38¾; Air Reduction, which dipped 3 points to 36¾, and American Can, which declined 1¾ points to 36¼. Other recessions included American Tobacco, 4¾ points to 54¾; Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit, 2¾ points to 31½; Columbian Carbon, 2 points to 17; Corn Products, 2¾ points to 30¾; Eastman Kodak, 1¾ points to 41¼; du Pont, 1¾ points to 28½; General Food Corp., 2 points to 24¾; Jewel Tea, 2½ points to 18; Norfolk & Western, 5½ points to 70; General Railway Signal, 1½ points to 10¾, and American Power & Light 6% pref., 3¾ points to 20½. Lower prices again prevailed on Wednesday, and while liquidation was apparent among some of the pivotal issues, trading was somewhat more active than on previous sessions during the present week. Railroad shares were under pressure, and public utilities were the weak

stocks. The principal changes were on the side of the decline, and included such popular issues as American Tobacco, which yielded 2¾ points to 51¾; Brooklyn Union Gas, 2 points to 65; Drug, Inc., 2½ points to 31; International Business Machine, 3¼ points to 69¾; Pacific Tel. & Tel., 2½ points to 65; Norfolk & Western, 2 points to 68; Union Pacific, 2¼ points to 38½, and a host of preferred stocks in which losses ranged up to 6 or more points.

The market continued its downward swing during the first hour on Thursday, reaching, in many instances, new low levels for the current movement. As the day progressed a sharp rally developed and much of the early losses were cancelled. Among the market leaders closing on the side of the advance were Air Reduction, which advanced 2¼ points to 38¼; Allied Chemical & Dye, which moved ahead 2¼ points to 52½, and American Can pref., which gained 4 points and closed at 105. Other noteworthy advances were American Tel. & Tel., 1½ points to 94¾; Atchison, 1½ points to 27½; Auburn Auto, 2 points to 33¾; Canadian Pacific, 1¾ points to 9¾; du Pont, 1¼ points to 27¾; National Biscuit, 1½ points to 30½; People's Gas, 2½ points to 60, and Public Service of New Jersey, 1¼ points to 39½. The trend was again downward on Friday, though the trading during the first hour was fairly steady and showed some modest gains, but following the announcement of the cut in the General Electric dividend, which caused a severe break in that stock, most of the pivotal issues turned abruptly downward. Liquidation was again in evidence in a number of the market leaders like American Tel. & Tel. and United States Steel, both of which were down on the day. The turnover was small owing to the many absentees as a result of forthcoming holidays. The major part of the changes of the day were on the side of the decline. These included, among others, Air Reduction, 2½ points to 36½; American Can, 1½ points to 35½; American Tel. & Tel., 2½ points to 92; American Tobacco, 2¼ points to 47¾; Atchison, 2¼ points to 25¼; Auburn Auto, 2 points to 31¾; General Electric, 2½ points to 10; Union Pacific, 1¼ points to 37¼, and Western Union, 1¾ points to 18¼. The market was weak at the close, and stocks were at their lows for the day.

TRANSACTIONS AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE DAILY, WEEKLY AND YEARLY.

Week Ended May 27 1932.	Stocks, Number of Shares.	Railroad and Miscell. Bonds.	State Municipal & For'n Bonds.	United States Bonds.	Total Bond Sales.
Saturday	305,170	\$2,417,000	\$1,235,000	\$2,730,500	\$6,382,500
Monday	557,840	3,410,000	2,086,000	5,653,000	11,149,000
Tuesday	983,297	4,381,000	2,864,000	3,369,000	10,614,000
Wednesday	1,302,142	5,904,000	2,618,000	3,341,000	11,863,000
Thursday	1,853,160	7,681,000	2,980,500	3,471,500	14,133,000
Friday	900,595	5,227,000	2,871,000	5,907,000	14,005,000
Total	5,902,204	\$29,020,000	\$14,654,500	\$24,472,000	\$68,146,500

Sales at New York Stock Exchange.	Week Ended May 27.		Jan 1 to May 27.	
	1932.	1931.	1932.	1931.
Stocks—No. of shares.	5,902,204	11,493,773	151,478,285	273,349,666
Bonds				
Government bonds	\$24,472,000	\$4,653,500	\$330,060,900	\$73,173,050
State & foreign bonds	14,654,500	18,120,000	312,482,500	316,203,600
Railroad & misc. bonds	29,020,000	36,772,000	618,539,300	759,752,000
Total	\$68,146,500	\$59,545,500	\$1,261,082,700	\$1,149,128,650

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE EXCHANGES.

Week Ended May 27 1932.	Boston.		Philadelphia.		Baltimore.	
	Shares.	Bond Sales.	Shares.	Bond Sales.	Shares.	Bond Sales.
Saturday	8,260	---	4,287	\$28,000	441	\$6,000
Monday	12,501	6,000	11,722	25,000	912	7,200
Tuesday	17,926	---	24,546	24,900	696	4,000
Wednesday	28,039	22,000	41,582	27,200	3,651	6,000
Thursday	36,228	4,500	50,086	6,000	975	4,300
Friday	7,036	14,000	31,300	---	1,129	2,000
Total	109,990	\$46,500	163,523	\$111,100	7,804	\$29,500
Prev. wk. revised.	98,800	\$55,400	91,052	\$202,600	6,625	\$43,900

**CURB EXCHANGE.**

Declines again outnumbered the advances during the dealings on the New York Curb Market this week and at times heavy losses have been recorded by some of the more active leaders. Public utilities have been especially weak and have, in many instances, dropped to new low levels. On Thursday, the market moved sharply upward, cancelling a part of the losses of the early part of the week. Renewed offerings in the oil group were in evidence during the fore part of the week reflecting to some extent the lower gasoline prices instituted by the Standard Oil Co. of New York. Electric Bond & Share was noteworthy for the repeated waves of selling that carried the issue slowly but consistently downward day after day. Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. was also noteworthy for its sharp break on Wednesday when





PRICES ON PARIS BOURSE.

Quotations of representative stocks on the Paris Bourse as received by cable each day of the past week have been as follows:

Table with columns for dates (May 21-27) and stock names (Bank of France, Banque de Paris, etc.). Values are listed in Francs.

PRICES ON BERLIN STOCK EXCHANGE.

The Berlin Stock Exchange resumed trading on Friday, April 29 1932 after having been closed by Government decree since Sept. 18. Prices suffered heavy declines. Closing prices of representative stocks as received by cable each day of the past week have been as follows:

Table with columns for dates (May 21-27) and stock names (Reichsbank, Berliner Handels, etc.). Values are listed as a percentage of par.

\* Last dividend.

In the following we also give New York quotations for German and other foreign unlisted dollar bonds as of May 27:

Table listing various foreign bonds (Anhalt 7s to 1946, Argentine 5%, etc.) with columns for bid and ask prices.

Table listing various bonds (Salvador 7%, 1957, Santa Catharina (Brazil) 8%, etc.) with bid and ask prices.

Public Debt of the United States—Complete Returns Showing Net Debt as of March 31 1932.

The statement of the public debt and Treasury cash holdings of the United States, as officially issued March 31 1932 delayed in publication, has now been received, and as interest attaches to the details of available cash and the gross and net debt on that date, we append a summary thereof, making comparison with the same date in 1931:

Table titled 'CASH AVAILABLE TO PAY MATURING OBLIGATIONS.' with columns for Mar. 31 1932 and Mar. 31 1931. Rows include Balance end of month, Deduct outstanding obligations, etc.

INTEREST-BEARING DEBT OUTSTANDING.

Table titled 'INTEREST-BEARING DEBT OUTSTANDING.' with columns for Title of Loan, Interest Payable, Mar. 31 1932, and Mar. 31 1931. Rows include 2s Consols of 1930, 2s of 1918-1938, etc.

Summary table for interest-bearing debt with rows for Aggregate of interest-bearing debt, Bearing no interest, Matured, interest ceased, Total debt, Deduct Treasury surplus, and Net debt.

a Total gross debt Mar. 31 1932 on the basis of daily Treasury statements was \$18,506,720,307.39, and the net amount of public debt redemptions and receipts in transit, etc., was \$2,363.50. b No reduction is made on account of obligations of Foreign Governments or other investments. c Maturity value.

Commercial and Miscellaneous News

Los Angeles Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at the Los Angeles Stock Exchange, May 21 to May 27, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table showing Los Angeles Stock Exchange transactions with columns for Stock name, Par, Friday Last Sale, Week's Range, Sales for Week, and Range Since Jan. 1.









Table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive, Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive. The table is divided into 'Banks', 'Miscellaneous', and 'Miscellaneous (Continued)' sections, listing various companies and their financial details.

Table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed Days Inclusive. Includes sections for Miscellaneous (Continued) and various company entries.



Weekly Return of the Federal Reserve Board.

The following is the return issued by the Federal Reserve Board Thursday afternoon, May 26, and showing the condition of the twelve Reserve banks at the close of business on Wednesday. In the first table we present the results for the System as a whole in comparison with the figures for the seven preceding weeks and with those of the corresponding week last year. The second table shows the resources and liabilities separately for each of the twelve banks. The Federal Reserve Agents' Accounts (third table following) gives details regarding transactions in Federal Reserve notes between the Comptroller and Reserve Agents and between the latter and Federal Reserve banks. The Reserve Board's comment upon the returns for the latest week appears on page 3897, 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 MAY 25 1932.

Main table showing combined resources and liabilities of the Federal Reserve Banks at the close of business May 25, 1932. Columns include dates from May 25 1932 to May 27 1931. Rows are categorized into RESOURCES (Gold, Gold redemption fund, Gold held exclusively, Gold settlement fund, Gold and gold certificates held by banks, Total gold reserves, Reserves other than gold, Total reserves, Non-reserve cash, Bills discounted, Secured by U. S. Govt. obligations, Other bills discounted, Total bills discounted, Bills bought in open market, U. S. Government securities, Bonds, Treasury notes, Special Treasury certificates, Certificates and bills, Total U. S. Government securities, Other securities, Foreign loans on gold, Total bills and securities, Due from foreign banks, Federal Reserve notes of other banks, Uncollected items, Bank premises, All other resources) and LIABILITIES (F. R. notes in actual circulation, Deposits: Member banks—reserve account, Government, Foreign banks, Other deposits, Total deposits, Deferred availability items, Capital paid in, Surplus, All other liabilities, Total liabilities, Ratio of gold reserve to deposits and F. R. note liabilities combined, Ratio of total reserves to deposits and F. R. note liabilities combined, Contingent liability on bills purchased for foreign correspondents, Maturity Distribution of Bills and Short-Term Securities: 1-15 days bills discounted, 16-30 days bills discounted, 31-60 days bills discounted, 61-90 days bills discounted, Over 90 days bills discounted, Total bills discounted, 1-15 days bills bought in open market, 16-30 days bills bought in open market, 31-60 days bills bought in open market, 61-90 days bills bought in open market, Over 90 days bills bought in open market, Total bills bought in open market, 1-15 days U. S. certificates and bills, 16-30 days U. S. certificates and bills, 31-60 days U. S. certificates and bills, 61-90 days U. S. certificates and bills, Over 90 days U. S. certificates and bills, Total U. S. certificates and bills, 1-15 days municipal warrants, 16-30 days municipal warrants, 31-60 days municipal warrants, 61-90 days municipal warrants, Over 90 days municipal warrants, Total municipal warrants, Federal Reserve Notes: Issued to F. R. Bank by F. R. Agent, Held by Federal Reserve Bank, In actual circulation, Collateral Held by Agent as Security for Notes Issued to Bank: By gold and gold certificates, Gold fund—Federal Reserve Board, By eligible paper, U. S. Government securities, Total). A footnote indicates \*Revised figures.

WEEKLY STATEMENT OF RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES OF EACH OF THE 12 FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS MAY 25 1932

Table showing the weekly statement of resources and liabilities for each of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks at the close of business May 25, 1932. Columns include Total, Boston, New York, Phila., Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneap., Kan. City, Dallas, and San Fran. Rows are categorized into RESOURCES (Gold with Federal Reserve Agents, Gold red'n fund with U. S. Treas., Gold held excl. agst. F. R. notes, Gold settle't fund with F. R. Board, Gold and gold cfts. held by banks, Total gold reserves, Reserves other than gold, Total reserves, Non-reserve cash, Bills discounted, Sec. by U. S. Govt. obligations, Other bills discounted, Total bills discounted, Bills bought in open market).



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Wall Street, Friday Night, May 27 1932.

Railroad and Miscellaneous Stocks.—See page 3930.

The following are sales made at the Stock Exchange not represented in our detailed list on the pages which follow:

Table with columns: STOCKS, Sales for Week, Range for Week (Lowest, Highest), Range Since Jan. 1. (Lowest, Highest). Lists various stocks like Railroads, Indus. & Miscell., and their price movements.

\* No par value.

Quotations for United States Treasury Certificates of Indebtedness, &c.

Table with columns: Maturity, Int. Rate, Bid, Asked. Lists various Treasury certificates with their respective rates and market prices.

United States Liberty Loan Bonds and Treasury Certificates on the New York Stock Exchange.—

Below we furnish a daily record of the transactions in Liberty Loan bonds and Treasury certificates on the New York Stock Exchange. The transactions in registered bonds are given in a footnote at the end of the tabulation.

Table with columns: Daily Record of U. S. Bond Prices, May 21, May 23, May 24, May 25, May 26, May 27. Lists sales for various Liberty Loan and Treasury certificates.

Note.—The above table includes only sales of coupon bonds. Transactions in registered bonds were:

Table with columns: Maturity, Price. Lists registered bond transactions.

Foreign Exchange.—

To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for sterling exchange were 3.68 3/4 @ 3.69 1/4 for checks and 3.68 1/2 @ 3.69 3/4 for cables. Commercial on banks, sight, 3.67 1/2 @ 3.68 3/4; sixty days, 3.67 1/2 @ 3.67 3/4; ninety days, 3.66 3/4 @ 3.68 1/4; and documents for payment 3.67 1/2 @ 3.68 3/4. Cotton for payment, 3.68 3/4, and grain, 3.68 3/4.

To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for Paris bankers' francs were 3.94 11-16 @ 3.94 15-16 for short. Amsterdam bankers' guilders were 40.53 @ 40.56. Exchange for Paris on London, 93.28; week's range, 93.45 francs high and 93.10 francs low.

Table with columns: Sterling, Actual—High for the week, Low for the week; Checks, Cables. Lists exchange rates for Sterling, Paris Bankers' Francs, Germany Bankers' Marks, and Amsterdam Bankers' Guilders.

The Curb Exchange.—The review of the Curb Exchange is given this week on page 3930.

A complete record of Curb Exchange transactions for the week will be found on page 3959.

CURRENT NOTICES.

F. R. Henderson, former President of the Rubber Exchange of New York, has returned to the rubber business after an absence of two years and is now manager of the rubber department of Clark, Childs & Co., at 11 Broadway.

Clark Williams & Co. announce that Arthur J. O'Neill has joined their Fordham office as Manager of the Investment Department. Other additions to the Fordham Office include Earl W. Graham, John A. Lauria, Ray X. Morreale.

Douglas V. Macpherson, formerly Vice-President of Bancamerica Blair Corp., has been appointed manager of the new municipal bond department of S. W. Straus & Co., 565 Fifth Ave., New York.





FOR SALES DURING THE WEEK OF STOCKS NOT RECORDED IN THIS LIST, SEE SECOND PAGE PRECEDING.

Main table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday May 21 to Friday May 27), Sales for the Week, STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, PER SHARE Range for Year 1932 (Lowest, Highest), PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1931 (Lowest, Highest). Rows list various stocks like Indus. & Miscell., Allied Chemical & Dye, etc.

\* Bid and asked prices; no sale on this day. x Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights.

FOR SALES DURING THE WEEK OF STOCKS NOT RECORDED IN THIS LIST, SEE THIRD PAGE PRECEDING.

Main table with columns for dates (Saturday May 21 to Friday May 27), stock names, and prices. Includes sub-sections for 'HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.' and 'STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE'.

\* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. † Ex-dividend. ‡ Ex-dividend and ex-rights.

FOR SALES DURING THE WEEK OF STOCKS NOT RECORDED IN THIS LIST, SEE FOURTH PAGE PRECEDING.

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday to Friday) and 'Sales for the Week'. Rows list various stock symbols and their corresponding prices.

STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Table listing various stock companies and their share prices, including 'Indus. & Miscell. (Con.)', 'Dome Mines Ltd.', 'Dominion Stores', etc.

PER SHARE Range for Year 1932

Table showing the range of share prices for each stock from January 1932 to the current date.

PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1931

Table showing the range of share prices for each stock from January 1931 to the current date.

\* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. \* Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights. d Ex-dividends.

FOR SALES DURING THE WEEK OF STOCKS NOT RECORDED IN THIS LIST, SEE FIFTH PAGE PRECEDING.

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday May 21 to Friday May 27) and 'Shares' column. It lists various stock prices and shares for different companies.

Sales for the Week.

Column listing the number of shares sold for various companies during the week.

STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing various stock companies and their names, such as Indus. & Miscell. (Com.), Hamilton Watch pref., etc.

PER SHARE Range for Year 1932 On basis of 100-share lots

Table showing the lowest and highest share prices for each company for the year 1932.

PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1931

Table showing the lowest and highest share prices for each company for the year 1931.

\* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. Ex-dividend. Ex-rights.

FOR SALES DURING THE WEEK OF STOCKS NOT RECORDED IN THIS LIST, SEE SIXTH PAGE PRECEDING.

Main table with columns for dates (Saturday May 21, Monday May 23, Tuesday May 24, Wednesday May 25, Thursday May 26, Friday May 27) and stock names under 'STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE'. It includes 'PER SHARE' data and 'Sales for the Week'.

\* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. b Ex-dividend and ex-rights. s Ex-dividend. g Ex-rights.

FOR SALES DURING THE WEEK OF STOCKS NOT RECORDED IN THIS LIST, SEE SEVENTH PAGE PRECEDING

Table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT., Stocks NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, PER SHARE Range for Year 1932, PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1931. Rows list various stocks like Pittsburgh Coal, Radio Corp of Amer, etc.

\* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. \* Ex-dividend. \* Ex-rights.

FOR SALES DURING THE WEEK OF STOCKS NOT RECORDED IN THIS LIST, SEE EIGHTH PAGE PRECEDING.

Main table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday May 21, Monday May 23, Tuesday May 24, Wednesday May 25, Thursday May 26, Friday May 27); Stocks (Indus. & Miscell. (Concl.) Par, Texas Pacific Land Trust, Thatcher Mfg, etc.); PER SHARE Range for Year 1932; PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1931.

\* Bid and asked prices: no sales on this day. \* Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights.







Main table containing bond listings for 'N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE' and 'BONDS'. Columns include Bond Description, Interest Period, Price (Friday May 27), Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1., and various other details.

r Cash sale, a Deferred delivery.

Main table with columns: BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE, Week Ended May 27, Interest Period, Price Friday May 27, Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1, and a second identical set of columns.

7 Cash sale. a Due May. k Due August. a Deferred delivery.

Main table containing bond listings with columns for Bond Name, Price, Week's Range, Range Since, and various other details. Includes sub-sections for 'N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE' and 'BONDS'.

r Cash sale. d Deferred delivery

Table with columns for N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE, Interest, Price, Week's Range, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1, and various bond titles and prices. Includes sections for Bonds, N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE, and various bond titles like Milw El Ry & Lt 1st 5s B, Nat Dairy Prod deb 5 1/2s, etc.

r Cash sale. a Deferred delivery. d Union Oil 5s series C 1935 sold on Jan. 5, \$1,000 at 73 "deferred delivery."

Boston Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at the Boston Stock Exchange, May 21 to May 27, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks—, Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes sections for Railroad, Miscellaneous, and Bonds.

\* No par value. z Ex-dividend.

Chicago Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at the Chicago Stock Exchange, May 21 to May 27, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks—, Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes sections for Abbott Laboratories, Chicago Investors, and Cord Corp.

Table with columns: Stocks (Concluded) Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes sections for Empire Gas & El, Quaker Oats Co, and Bonds.

\* No par value. z Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights.

Toronto Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at the Toronto Stock Exchange, May 21 to May 27, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks—, Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes sections for Abitibi Pr & Paper, Bell Telephone, and Consolidated Bakeries.

Table of stock prices for various companies including Consm Min & Smelting, Consumers Gas, and others. 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.

Toronto Curb.—Record of transactions at the Toronto Curb, May 21 to May 27, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock prices for Toronto Curb, including Brewing Corp, Canada Bud Brew, and others. 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.

Philadelphia Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Philadelphia Stock Exchange, May 21 to May 27, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock prices for Philadelphia Stock Exchange, including American Stores, Bankers Securities Corp, and others. 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).

Table of stock prices for Baltimore Stock Exchange, including U S Dairy Prod, Westmoreland Inc, and others. 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.

Baltimore Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Baltimore Stock Exchange, May 21 to May 27, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock prices for Baltimore Stock Exchange, including Arundel Corporation, Atlantic Coast Ln, and others. 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.

Pittsburgh Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Pittsburgh Stock Exchange, May 21 to May 27, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock prices for Pittsburgh Stock Exchange, including Ark Nat Gas Corp, Preferred, and others. 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.

Cleveland Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Cleveland Stock Exchange, May 21 to May 27, both inclusive, compiled from official sales lists:

Table of stock prices for Cleveland Stock Exchange, including Allen Industries, Apex Electrical Mfg, and others. 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).



Table with columns: Stocks (Concluded), Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).

Cincinnati Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Cincinnati Stock Exchange, May 21 to May 27, 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).

Milwaukee Stock Exchange.—See page 3934.

St. Louis Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at St. Louis Stock Exchange, May 21 to May 27, 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).

San Francisco Stock Exchange.—See page 3934.

Los Angeles Stock Exchange.—See page 3933.

We also give the record of transaction on the St. Louis Stock Exchange for the period May 14 to May 20, inclusive, received too late for publication last week. The figures are 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).

\* No par value.

New York Produce Exchange Securities Market.—Following is the record of transactions at the New York Produce Exchange Securities Market, May 21 to May 27, both inclusive, compiled from 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).

\* No par value.

New York Curb Exchange—Weekly and Yearly Record

In the following extensive list we furnish a complete record of the transactions on the New York Curb Exchange for the week beginning on Saturday last (May 22 1932) and ending the present Friday (May 27 1932). It is compiled entirely from the daily reports of the Curb Exchange itself, and is intended to include every security, whether stock or bonds, in which any dealings occurred during the week covered.

Large table with columns: Week Ended May 27, Stocks, Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High).



Table with columns: Public Utilities (Concluded), Other Oil Stocks (Concluded), Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Rows include Columbia Gas & Elec, Plymouth Oil Co, Amer Maracaibo Co, etc.





Public Utility Bonds.

Table with columns: Bid, Ask, Description, Bid, Ask. Includes entries like Am Com'th P 5 3/4s '53 M&N, Amer S P S 5 3/4s 1948 M&N, Appalach Pow 5s 1941 J&D, etc.

Investment Trusts (Concluded).

Table with columns: Par, Bid, Ask, Description, Par, Bid, Ask. Includes entries like Public Service Trust Shares, Representative Trust Shares, Second Internat Sec Corp A, etc.

Public Utility Stocks.

Table with columns: Par, Description, Bid, Ask. Includes entries like Alabama Power \$7 pref., Arizona Power 7% pref., Ark Pow & Lt \$7 pref., etc.

Industrial Stocks.

Table with columns: Description, Bid, Ask. Includes entries like Adams Mills \$7 pref., Aeolian Co \$7 pref., Alpha Port Cement pf.100, etc.

Investment Trusts.

Table with columns: Description, Bid, Ask. Includes entries like A B C Trust Shares ser E, Amer Brit & Cont \$6 pref., Amer Composite Tr Shares, etc.

Telephone and Telegraph Stocks.

Table with columns: Description, Bid, Ask. Includes entries like Am Dist Tel of N J \$4, 7% preferred, Bell Tel (Can) 7% pref., etc.

Chain Store Stocks.

Table with columns: Description, Bid, Ask. Includes entries like Bohack (H C) Inc com., 7% 1st preferred, Butler (James) common, etc.

z No par value. d Last reported marked. e Ex-stock dividend. z Dividend. y Ex-rights.

Quotations for Unlisted Securities—Concluded—Page 2

Sugar Stocks.

Table with columns: Par, Bid, Ask, Sugar Estates Oriente of 100, United Porto Rican com., Preferred.

Federal Land Bank Bonds.

Table with columns: 4s 1957 optional 1937, 4s 1958 optional 1938, 4 1/2s 1956 opt 1936, etc.

New York Bank Stocks.

Table with columns: Bank of Yorktown, Chase, City (National), Columbus Bank, Comm'l Nat Bank & Tr, etc.

Trust Companies.

Table with columns: Banca Comm Italiana Tr, Bank of Stelly York, Bank of New York & Tr, etc.

Chicago Bank Stocks.

Table with columns: Central Republic, Chic Bk of Commerce, Continental III Bk & Tr, etc.

Industrial and Railroad Bonds.

Table with columns: Adams Express 4s '47, American Meter 6s 1946, Amer Tobacco 4s 1951, etc.

Insurance Companies.

Table with columns: Aetna Casualty & Surety, Aetna Fire, Aetna Life, Agricultural, American Alliance, etc.

Realty, Surety and Mortgage Companies.

Table with columns: Bond & Mortgage Guar, Empire Title & Guar, Guaranty Title & Mortgage, etc.

Aeronautical Stocks.

Table with columns: Alexander Indus 4 1/2 pref, American Airports Corp, Aviation Sec of New Engl, etc.

Quotations for Other Over-the-Counter Securities

Short Term Securities.

Table with columns: Aills-Chal Mfg 5s May 1937, Alum Co of Amer 6s May '52, Amer Metal 5 1/2s 1934 A&O, etc.

Water Bonds.

Table with columns: Alton Water 5s 1956, Ark Wat 1st 5s A 1956, Ashtabula W W 5s 1958, etc.

Railroad Equipments.

Table with columns: Atlantic Coast Line 6s, Equipment 6 1/2s, Baltimore & Ohio 6s, etc.

Investment Trust Stocks and Bonds.

Table with columns: Bankers Nat Invest com, Beneficial Indus Loan pref, Colonial Investors Shares, etc.

\* No par value. aAnd dividend. d Last reported market. f Flat price. s Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights.





Latest Gross Earnings by Weeks.—We give below the latest weekly returns of earnings for all roads making such reports:

Table showing latest gross earnings by weeks for various railroads from May 3d to May 3d of the current and previous years, including inc./dec. figures.

We also give the following comparisons of the monthly totals of railroad earnings, both gross and net (the net before the deduction of taxes), both being very comprehensive. They include all the Class I roads in the country.

Table comparing monthly gross earnings and length of road for 1931 and 1930, including monthly totals for 1931.

Table comparing monthly net earnings and inc./dec. for 1931 and 1930, including monthly totals for 1931.

Net Earnings Monthly to Latest Dates.

Large table detailing net earnings monthly to latest dates for various railroads (Akron Canton & Youngstown, Ann Arbor, Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe, etc.), showing 1931 and 1930 data and percentage change.

Canadian National System—

Table for Canadian National System showing Canadian Nat Lines in New England with 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Central RR. of New Jersey—

Table for Central RR. of New Jersey showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Chicago Burlington & Quincy—

Table for Chicago Burlington & Quincy showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Chicago Great Western—

Table for Chicago Great Western showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Chicago Milwaukee St. Paul & Pacific—

Table for Chicago Milwaukee St. Paul & Pacific showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Chicago & North Western—

Table for Chicago & North Western showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Colorado & Southern—

Table for Colorado & Southern showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Delaware & Hudson—

Table for Delaware & Hudson showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Delaware Lackawanna & Western—

Table for Delaware Lackawanna & Western showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Detroit Toledo & Ironton—

Table for Detroit Toledo & Ironton showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Detroit & Toledo Shore Line—

Table for Detroit & Toledo Shore Line showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Florida East Coast—

Table for Florida East Coast showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Galveston Wharf—

Table for Galveston Wharf showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Grand Trunk Western—

Table for Grand Trunk Western showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

Great Northern Ry—

Table for Great Northern Ry showing 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 data.

International-Great Northern—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Kansas City Southern System—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Lake Terminal—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Lehigh Valley—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Louisiana & Arkansas—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after taxes, From Jan. 1—)

Minneapolis & St Louis—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Minn St Paul & Sault Ste Marie—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Missouri-Kansas-Texas—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Missouri Pacific—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Mobile & Ohio—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

New York Central System—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Pittsburgh & Lake Erie—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

New York Chicago & St Louis—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

New York Ontario & Western—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Northern Pacific—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Pennsylvania System—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Peoria & Pekin Union—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Pere Marquette—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Reading Co—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Rutland—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Staten Island Rapid Transit—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Seaboard Air Line—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Southern Pacific System—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Southern Ry Co—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Alabama Great Southern—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Cin New Orleans & Texas Pacific—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Georgia Southern & Florida—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

New Orleans & Northeastern—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Northern Alabama—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Texas & Pacific—

Table with 4 columns (1931, 1930, 1929) and 4 rows (Gross from railway, Net from railway, Net after rents, From Jan. 1—)

Table containing financial reports for Union Pacific System, Union RR (Pennsylvania), Virginian, Wabash, Western Maryland, Western Pacific, and Wheeling & Lake Erie. Columns show years 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929 with various revenue and expense items.

Other Monthly Steam Railroad Reports.—In the following we show the monthly reports of STEAM railroad companies received this week as issued by the companies themselves, where they embrace more facts than are required in the reports to the Inter-State Commerce Commission, such as fixed charges, &c., or where they differ in some other respect from the reports of the Commission.

Ann Arbor RR. Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929, including operating revenues, expenses, and net income.

(The) Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Ry. System. (Includes the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Ry., Gulf Colorado & Santa Ry., Panhandle & Santa Fe Ry.)

Table for Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Ry. System showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Boston & Maine RR. Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Table for Boston & Maine RR. showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Canadian National Rys. Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Table for Canadian National Rys. showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Erie Railroad Co. (Including Chicago & Erie RR. Co.) Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Gulf Coast Lines. Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

International Rys. of Central America. Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Maine Central RR. Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Missouri-Kansas-Texas Lines. Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

New York New Haven & Hartford RR. Co. Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

New York Ontario & Western Ry. Co. Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Norfolk & Western Railway Co. Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.

Table showing financial data for 1932, 1931, 1930, and 1929.



Brazilian Traction, Light & Power Co., Ltd.

Financial table for Brazilian Traction, Light & Power Co., Ltd. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

(The) Commonwealth & Southern Corp.

Financial table for (The) Commonwealth & Southern Corp. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Brunswick Terminal & Railway Securities Co.

Financial table for Brunswick Terminal & Railway Securities Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

California Water Service Co.

Financial table for California Water Service Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Consumers Power Co.

Financial table for Consumers Power Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Continental-Diamond Fibre Co.

Financial table for Continental-Diamond Fibre Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Eastern Shore Public Service Co.

Financial table for Eastern Shore Public Service Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Caterpillar Tractor Co.

Financial table for Caterpillar Tractor Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Edmonton Radial Ry.

Financial table for Edmonton Radial Ry. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Central & South West Utilities Co.

Financial table for Central & South West Utilities Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Engineers Public Service Corp.

Financial table for Engineers Public Service Corp. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Chester Water Service Co.

Financial table for Chester Water Service Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Cincinnati Advertising Products Co.

Financial table for Cincinnati Advertising Products Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Columbus, Delaware & Marion Electric Co.

Financial table for Columbus, Delaware & Marion Electric Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Commercial Credit Co.

Financial table for Commercial Credit Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

Evans Products Co.

Financial table for Evans Products Co. with columns for months and years 1931 and 1932.

General Motors Corporation.

Condensed Consolidated Income Account Three Months Ended March 31. 1932. 1931. 1930. 1929. Sales of car & truck units: Retail sales by dealers to users—U. S. 143,514 231,881 286,690 351,079...

Georgia Power Co.

(And Subsidiary Companies) (The Commonwealth & Southern Corp. System) —Month of April— 1932. 1931. 1930. 1929.

Gross earnings \$1,837,409 \$2,141,260 \$24,335,980 \$25,954,721 Operating expenses, incl. taxes and maintenance 829,995 1,024,724 11,290,218 13,035,298...

Granite City Steel Co.

Quarters Ended Mar. 31— 1932. 1931. 1930. Sales \$1,176,529 \$1,950,186 \$3,242,768 Costs, expenses, depreciation, &c. 1,223,172 1,852,078 2,920,008...

Honolulu Rapid Transit Co., Ltd.

—Month of April— 1932. 1931. 1930. Gross rev. from transp. \$75,868 \$63,280 \$305,894 \$330,835 Operating expenses 51,288 51,294 207,107 201,983...

Hudson & Manhtaan RR. Co.

—Month of April— 1932. 1931. 1930. 1929. Gross oper. revenue \$829,428 \$959,307 \$3,343,647 \$3,787,632 Operating exps. & taxes 444,918 485,937 1,806,535 1,963,031...

Illinois Water Service Co.

12 Months Ended March 31— 1932. 1931. Operating revenues \$659,040 \$671,724 Operating expenses 233,728 262,259 Maintenance 43,027 42,255 General taxes 36,759 49,618...

International Hydro-Electric System.

(And Subsidiaries.) 3 Months Ended Dec. 31— 1931. 1930. Gross earnings \$15,528,452 \$12,504,496 Other income 1,482,345 900,581...

(Byron) Jackson Co.

Quarter Ended March 31— 1932. 1931. 1930. Net loss after interest, deprec., & other reserves \$103,117 \$93,778 pf. \$200,400

Jersey Central Power & Light Co.

(And Subsidiaries) Period End. Mar. 31— 1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—12 Mos.—1931. Gross oper. revenue \$2,537,766 \$2,071,694 \$11,263,900 \$8,473,460 Avail. for interest, &c. 1,295,517 1,001,965 6,064,660 4,288,284...

Keystone Public Service Co.

(And Subsidiaries) Period End. Mar. 31— 1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—12 Mos.—1931. Gross oper. revenue \$344,802 \$370,488 \$1,305,775 \$1,416,314 Avail. for interest, &c. 219,334 229,403 785,522 826,812...

Lee Rubber & Tire Corp.

6 Mos. End. April 30— 1932. 1931. 1930. 1929. Net sales \$2,556,436 \$2,769,713 \$4,211,461 \$4,868,479 Expenses, &c. 2,545,655 2,978,034 4,269,125 4,630,934...

Loblaw Groceries, Ltd.

Period End. April 30— 1932—4 Weeks—1931. 1932—40 Weeks—1931. Sales \$1,158,512 \$1,245,511 \$14,004,152 \$15,724,235 Net profit after charges & income taxes 71,113 72,934 906,977 958,975

Metro-Goldwyn Pictures Corp.

Results 28 Wks. End.—Mar. 12'32. Mar. 13'31. Mar. 14'30. Mar. 10'29. Gross profit \$5,267,676 \$7,004,382 \$9,163,203 \$5,935,809 Operating expenses 3,303,377 3,441,581 3,654,031 3,354,824...

Municipal Service Co.

Period End. Mar. 31— 1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—12 Mos.—1931. Gross earnings of subsids. \$2,903,353 \$2,278,756 \$9,256,865 \$8,578,268 Net for retire. & stock owned by Mun. S. Co. 722,856 641,059 2,213,414 2,330,021...



(The) Orange & Rockland Electric Co.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Operating revenues, Oper. exps., inc. taxes, Depreciation, etc.

Oregon Washington Water Service Co.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Operating revenues, Operating expenses, Maintenance, etc.

Pacific Public Service Co.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Operating revenue, Operating expense, Maintenance, etc.

Park & Tilford, Inc.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Operating revenue, Operating expense, Maintenance, etc.

Parmelee Transportation Co.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Operating revenue, Operating expense, Maintenance, etc.

Pittsburgh Suburban Water Service Co.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Operating revenues, Operating expenses, Maintenance, etc.

Public Service Co. of Oklahoma.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-12 Mos., 1931. Rows include Gross oper. revenues, Avail. for interest, etc.

Ritter Dental Manufacturing Co., Inc.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1930, 1929. Rows include Net profit after taxes, Earnings per share, etc.

Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Net sales, Discount & allowances, Manufacturing cost of sales, etc.

Rochester Gas & Electric Corp.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Electric revenue, Gas revenue, Steam heating revenue, etc.

Rochester & Lake Ontario Water Service Co.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Operating revenues, Operating expenses, Maintenance, etc.

San Diego Consolidated Gas & Electric Co.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Gross earnings, Net earnings, Other income, etc.

Southern California Edison Co., Ltd.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Gross earnings, Expenses, Taxes, etc.

(The) Tennessee Electric Power Co.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Gross earnings, Oper. exps., Gross income, etc.

Tide Water Power Co.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-12 Mos., 1931. Rows include Gross operating revenues, Avail. for interest, etc.

Union Water Service Co.

Table with 5 columns: Item, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Gross revenues, Operating expenses, Maintenance, etc.







## General Corporate and Investment News.

## STEAM RAILROADS.

**Cotton Rates Cut 20% for 2 Months.**—Southern railroads have been authorized by the I.-S. C. Commission to make a maximum reduction of 20% in rates on cotton from Mississippi River territory to and from points in Southeastern and Carolina arteries, including Gulf and South Atlantic ports, Ohio River crossings and southern Virginia destinations. "Wall Street Journal" May 21, p. 8.

**Trainsmen's Leader Asks 6-Hour Day.**—The 6-hour day for railroad workers was urged by A. F. Whitney, President of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, in testimony before the I.-S. C. Commission as a step toward economic recovery. N. Y. "Times" May 25, p. 21.

**Matters Covered in the Chronicle of May 21.**—(a) Railroad Credit Corp. able to meet interest obligations to July 1, according to President Buckland—But receipts are falling—Estimates surcharge for this year at \$60,000,000 and needs at \$100,000,000, p. 3757; (b) Additional loans of \$58,966,376 to railroads from Reconstruction Finance Corp. approved by I.-S. C. Commission—Loans aggregating \$1,340,000 to four roads denied—Further applications totaling \$14,207,271 filed, p. 3759; (c) I.-S. C. Commission calls for report from railroads as to salaries of \$10,000 or more a year, p. 3763; (d) Loan of \$27,500,000 to the Pennsylvania RR. from the Reconstruction Finance Corp. approved by the I.-S. C. Commission, p. 3762; (e) Legislation to place railroad holding companies under jurisdiction of I.-S. C. Commission recommended in report of House Committee—Also approved by Senate Committee—Repeat recommended of recapture clause, p. 3763; (f) "Railway Age" on train speeds and employees' hours and wages, p. 3764.

**More Freight Cars in Need of Repairs.**—Class I railroads on May 1 had 218,303 freight cars in need of repair, or 10.1% of the number on line, according to the car service division of the American Railway Association. This was an increase of 9,031 cars above the number in need of repair on April 1, at which time there were 209,272, or 9.7%. Freight cars in need of heavy repairs on May 1 totaled 154,855, or 7.2%, an increase of 5,544 cars compared with the number on April 1, while freight cars in need of light repairs totaled 63,448, or 2.9%, an increase of 3,487 compared with April 1.

**Locomotives in Need of Repairs Increase.**—Class I railroads of this country on May 1 had 7,851 locomotives in need of classified repairs, or 15% of the number on line, according to reports just filed by the carriers with the car service division of the American Railway Association. This was an increase of 209 compared with the number in need of such repairs on April 1, at which time there were 7,642 locomotives, or 14.5%. Class I railroads on May 1 had 10,731 serviceable locomotives in storage compared with 10,193 on April 1.

**Alton RR.—Reconstruction Finance Corporation Loan of \$2,500,000 Approved.**—See under "Current Events" on a preceding page.—V. 134, p. 1364.

**Atlantic Coast Line Co.—Dividend Omitted.**—The directors on May 24 voted to omit the quarterly dividend ordinarily payable about June 10 on the outstanding \$11,760,000 capital stock, par \$50. Quarterly distributions of 2% (\$1 per share) were made on March 10 last and on Dec. 10 1931 as compared with 3½% on Sept. 10 1931, and 5% each quarter from 1926 to and incl. June 10 1931. In addition, extras were paid as follows: 2% in 1926 and 4% each in 1927 and 1928.—V. 133, p. 3626.

**Baltimore & Ohio RR.—Completes Arrangements to Refinance Maturing Notes.**—

The company has completed the necessary arrangements to refinance \$17,500,000 of its \$35,000,000 notes maturing Aug. 10 1932, without further assistance from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, other than the loan from that corporation of \$25,500,000 which will enable the company to pay the balance of these notes (\$17,500,000) and \$8,000,000 of secured notes, payment of which latter was made on the 25th instant.

The holders of the notes maturing Aug. 10 1932, will receive for the one-half of their notes not to be repaid in cash at maturity, new 6% secured notes due Aug. 10 1934, in the aggregate amount of \$17,500,000. The bankers who carried through the arrangements were Kuhn, Loeb & Co., Speyer & Co., and the National City Co., none of whom made any charge for their services.

In its decision under date of May 16 1932, the I.-S. C. Commission stated that "the \$8,000,000 of one-year secured notes maturing May 25 1932, were issued in large denominations, drawn to the applicant's own order and endorsed in blank are held chiefly by bankers and financial institutions which largely participated in the financing of this issue in May 1931. These same interests are also important holders of the \$35,000,000 of unsecured notes maturing in August. The active participation of this banking group and the co-operation of the note holders generally have made practicable the refinancing of these important maturities on the basis proposed."

Bank of Manhattan Trust Co. has been appointed trustee for the issue of \$17,500,000 secured gold notes due Aug. 10 1934.—V. 134, p. 3878.

**Carlton & Coast RR.—Seeks Reconstruction Finance Corporation Loan of \$981,000.**—See under "Current Events" on a preceding page.—V. 123, p. 838.

**Chicago Rock Island & Gulf Ry.—Bonds Authorized.**—The I.-S. C. Commission on May 21 authorized the company to issue \$1,305,000 of extension first-mortgage gold bonds and \$60,000 of capital stock (par \$100), the bonds and stock to be delivered to the Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Ry. at par in payment of an equal amount of advances made by that company for construction.—V. 130, p. 3874.

**Chicago & Western Indiana RR.—Bonds Authorized.**—The I.-S. C. Commission on May 21 authorized the company to issue \$1,000,000 1st & ref. mtge. gold bonds, series B, in reimbursement for capital expenditures, the bonds to be pledged as collateral security for short-term notes.—V. 134, p. 2901.

**Cincinnati Union Terminal Co.—Securities Authorized.**—The I.-S. C. Commission on May 17 authorized the company to issue and reissue to July 1 1933, not exceeding \$5,000,000 of short-term promissory notes, the proceeds to be used for the construction of its terminal.—V. 134, p. 3452.

**Consolidated Railroads of Cuba.—No Dividend Action.**—The directors at their scheduled meeting held on May 18 took no action on the quarterly dividend due July 1 on the 6% cum. pref. stock, par \$100. It was stated, however, that action may be taken at a special meeting to be called for that purpose prior to July 1 1932.

On April 1 last a distribution of 50 cents per share was made on the above issue, prior to which regular quarterly dividends of \$1.50 per share were paid.—V. 134, p. 1755.

**Cuba RR.—Defers Dividend Action.**—

No action was taken on the quarterly dividend due Aug. 1 next on the 6% non-cum. pref. stock, par \$100, at the regular meeting of the board which was held on May 18. This question will again come up at a special meeting to be called for that purpose on or before Aug. 1.

The last regular quarterly payment of 1½% was made on this issue on May 2 1932.—V. 134, p. 1755.

**Denver & Rio Grande Western RR.—Assumption of Obligation and Liability.**—

The I.-S. C. Commission on May 18 authorized the company to issue and assume obligation and liability in respect of \$1,445,000 of Denver & Rio Grande RR. 1st consol. mtge. 4% bonds, \$662,000 thereof to be pledged with the Railroad Credit Corporation as security for a proposed loan of \$500,000; \$10,000 of Rio Grande Western Ry. 1st trust mtge. 4%

bonds, and \$1,395,000 of Rio Grande Western Ry. 1st consol. mtge. 4% bonds.

The report of the Commission says in part:

The Denver & Rio Grande Western RR. Co., a common carrier by railroad engaged in inter-State commerce, has duly applied for authority under Section 20A of the Inter-State Commerce Act to issue and assume obligation and liability in respect of various bonds, as hereinafter set forth, aggregating \$2,850,000, of which \$662,000 is proposed to be pledged as collateral security for a proposed loan of \$500,000 from the Railroad Credit Corporation. No objection to the granting of the application has been presented to us.

We approved a loan for \$2,500,000 by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to the applicant, \$500,000 to be made for one year from April 1 1932 and \$2,000,000 for a period not exceeding three years from the making of the several parts of the loan. Our certificate approving the loan provided that the funds be made available in installments of \$750,000 on or before April 1 1932, \$750,000 on or before July 1 1932, and \$1,000,000 on or before July 31 1932. Our approval of the loan was subject to the condition that the applicant should pledge, among other securities, the following bonds, then in its treasury, as collateral for the loan: \$1,445,000 Denver & Rio Grande RR. 1st consol. mtge. 4% bonds; \$10,000 Rio Grande Western Ry. 1st trust mtge. 4% bonds, and \$1,395,000 Rio Grande Western Ry. 1st consol. mtge. 4% bonds.

It appears that the applicant also made application to the Railroad Credit Corporation for a loan of \$500,000, which has been approved by the board of directors of that Corporation for a term of one year from April 1 1932, the loan to be made when funds become available upon the condition that there be pledged as collateral \$662,000 of Denver & Rio Grande RR. 1st consol. mtge. 4% bonds, which constitute a portion of the bonds required to be pledged with the Finance Corporation. It is one of the conditions of our certificate that, on the order of the applicant, these bonds be surrendered to the Credit Corporation upon the repayment by that Corporation of \$500,000 of the loan made by the Finance Corporation.

The applicant has given two notes dated March 29 1932 in favor of the Finance Corporation, one of which is for \$500,000, payable one year from date and secured by the pledge of \$662,000 of Denver & Rio Grande RR. 1st consol. mtge. 4% bonds. The other note is for \$250,000, payable three years after date and secured by \$783,000 of bonds of the same class and \$10,000 of Rio Grande Western Ry. 1st trust mtge. 4% bonds. The applicant has also delivered to that Corporation in connection with the first installment loan of \$750,000 an agreement that it will make application to us for full authority for the issuance, sale and negotiation (in addition to pledge of the securities given or to be given as collateral security for the loan approved by us. The applicant accordingly requests authority to assume obligation and liability in respect of the \$2,850,000 of treasury bonds offered as collateral security for the loan so that they may be pledged as proposed. The assumption of obligation and liability is to be accomplished by means of indentures between the applicant and the respective trustees under the mortgages securing the bonds, whereby the applicant assumes payment when due of the principal of and interest on the bonds. Our authorization under Section 20A of the Inter-State Commerce Act is not necessary for the pledging of securities required as collateral for loans made to carriers under the provisions of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation Act.

**Bonds Authorized.**

The I.-S. C. Commission on May 20 authorized the company to issue \$718,000 of refunding and improvement mortgage 5% gold bonds, series B, in reimbursement for capital expenditures heretofore made, to be pledged and repaid as collateral security for short-term notes.

**To Seek Extension of Time for Dotsero Construction.**—

The directors have determined to apply to the I.-S. C. Commission for a further extension of nine months for commencing construction of the Dotsero cut-off and also exercising the Commission's authority to acquire minority stock of the Denver & Salt Lake Ry. It was proposed that the application be filed immediately with the Commission.—V. 134, p. 3452.

**Florida East Coast Ry.—Payments on Equip. Trusts.**—

The receivers announce that funds are available for payments on series E, H and G equipment trust certificates. Holders of series E certificates maturing March 1 should present them to J. P. Morgan & Co. for payment. Holders of series H, due on March 1, and series G, maturing on April 1, should present them to the Bankers' Trust Co.—V. 134, p. 3451.

**Fonda Johnstown & Gloversville RR.—Wins Release of \$640,000 Tied Up by New York Bank—Can Now Use It to Buy Prior Lien Bonds.**—

The following is taken from the "Leader-Republican" of Gloversville and Johnstown, N. Y.:

The company May 20 scored a notable victory in Supreme Court before Justice C. J. Heffernan of Amsterdam, when it won the right to the use of some \$640,000 of its money which for some years past has been tied up in the vaults of the New York Trust Co.

While the money, a part of the \$1,700,000 paid by the Board of Hudson River Regulating District for condemnation of railroad lands for the Sacandaga Reservoir, has been tied up by the bank, it has drawn 1% interest. Now, the company will be able to apply the money on prior lien bonds, and it is claimed save some \$2,000 a month in interest charges.

The action has been hanging fire for some time and was started when the company formally asked the New York Trust Co. for the right to use the money which was paid there by the Hudson District Board after the condemnation award. The trust company maintained that the money was paid by the Hudson Board to the railroad company as damages and that under the law as it construed it the company could only use the money for the expansion of its line, not for general purposes.

When formal request was made for the release of the money, Attorney Leon Burke of N. Y. City, appearing for Samuel Lemler of that city, opposed the application. Lemler owns two \$2,000 bonds of the railroad company's total issue of \$7,000,000.

In its claims the railroad company declared that if the New York Trust Co. would release the \$640,000 turned over to it by the Hudson Board after the condemnation proceedings, it could be used to acquire prior lien bonds of the company and save \$2,000 per month interest. For some time the Trust company has only paid 1% on the money.

Judge Heffernan heard arguments in the case in Amsterdam May 20 and held at the conclusion of a short hearing that the railroad company had the right to use its own money and ordered release of it to buy prior lien bonds.

**Wage Reduction of 10% Accepted.**—

Albert H. Putnam, President of the Cayadutta division's local, American Electric Railwaymen's Association, has announced that the members of the union have officially accepted the 10% deduction in wages proposed by J. Ledlie Hees, President of the road.

The deduction, already in effect and retroactive to May 1, affects every employee on the pay roll of the company, both union and non-union, in both steam and electric divisions, the bus lines and the clerical staff. It also affects all executive officials of the company.—V. 134, p. 3452.

**Garyville Northern RR.—Abandonment.**—

The I.-S. C. commission on May 13 issued a certificate permitting the road (a) to abandon operation as to inter-State and foreign commerce over a railroad owned by the Lyon Lumber Co. in St. John the Baptist, Ascension and Livingston parishes, La., 16.27 miles; and (b) to abandon as to inter-State and foreign commerce its own railroad in Livingston Parish, La., 18.73 miles.—V. 122, p. 2943.

**Long Island RR.—Paid \$2,478,012 Taxes in 1931.**

Taxes of one kind or another paid by the road in 1931 amounted to \$2,478,012, according to George Le Boutillier, Vice-Pres., who declared May 25 that the company is probably the heaviest single taxpayer on Long Island.

This tax bill of nearly 2½ million dollars includes city, state, county, town, welfare, highway, health, water, light, fire, police, sanitation, sidewalk and school taxes.

Annual payments of taxes are made by the road to three cities, 12 towns and 40 incorporated villages.—V. 134, p. 3265.







On March 31 last a cash dividend of 15 cents per share was paid on the common stock as compared with distributions of 22 cents per share in previous quarters.

The corporation states that its bonded indebtedness has been reduced since Jan. 1 by \$780,000 and bank loans during the same period by \$1,325,000, leaving balance due banks as of this date \$5,077,000. Cash on hand increased during the same period approximately \$400,000 to \$1,963,000.—V. 134, p. 3457.

Lowell Electric Light Corp.—Earnings.—
Calendar Years—
Gross operating revenue
Other income
Total income
Operating expenses
Maintenance
Depreciation
Taxes
Net earnings before interest charges
Interest charges
Net earnings
Dividends paid
Balance
Refunds of overassessments of Federal income taxes for 1924 & 1925
Increase in surplus for year
Comparative Balance Sheet Dec. 31.
Assets—
Cash
Accts. & notes rec.
Materials & suppl.
Prepaid expenses
Plant & properties
Cons. work orders
In progress
Unadjusted debits
Total
Liabilities—
Accts. payable
Acct. taxes—Fed.
Consumers' depos.
Res. for deprec.
Other reserves
Contrib. for extens
Common stock
Prem. on stock
Surplus
Total

—V. 134, p. 325.

Lowell Gas Light Co.—Note Exchange Offer.—
The "Boston News Bureau" of May 26 states:
The company is offering to holders of its outstanding \$1,500,000 3% notes due June 15 1932 its new 5% notes as follows: Holders limited by law to investments maturing within one year from date thereof, an equal principal amount of 5% notes of one-year series, plus a premium of \$10 for each \$1,000 principal amount of 3% notes; to all other holders an equal amount of 3-year 5% notes plus, a premium of \$40 for each \$1,000 principal amount of 3% notes exchanged. The offer extends to the close of business on June 8.
Approximately 98% of Lowell Gas Light Co. capital stock is owned by American Commonwealths Power Associates and the latter owes a substantial amount to Lowell Gas. At or before consummation of this exchange offer and as a condition thereof, the two companies will enter into an agreement whereby dividends received on Lowell Gas stock by American Commonwealths will be applied to the payment of interest or the reduction of the latter's obligation to Lowell Gas. So long as any notes of the new series are outstanding Lowell Gas may not make further advances to the Associates, American Gas & Power Co. or any interests affiliated with those organizations.

For the first three months of 1932 Lowell Gas Light Co. reports operating revenues of \$209,241, against \$219,542 for the first quarter of last year. Total income before interest, &c., was \$60,931 for the initial quarter this year, against \$71,045 for the same period a year ago.—V. 133, p. 4158.

Manufacturers' Water Co., Phila.—Bonds Called.—
There have been called for payment \$30,000 of 1st mtge. 5% s. f. gold bonds, due 1939, at 101 and int. as of June 1 1932. Payment will be made at the Girard Trust Co., trustee, Philadelphia, Pa.—V. 132, p. 4761.

Massachusetts Lighting Cos.—Annual Report.—
Income Statement of Trustees Holding Company.
Calendar Years—
Total income
Expenses, taxes, inc., &c.
Balance
Consolidated Operating Accounts of Companies Whose Shares Are Owned by Massachusetts Lighting Companies.
Calendar Years—
Gross income
Net income after exp., deprec. & taxes, &c.
Other income
Total income
Interest charges
Dividends
Balance, surplus
Trustees' balance
Total, surplus
Mass. Light, pref. divs.
Mass. Light, com. divs.
Surplus
Shs. com. stk. outst'ng (no par)
Earnings per share
x Figured on average number of shares outstanding during the year the earnings per share amounted to \$5.67.—V. 132, p. 3335.

Memphis Power & Light Co.—Transfers \$8,200,000 from Capital to Surplus.—
The transfer of \$8,200,000 from capital to the surplus account was effected on May 19 at the annual meeting of stockholders.

The change in the balance sheet, described as a bookkeeping transfer, as suggested by the management May 9 in a letter to the stockholders. The National Power & Light Co., a subsidiary of Electric Bond & Share, owns all the 400,000 shares of common stock of the Memphis company, and dictates its operation. Preferred stock holders, with 62,000 shares have a voting strength of only 15%.

The transfer reduces the capitalization of the company from \$22,000,000 to \$14,000,000, but not the number of shares of common stock, which have no par value.

Officials of the company deny that the creation of the large surplus is for the purpose of declaring dividends for the benefit of the parent company, but contend that it is for the protection of the Memphis Power & Light Co. holdings in the Memphis Street Ry. Co., now financially embarrassed because of a decline in patronage.

As stated in the letter to the stockholders, "The directors deem it advisable to adjust the capital of your company so that such book surplus can be created against which an adjustment of the book assets on account of the condition of your company's investment of the Memphis Street Ry. Co. can be made if it seems desirable."—V. 133, p. 641.

Middle West Utilities Co.—Common Stockholders' Protective Committee.—
At the request of the holders of a substantial amount of the common stock of the company, and for the purpose of according effective representation of the stock in the equity proceedings now pending in the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of Illinois, the following have consented to act as a protective committee. Assurances received by the committee make certain the deposit of several million shares, it is said.

Committee.—Martin Lindsay, Chairman, Melvin L. Emerich, Harry C. Edmonds and Howland S. Davis. Taylor, Miller, Busch & Boyder, Counsel, 231 South La Salle St., Chicago, Ill. C. L. Becker, Sec., 134 South La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.

Depositories.—The Northern Trust Co., 50 South La Salle St., Chicago, Ill. and N. V. Het Administratiekantoor van Gebroeders Boissevain en Kerkhoven en Compagnie, Gevestigd te Amsterdam, Holland.

Receivership Widened.—
Edward N. Hurley and Charles A. McCulloch of Chicago, two of the three equity receivers appointed there for the company, were named equity receivers in New Jersey for that company May 23 on application of Walter C. Witne, representing the Lincoln Printing Co., the complainant in the original action. It was said the action was taken to protect the interests of New Jersey stockholders in four subsidiaries of the Middle West company.—V. 134, p. 3824.

Minnesota Power & Light Co.—Earnings.—
Calendar Years—
Gross earnings from oper
Oper. exps., incl. taxes
Net earns. from oper
Other income
Total income
Interest on bonds
Other int. & deductions
Balance
Divs. on pref. stock
Divs. on 2nd pref. stock
Renewal & replace. res.
Balance
Assets—
Plant & investm'ts
Cash
Notes & loans rec.
Accts. receivable
Material & suppl.
Prepaid accounts
Misc. curr. assets
Reacquired secur. (pref. stock)
Trust funds and special deposits
Unamort. debt discount & expense
Sundry debits
Total
Liabilities—
x Capital stock
Divided debt
Dividends declared
Accounts payable
Customers' dep.
Accrued accounts
Misc. curr. assets
Mat'd int. funded debt
Deferred credits
Reserves
Surplus
Total

Balance Sheet Dec. 31.
1931. 1930.
Assets— \$ \$
Plant & investm'ts 75,443,268 74,470,669
Cash 621,880 417,349
Notes & loans rec. 13,753 970,184
Accts. receivable 842,532 1,054,359
Material & suppl. 603,356 597,549
Prepaid accounts 19,037 301,087
Misc. curr. assets 6,668
Reacquired secur. (pref. stock) 446,220 324,100
Trust funds and special deposits 75,995 333,115
Unamort. debt discount & expense 1,787,424 1,838,226
Sundry debits 276,925
Total 80,137,088 80,306,638
Liabilities— \$ \$
x Capital stock 35,124,400 35,124,400
Divided debt 35,821,000 36,052,000
Dividends declared 247,725 249,990
Accounts payable 84,102 147,325
Customers' dep. 110,993 109,384
Accrued accounts 1,443,156 1,537,784
Misc. curr. assets 46,808
Mat'd int. funded debt 13,080 278,420
Deferred credits 105 978
Reserves 3,994,502 3,881,045
Surplus 3,251,213 2,925,313
Total 80,137,088 80,306,638

x Represented by—
7% preferred stock (\$100 par) 84,474 shs. 84,474 shs.
6% preferred stock (\$100 par) 1,650 shs. 1,650 shs.
\$6 preferred stock (no par) 70,126 shs. 70,126 shs.
Common stock (\$10 par) 2,000,000 shs. 2,000,000 shs.
Note.—Cash for payment included in trust funds and special deposits.—V. 132, p. 4410.

Mississippi Valley Utilities Investment Co.—Protective Committee.—
A protective committee has been organized for holders of prior preferred stocks. The committee is composed of Robert J. Thorne, Chairman; Albert D. Farwell and T. E. Quisenberry.—V. 134, p. 3650.

Municipal Service Co.—Earnings.—
For income statement for 3 and 12 months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 134, p. 2337.

National Electric Power Co.—Dividends Deferred.—
The directors on May 26 decided to defer the quarterly dividends due July 1 on the 6% and 7% cum. pref. stocks, par \$100. The dividend on the class A common stock had previously been omitted.
The last regular quarterly payments of 1 1/4% and 1 3/4%, respectively, on the 6% and 7% pref. stocks, were made on April 1 1932.—V. 134, p. 3458.

National Power & Light Co.—Earnings.—
For income statement for 12 months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.

Balance Sheet March 31.
Assets— 1932. 1931.
Investments 138,589,576 138,720,746
Cash 6,875,823 2,244,691
Bankers accept. & U. S. Govt. securities 7,675,655
State, munic. & oth. short term securities 544,241
Notes & loans receiv., subs. 3,987,000 16,092,800
Notes and loans receiv., others 71,250
Accts. rec., subs. 512,571 891,845
Accts., rec., oth. 41,821 87,160
Unamort. debt disc't & exp. 2,741,081 2,769,298
Stk. subsc. rights (contra) 125,000
Sundry debits 139,856 139,848
Total 161,178,873 161,071,389
Liabilities— 1932. 1931.
x Capital stock 125,705,714 125,665,794
Long term debt 24,500,000 24,500,000
Contractual liab 12,100 100,330
Divs. declared 419,567 419,545
Accts. payable 41,213 66,588
Accrued accts. 413,507 422,911
Stock subsc'riptions (contra) 125,000
Reserve 281,378 281,378
Surplus 9,805,394 9,489,842
Total 161,178,873 161,071,389
x Represented by: \$6 pref. stock (value in liquidation, \$100 a share), 1932, 279,711 shs.; 1931, 279,697 shs. Common stock, 1932, 5,450,181 shs.; 1931, 5,448,469 shs.—V. 134, p. 2906.

National Public Service Co.—Dividends Deferred, &c.—
The directors on May 26 voted to defer the regular quarterly dividends of 87 1/2 cents per share due June 1 on the \$3.50 cum. conv. pref. stock, no par value, and of \$1.75 per share due July 1 on the 7% cum. series A pref. stock, par \$100, and to omit the quarterly dividends of 40 cents per share due June 15 on the \$1.60 class A common stock, no par value, and of 40 cents per share ordinarily paid about June 1 on the class B common stock, no par value. Dividends are cum. at the rate of \$1.60 per share per annum on the class A stock to the extent earned in any calendar year.
On March 1 last, quarterly distributions of 87 1/2 cents and 40 cents per share, respectively, were made on the \$3.50 pref. and class B stocks, while on March 15 a quarterly dividend of 40 cents per share was paid on the class A stock. The last regular quarterly payment of \$1.75 per share on the 7% pref. stock was made on April 1 1932.—V. 134, p. 3824.

Nebraska Power Co.—Earnings.—
Calendar Years—
Operating revenues
Operating expenses, including taxes
Rent for leased property
Balance
Other income
Gross corporate income
Interest on long term debt
Other interest & deductions
Balance
Dividends on preferred stock
Retirement deprec. res. appropriation
Balance

Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1931 and 1930, and rows for Assets (Plant & Investm'ts, Cash, Time deposit, etc.) and Liabilities (Capital stock, Long term debt, etc.).

Total... 38,520,024 33,162,922
\* Represented by...
Preferred stock (7%) (par value \$100)...

Nelsonville Athens Electric Ry.—Seeks Reconstruction
Finance Corporation Loan of \$115,000.—See under "Current Events" on a preceding page.

New York & Richmond Gas Co.—Earnings.—
For income statement for three months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 134, p. 2719.

New York Water Service Corp. (& Subs.).—Earnings.—
For income statement for 12 months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.

Comparative Balance Sheet.

Table with columns for Mar. 31 '32, Dec. 31 '31, and rows for Assets (Plant, property, equipment, etc.) and Liabilities (Funded debt, Consumers' dep., etc.).

Total... 31,946,392 31,790,293
\* Including unamortized debt discount and expenses and commission on capital stock...

North American Co. (& Subs.).—Balance Sheet March 31.

Table with columns for 1932 and 1931, and rows for Assets (Prop. & plant, Cash & secs., etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

Total... 878,346,821 860,002,203
a Includes 16,817 shares of common stock of the North American Co. (represented in part by shares of the April 1 1932 dividend stock) acquired on balance by a sub. which purchases and sells div. stock and scrip for stockholders...

North American Edison Co.—Balance Sheet March 31.—

Table with columns for 1932 and 1931, and rows for Assets (Prop. & plant, Cash & securities, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

Total... 603,565,175 595,710,421
a Represented by 367,660 no par shares. b Represented by 470,000 no par shares.—V. 134, p. 3636.

Northeastern Public Service Co.—Earnings.—
For income statement for three and nine months ended March 31 1932 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 134, p. 3272.

Northwestern Public Service Co.—Earnings.—
For income statement for three and twelve months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 134, p. 2908.

Ohio Electric Power Co.—Earnings.—
For income statement for three and twelve months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 134, p. 3273.

Ohio Water Service Co.—Earnings.—
For income statement for 12 months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.

Comparative Balance Sheet.

Table with columns for Mar. 31 '32, Dec. 31 '31, and rows for Assets (Plant, prop., eqpt., etc.) and Liabilities (1st mtg. 5% gold bonds, Misc. def. liab., etc.).

Total... \$8,012,772 \$8,025,643
\* Including unamortized debt discount and expense and commission on capital stock...

Oregon Washington Water Service Co.—Earnings.—
For income statement for 12 months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.

Comparative Balance Sheet.

Table with columns for Mar. 31 '32, Dec. 31 '31, and rows for Assets (Plant, property, equipment, etc.) and Liabilities (Funded debt, Misc. def. liab., etc.).

Total... \$5,080,428 \$5,048,469
\* Plant and property at appraised values. y Represented by 6,416 shares of \$6 cum. pref. stock (no par) and 42,500 shares of common stock (no par).—V. 134, p. 3825.

Pacific Northwest Public Service Co. (& Subs.).

Consolidated Income Account for Year Ended Dec. 31 1931.

Table with columns for 1931 and 1930, and rows for Operating revenue, Non-operating revenue, Total revenue, Operating expenses, maintenance and general taxes, Net earnings, Interest charges and divs. on pref. stocks of subsidiaries, Interest charges of Pacific Northwest Public Service Co., Net income before provisions for retirement, &c., Balance Jan. 1 1931, Total surplus, Dividends on pref. stocks of Pacific Northwest Public Ser. Co., Sundry charges and credits, Provision for retirements, Amortization of debt discount and expense.

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with columns for 1931 and 1930, and rows for Assets (Plants & franchise, Investments, Sinking funds & special depositions, etc.) and Liabilities (Preferred stock, Common stock, etc.).

Total... 126,113,076 115,759,581
—V. 134, p. 848.

Pacific Power & Light Corp.—In Liquidation.—

The New York Stock Exchange has received notice from the Southern California Edison Co., Ltd., that the Pacific Light & Power Corp., all but a few of whose outstanding shares were owned by the former company, is in process of liquidation. In the distribution of assets of Pacific corporation there has been returned to the Southern California company 457,207 shares of common stock of Southern California Edison Co., Ltd., including 456,872 shares not listed and 335 shares which were listed on the New York Stock Exchange. All of this stock so returned to the company has been cancelled, and the Pacific corporation stock, held by Southern California Edison Co., Ltd., has been returned to the Pacific Light & Power Corp. in connection with the dissolution of that company.—V. 133, p. 642.

Pacific Public Service Co.—Earnings.—

For income statement for three months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 134, p. 2721.

Peoples Gas Light & Coke Co.—Bonds Authorized.—

See Commonwealth Edison Co. above.—V. 134, p. 3098.

Pittsburgh Suburban Water Service Co.—Earnings.—

For income statement for 12 months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.

Table with columns for Mar. 31 '32, Dec. 31 '31, and rows for Assets (Plant, property, equipment, etc.) and Liabilities (Funded debt, Misc. def. liab., etc.).

Total... \$3,673,844 \$3,654,882
\* Including unamortized debt discount and expense and commission on capital stock...

Public Service Co. of Northern Illinois.—Bonds Authorized.—

See Commonwealth Edison Co. above.—V. 134, p. 3098.



Public Service Co. of Oklahoma.—Earnings.—
For income statement for three and twelve months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 134, p. 3825.

Quebec Power Co.—Earnings.—
Calendar Years—
1931. 1930. 1929. 1928.
Gross inc. fr. all sources \$3,392,826 \$3,677,103 \$3,543,795 \$3,198,487

Springfield Gas & Electric Co. (& Subs.).—Earnings.—
Calendar Years—
1931. 1930.
Gross earnings (all sources) \$1,539,524 \$1,712,410

Standard Public Service Co. (& Subs.).—Earnings.—
Calendar Years—
1931. 1930.
Gross operating revenues \$1,717,709 \$1,781,951

Balance Sheet Dec. 31.
Assets—
1931. 1930.
Cash 319,254 194,904

Net income available for dividends \$400,613 \$562,265
Preferred stock dividends 78,834 70,084

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31 1931.
Assets—
Fixed capital \$11,655,699
Investment in stock of Dominionque Water Co. 16,612

R. C. A. Communications, Inc.—Shows Profit for 1931.
The conclusion drawn by some financial writers that this corporation operated at a loss in 1931 is entirely erroneous, W. A. Winterbottom, Vice-President and General Manager, said on May 24:

Radio Corp. of America.—Dividend Action Postponed.—
The directors on May 20 decided to postpone action until June 17 on the quarterly dividend of 1 3/4% (87 1/2 cents per share) which is due in July on the series A 7% cum. pref. stock, par \$50.

Tide Water Power Co.—Earnings.—
For income statement for three and twelve months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 134, p. 3636.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(1) Trenton Passenger Railway Co., Consolidated.—An agreement dated June 1 1931, between the Trenton Street Ry. (successor to Trenton Passenger Ry. Co., Consolidated) and the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$473,000 of 1st mtg. bonds of Trenton Passenger Ry. Co., Consolidated, and the Trenton Banking Co., trustee, and other holders of the bonds who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Rochester Gas & Electric Corp.—Earnings.—
For income statement for 12 months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.

Comparative Balance Sheet.
Mar. 31 '32 Dec. 31 '31.
Assets—
Fixed capital \$74,613,318 70,659,209

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(2) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Rochester & Lake Ontario Water Service Co.—Earnings.—
For income statement for 12 months ended March 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.

Comparative Balance Sheet.
Mar. 31 '32 Dec. 31 '31.
Assets—
Plant, prop. equipmt. &c. \$5,149,742 \$5,147,216

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(3) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

South Bay Consolidated Water Co., Inc.—Bal. Sheet.—
Assets—
Mar. 31 '32 Dec. 31 '31.
Plant, prop. equipmt. \$6,345,339 \$6,338,216

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(4) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

South Bay Consolidated Water Co., Inc.—Bal. Sheet.—
Liabilities—
Mar. 31 '32 Dec. 31 '31.
Long term debt \$3,157,500 \$3,157,500

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(5) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Southern California Edison Co., Ltd.—457,207 Common Shares Canceled—Pacific Light & Power Corp. in Liquidation.—See latter corporation above.—V. 134, p. 3459.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(6) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(7) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(8) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(9) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(10) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(11) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(12) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(13) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(14) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(15) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(16) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(17) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(18) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.

Trenton Street Ry.—Extension of Two Bond Issues—
Issues in Default.—
(19) Trenton Street Ry., Consolidated Mortgage Gold Bonds and Sinking Fund.—An agreement dated Dec. 22 1931, between Trenton (N. J.) Street Ry., the United Power & Transportation Co. of Camden, N. J., owner of \$768,000 of the bonds, Trenton Transit Co., owner of \$34,000 of the bonds, Trenton Banking Co. of Trenton, N. J., trustee, and other bondholders who deposited their bonds with the trustee, has become effective.



























Segal Safety Razor Corp.

Earnings for Year Ended Dec. 31 1931.

Table showing earnings and assets for Segal Safety Razor Corp. for 1931 and 1930. Includes net earnings, depreciation, net profit, and consolidated balance sheet.

Shepard-Niles Crane & Hoist Corp.—Reduces Dividend. The directors have declared a quarterly dividend of 25c. per share on the common stock, payable June 1 to holders of record May 21.

Table showing earnings and dividends for Shepard-Niles Crane & Hoist Corp. for 1931 and 1930. Includes gross sales, operating profit, total profits, and dividends paid.

Table showing earnings and consolidated balance sheet for Signal Oil and Gas Co. (& Subs.) for 1931 and 1930. Includes gross sales, operating profit, and detailed asset and liability breakdown.

Table showing earnings and balance sheet for (Franklin) Simon & Co., Inc. for 1932 and 1931. Includes assets, liabilities, and surplus information.

Table showing earnings and balance sheet for Sisto Financial Corp. for 1931 and 1930. Includes earnings for the year ended and surplus information.

Gloss-Sheffield Steel & Iron Co.—Earnings.—

Table showing earnings for Gloss-Sheffield Steel & Iron Co. for 1931, 1930, 1929, and 1928. Includes operating profits, interest, depreciation, and net profit.

Table showing assets and liabilities for Gloss-Sheffield Steel & Iron Co. for 1931 and 1930. Includes property, securities, and various receivables.

Snider Packing Corp.—Modified Plan of Reorganization. Certain proposed modifications to the original plan of reorganization dated Jan. 2 1932, which will result in a reduction in principal amount of first mortgage bonds to be outstanding.

Table showing earnings and combined income account for Southern Pacific Golden Gate Co. for 1931 and 1930. Includes water line operations, revenues, and expenses.

Table showing earnings and combined balance sheet for Southern Pacific Golden Gate Co. for 1931 and 1930. Includes assets, liabilities, and surplus information.

Table showing earnings and balance sheet for Spencer Trask Fund, Inc. for 1931 and 1930. Includes assets, liabilities, and surplus information.



"In naming Messrs. Treanor, Van Nuys and McFie, who have accepted the invitations, I believe that the best interests of all concerned will be served. I consider their task to be a highly constructive one that will render southern California communities a civic benefit."—V. 134, p. 2740.

Stromberg-Carlson Telep. Mfg. Co. (& Subs.).—Earnings. Calendar Years— 1931. 1930. 1929. 1928. \*Net income—loss \$598,402 \$669,703 \$1,070,055 \$602,368

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31. 1931. 1930. Assets—Cash—\$481,224 \$565,802 Notes receivable—43,710 105,482

(B. F.) Sturtevant Co.—Earnings.— Calendar Years— 1931. 1930. 1929. 1928. Net sales—\$6,996,243 \$8,137,412 \$7,913,891 \$7,207,592

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31. 1931. 1930. Assets—Cash—\$713,545 \$820,260 Notes and Acceptances receivable—73,234 79,675

Submarine Signal Co.—Earnings.— (Including Submarine Signal Corp.) Consolidated Income Statement Years Ended Dec. 31. 1931. 1930. Gross income—\$349,076 \$749,062

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31. 1931. 1930. Assets—Cash—\$174,965 \$102,544 U. S. debt—202,625 275,086

Sun Realty Co., Los Angeles.—Prof. Div. Deferred.— The directors recently decided to defer the quarterly dividend due April 1 on the 7% cum. pref. stock par \$1.—V. 134, p. 2740.

Syracuse Washing Machine Corp.—Earnings.— Calendar Years— 1931. 1930. Net sales—\$6,502,373 \$6,744,709

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31. 1931. 1930. Assets—Good-will, trade-marks, &c.—\$433,114 Capital stock—1,500,000

Todd Shipyards Corp.—Dividend Halved.—The directors on May 26 declared a quarterly dividend of 25 cents per share on the outstanding capital stock no par value, payable June 20 to holders of record June 3.

Balance Sheet Dec. 31. Assets—1931. 1930. Cash—\$660,342 \$576,988 U. S. gov't. & mun. bonds—458,672

Tacony-Palmyra Bridge Co.—Earnings.— Calendar Years— 1931. 1930. Gross earnings—\$639,970 \$517,339

Balance Sheet Dec. 31. Assets—1931. 1930. Cash—\$40,515 \$23,494 Accounts receivable—14 1,094

Texas Gulf Producing Co.—Sells East Texas Holdings.— The company has consummated a deal for sale to the Tidal Oil Co. of the majority of its holdings in the East Texas field and will concentrate activities in the South Texas area where there are either no practical restrictions or only minor ones.

Thompson Products, Inc.—Defers Div. on Preferred.— The directors recently decided to defer the quarterly dividend due June 1 on the 7% cum. pref. stock, par \$100. The last regular payment of 1 1/4% was made on this issue on March 1 1932.—V. 134, p. 3473, 3294.

Thompson's Spa, Inc.—Earnings.— Calendar Years— 1931. 1930. 1929. Sales—\$3,256,929 \$3,502,283 \$3,552,178

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31. 1931. 1930. Assets—Cash—\$141,879 \$190,495 Short-term note receivable—49,502

Tobacco Products Export Corp.—Annual Report.— Company reports a net profit for the year 1931 of \$48,262, against \$49,249 in 1930. Dividends paid in 1931, \$47,232.

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31. 1931. 1930. Assets—Good-will, trade-marks, &c.—\$433,114 Capital stock—\$1,500,000

Changes in Personnel—Two Branches to Merge.— John D. Reilly, formerly Executive Vice-President, has been elected President to succeed the late William H. Todd. George Dawe has been elected Vice-President in charge of operations and J. Herbert Todd, son of William H. Todd, as Vice President and Chairman of the executive com-



mittee. Mr. Dawe is head of the Robins Dry Dock & Repair Co., and Mr. Todd is head of the Todd Dry Dock Engineering & Repair Corp., divisions of the Todd Shipyards Corp.

The executive committee of the corporation will consist of Mr. Reilly, Mr. Dawe, J. Herbert Todd and George C. Raymond, Vice-President and director of the corporation in charge of the Tietjen & Lang Dry Dock Co. of Hoboken.

Arrangements have been completed for the merger of operations of the Clinton Dry Dock and Tebo plants both of which are branches of the Todd Dry Dock Engineering & Repair Corp. It was announced.—V. 134, p. 3837.

**Tonopah Belmont Development Co.—Bal. Sheet Dec. 31.**

Table with 4 columns: Assets (1931, 1930), Liabilities (1931, 1930). Rows include Prop. accounts, Inv. in stocks of other companies, Mats. & suppl. for operation, Accts. receivable, Due fr. smelters, Due from others, Ins. prem. paid in advance, Cash, Total.

**Towle Manufacturing Co.—Balance Sheet Dec. 31.**

Table with 4 columns: Assets (1931, 1930), Liabilities (1931, 1930). Rows include Cash, Notes receivable, Accts. receivable, Deferred charges, Inventories, Investments, Real estate, mach., equipment, &c., Furniture and fixtures depreciated, Total.

**Trans-Lux Daylight Picture Screen Corp.—Report.**

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1931, 1930, 1929, 1928). Rows include Gross sales, Returns, allowances, &c, Cost of sales, Profit on sales, Rentals net, Total profit, Selling, admin., Day-lograph devel. & exper. expense, Profit from operations, Other income, Total income, Deductions from income, Net profit before Fed. taxes, Shs. cap. stk. outstanding (no par), Earnings per share.

**Comparative Balance Sheet Dec. 31.**

Table with 4 columns: Assets (1931, 1930), Liabilities (1931, 1930). Rows include Cash, Invest. in bonds, Notes receivable, Interest receivable, Accts. receivable, Inventories, Other investments, Inv. in affil. cos., Land, bldgs., ma-chines, equip., &c., Rental & install., Other equipment, Sinking fund, Deferred charges, Patents, Total.

Note.—The corporation is obligated to invest an additional \$200,000 in stock of the Trans-Lux Movie Corp., when, as and if called for.—V. 132, p. 3546.

**Traung Label & Lithograph Co.—Earnings.**

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1931, 1930, 1929, 1928). Rows include Net profit after deprec., Prov. for Federal taxes, Miscellaneous, Balance, Dividends, Balance, surplus, Earns. per sh. on 30,000 shs. class A stock, a Earnings on the class A stock on a participating basis, after allowing for participation of class B stock, were equivalent to \$1.62 per share, x Estimated.

**Balance Sheet Dec. 31 1931.**

Table with 4 columns: Assets (1931, 1930), Liabilities (1931, 1930). Rows include Cash, Notes & accounts receivable, Inventories, Land, buildings & equipment, Other assets, Deferred charges, Good-will, Total.

**257 West 39th St. Bldg. (Kemacoe Realty Corp.).—Depository.**

Empire Trust Co. has been appointed depository under deposit agreement dated May 1 1932 for first mortgage gold bonds.—V. 120, p. 2561.

**Union Carbide & Carbon Corp.—Further Reduction in Common Dividend.**

The directors on May 24 declared a quarterly dividend of 30c. per share on the outstanding no par value common stock, payable July 1 to holders of record June 3. This compares with quarterly distributions of 65c. per share made on this issue from July 1 1929 to and incl. Jan. 1 1932, and a dividend of 50c. per share paid on April 1 last.—V. 134, p. 3473.

**United Cigar Stores Co. of America.—Balance Sheet.**

Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31.

Table with 4 columns: Assets (1931, 1930), Liabilities (1931, 1930). Rows include Cash, Call loans, Time deposits, U. S. Government bonds, Marketable securities, Notes and accounts receivable, Inventory at cost, less contingent reserve for unsalable merchandise, Securities of other companies, Advances to other companies, Mortgages receivable, Deb. sg. fd. & dep. for retire. of mtgs. payable, Cash & securities held for employees' pension fund, Land and buildings, Improvements to leaseholds, less amortization, Store impts. & building construction in progress, Furniture, fixtures and equipment, Prepaid insurance, taxes, &c., Rents paid in advance, Stationery and supplies, Unamortized lease bonuses and commissions, Unamortized discount on funded debt, Good-will and leaseholds, Total.

a After deducting \$305,347 reserve for bad debts. c Owned in fee as valued by company's appraisal in 1929, plus subsequent additions at cost, less \$1,076,851 for reserve for depreciation of buildings. x Cumulative pref. stock dividends unpaid at Dec. 31 1931, 7 1/2%.

Our usual comparative income statement for the year ended Dec. 31 1931 was published in V. 134, p. 3837.

**United Dry Docks, Inc.—Earnings.**

Table with 4 columns: Period Ended Dec. 31 (1931, 1930, 10 Mos. '29). Rows include Net earnings, Interest on mtgs. and notes payable, Depreciation, Extraordinary deductions, including interest on mortgages on idle prop., Net loss, x Interest on mortgages only.

**Comparative Balance Sheet Dec. 31.**

Table with 4 columns: Assets (1931, 1930), Liabilities (1931, 1930). Rows include Cash, Irrevocable letter of credit, Notes receivable, Accts. rec. less res., Inventories, Plant, property & leaseholds, Deferred charges, Investments, Pats. & good-will, Total.

a Represented by 604,625 shares of \$5.693,556.—V. 134, p. 2548.

**United Industrial Corp.—Interest Payment.**

The Chase Harris Forbes Corp., as paying agents, announces that funds have been received to pay the June 1 1932 interest on the outstanding \$5,100,000 6% bonds due 1945.—V. 134, p. 3474.

**United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co. of Balto.—To Decrease Capitalization.**

The stockholders will vote June 6 on approving a proposal to reduce the par value of the outstanding 1,000,000 shares of capital stock from \$10 a share to \$2, the difference of \$8,000,000 to be transferred from capital account to surplus. The stockholders will vote on the change.—V. 134, p. 3837.

**United States Finishing Co.—Earnings.**

Table with 5 columns: Calendar Years (1931, 1930, 1929, 1928). Rows include Gross income, Expenses, deprec., &c., Net profit, Other income, Total income, Interest, Federal taxes, &c., Net income, Preferred dividends, Common divs. (cash), Queens Dyeing Co. pref., Balance, surplus, Shs. com. outst. (no par), Earns. per share on com., x Par value \$100, y In addition 2% in common stock (2,412 shs.) was paid on common, z In addition 3% in common stock (3,658 shs.), capitalized at \$121,933, was paid on common.

**Consolidated Balance Sheet Dec. 31.**

Table with 4 columns: Assets (1931, 1930), Liabilities (1931, 1930). Rows include Cash, Notes & accts. rec., Ins. prem. refunds, Inventories, Sinking fund, Property acct., Deferred charges, Good-will, Total.

x After depreciation. y Represented by 124,858 shares on par value.—V. 134, p. 2928.



# Reports and Documents.

PUBLISHED AS ADVERTISEMENTS

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY And Affiliated Companies

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT—FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1931

Serve a territory embracing 46 counties of northern and central California, with an aggregate area of 89,000 square miles, exceeding that of the combined States of New Hampshire, New Jersey, Vermont, Maryland, Massachusetts, Delaware, Connecticut, Rhode Island and West Virginia.

In this region, which possesses unusual climatic advantages, forest and mineral resources and opportunities for agricultural and industrial development, the Company furnishes services of the most essential nature to a rapidly growing population, now exceeding 2,760,000.

At the close of 1931, 1,267,114 customers were connected to the Company's system, being supplied with service through 34,522 miles of electric transmission and distribution lines, and 7,152 miles of gas mains.

### CITIES AND TOWNS SERVED

	Directly.		Indirectly.		Total.	
	Number.	Population.	Number.	Population.	Number.	Population.
Electricity.....	578	1,983,625	40	205,224	618	2,188,849
Gas.....	144	1,932,692	2	9,950	146	1,942,642
Water (Domestic).....	26	36,589	13	22,215	39	58,804
Railway.....	2	131,179	--	--	2	131,179
Steam Heating.....	2	1,003,000	--	--	2	1,003,000

### RECORD OF RECENT GROWTH.

Year Ended Dec. 31.	Gross Operating Revenue.	Sales of Electricity K.W.H.	Sales of Gas Cubic Feet.	Number of Consumers Dec. 31.	Number of Stockholders Dec. 31.
1921.....	\$36,939,474	1,021,821,000	11,483,551,000	598,969	18,204
1922.....	38,593,562	1,098,123,000	12,353,849,000	645,410	25,265
1923.....	39,321,535	1,199,063,000	13,674,794,000	710,034	26,294
1924.....	44,451,586	1,334,035,000	15,277,478,000	763,617	31,859
1925.....	47,729,079	1,351,798,000	16,200,951,000	813,698	34,863
1926.....	50,960,571	1,514,981,000	17,482,206,000	874,724	39,149
1927.....	57,893,181	1,657,965,000	20,214,834,000	967,717	45,068
1928.....	61,449,592	1,774,222,000	21,058,369,000	1,004,340	49,068
1929.....	64,440,588	1,948,656,000	22,041,346,000	1,038,546	61,131
1930.....	85,633,141	3,289,255,000	23,078,036,000	1,246,210	*67,430
1931.....	87,630,661	3,351,343,000	29,429,747,000	1,267,114	*84,705
<b>Gain in Ten Years.....</b>	<b>\$50,691,187</b>	<b>2,329,522,000</b>	<b>17,946,196,000</b>	<b>668,145</b>	<b>66,501</b>
<b>Increase, Per Cent.....</b>	<b>137.23%</b>	<b>227.98%</b>	<b>156.28%</b>	<b>111.55%</b>	<b>365.31%</b>

\* Excluding stockholders of affiliated companies.

San Francisco, Calif., April 1st, 1932.

To the Stockholders:

Your Directors submit herewith a report of the 1931 operations of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company and of its subsidiary and affiliated companies.

In the following consolidated income account, comparing 1931 and 1930 results, the figures for 1930 have been revised to include the operations of the Great Western Power Company of California, San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation and Midland Counties Public Service Corporation for the entire year, notwithstanding the fact that these properties were not acquired until June 1930. The inclusion in both years of substantially the same properties affords a more accurate basis of comparison. The same procedure has been followed in other sections of the report.

### CONSOLIDATED INCOME ACCOUNT.

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

	1931.	1930.	Increase.
(1) Gross Operating Revenue.....	\$87,630,661	\$85,633,141	\$1,997,520
<i>Deduct—</i>			
(2) Operating and Administrative Expenses, Taxes and Reserves for Casualties and Uncollectible Accounts.....	\$33,466,478	\$33,342,174	\$124,304
(3) Maintenance.....	4,046,367	4,212,766	*166,399
(4) Total Deductions.....	\$37,512,845	\$37,554,940	*\$42,095
(5) Net Earnings from Operation.....	50,117,816	48,078,201	2,039,615
(6) Add: Miscellaneous Income.....	906,185	870,115	36,070
(7) Total Net Income.....	\$51,024,001	\$48,948,316	\$2,075,685
(8) Bond and Other Interest.....	14,494,199	14,172,238	321,961
(9) Balance.....	\$36,529,802	\$34,776,078	\$1,753,724
(10) Bond Discount and Expense.....	873,218	897,242	*24,024
(11) Balance.....	\$35,656,584	\$33,878,836	\$1,777,748
(12) Reserve for Depreciation.....	10,865,202	9,964,963	900,239
(13) Balance.....	\$24,791,382	\$23,913,873	\$877,509
(14) Dividends on Preferred Stock.....	7,803,316	7,672,427	130,889
(15) Balance.....	\$16,988,066	\$16,241,446	\$746,620
(16) Dividends on Common Stock.....	12,198,117	11,318,242	879,875
(17) Balance.....	\$4,789,949	\$4,923,204	*\$133,255
(18) Minority Interest.....	352	12,635	*12,283
(19) Balance.....	\$4,789,597	\$4,910,569	*\$120,972

\* Decrease.

Income and Surplus Accounts and Balance Sheets, certified by Messrs. Haskins & Sells, appear on pages 27-32 of this [pamphlet] Report.

### CUSTOMERS.

At the close of 1931, 1,267,114 customers were taking service from the Company's lines, a net increase of 20,904 during the year. While this increase, as a result of subnormal building activity and of generally unfavorable economic conditions, was both proportionately and numerically smaller than during any year in the past decade, it represents, nevertheless, a substantial accession of new accounts, equivalent to adding to our distribution system the population of a fair sized city. As indicated by the following summary, the number of consumers has more than doubled in the last ten years. At the close of the year, 740,467 or 58.4% of our customers were receiving electric service, 516,169 or 40.8% were users of gas, and 10,478 or 0.8% were taking water or steam service.

### NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS.

	At December 31st.			Net Gain.	
	1931.	1930.	1921.	In 1931.	In 10 Yrs.
Gas Customers.....	516,169	506,853	297,270	9,316	218,899
Electric Customers.....	740,467	729,039	285,062	11,428	455,405
Water Customers.....	9,391	9,282	16,162	109	*6,771
Steam Customers.....	1,087	1,036	475	51	612
<b>Total Customers.....</b>	<b>1,267,114</b>	<b>1,246,210</b>	<b>598,969</b>	<b>20,904</b>	<b>668,145</b>

\*Decrease due to sale of water properties in 1927.

### NOTES ON INCOME ACCOUNT.

(1) GROSS OPERATING REVENUE—\$87,630,661:

The year 1931 continued the unbroken upward tendency of gross revenues which has characterized the Company's operations since its incorporation twenty-six years ago. The year's total gross of \$87,630,661 exceeded by \$1,997,520 that of all companies included in the present consolidated system for the full year 1930. This increase is not commensurate with the large amount of new capital invested in our properties during the past two years, nor as large as might ordinarily have been anticipated. However, in view of adverse business conditions, reflected in reduced purchasing power of the public, diminished building activity and generally lowered industrial and commercial activity, it may be regarded as satisfactory, especially when contrasted with the performance of other similar utilities in practically all sections

of the country. Substantial rate reductions, referred to elsewhere, were also an adverse factor that had to be overcome in a period when recovery of reduced gross was most difficult.

Of the total operating revenues from all sources, \$66,123,241 or 75.46% was derived from the sale of electricity, \$19,719,538 or 22.50% from gas sales, and \$1,787,882 or 2.04% from minor activities, as shown by the following comparative table:

GROSS OPERATING REVENUES BY DEPARTMENTS.

	1931.	1930.	Increase.	Per Cent of Whole Contributed by Each Department.
Electric Department.....	\$66,123,241	\$64,988,738	\$1,134,503	75.46%
Gas Department.....	19,719,538	18,721,175	998,363	22.50%
Street Railway Department	608,063	690,309	*82,246	.69%
Water and Irrigation Departments.....	575,347	562,447	12,900	.66%
Steam Sales Department.....	604,472	670,472	*66,000	.69%
Total Gross Operating Revenue.....	\$87,630,661	\$85,633,141	\$1,997,520	100.00%

\* Decrease.

Electric department gross exceeded that of the preceding year by \$1,134,503 or 1.7%. This ratio of growth closely parallels the increases of 1.9% in kilowatt hour sales of electricity and 1.6% in the number of electric customers.

These indices reveal a degree of expansion considerably less than the average of past years, but they also indicate that the effects of the prevalent depression were experienced by us in a lesser degree than by the industry as a whole, national totals showing a decline in the volume of electric energy sold of 4.3% compared with 1930.

Confronted with inevitably reduced demands for power from practically all classes of industrial users, the Company intensified its sales efforts in the more stable domestic and commercial fields, with a resultant increase of \$1,648,816 in the revenues derived from these classes of customers. Attention is directed to the table appearing on page 23, [pamphlet report] showing that in the 10-year period ended December 31 1931, the average annual usage of domestic and commercial customers increased from 510 kwh. to 975 kwh., while the revenue per kwh. decreased from 7.02 cents to 4.29 cents, or more than 63%. Rates have been steadily lowered and are to-day among the lowest in the country.

The Company's resources of electrical supply, including newly added plants, were fully utilized in 1931 to meet greatly increased demands from other utilities and irrigation districts in contiguous territory, whose resources of hydro-electric power were so seriously impaired by the shortage of water as to render them unable to meet the needs of their customers. Agricultural consumption of power for pumping purposes in irrigated areas was also stimulated by the exceptionally dry season.

Agricultural energy rates of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation and Midland Counties Public Service Corporation, subsidiary companies, were reduced 20% during the period of maximum consumption from May to August, inclusive. This reduction resulted in a reduction of gross estimated to exceed \$445,000. Lower rates accorded to other classes of electric customers of the San Joaquin and Midland Companies reduced gross revenues by an additional \$103,000, the total rate reductions in the San Joaquin Valley territory thus aggregating \$548,000.

The reduction in electric rates on the Pacific Company's system, which became effective on March 1st, 1930, and which amounted to approximately \$3,000,000 annually, also affected the comparative results for the two-year period, entailing a loss of revenue of approximately \$500,000 in the first two months of 1931 compared with the same months of 1930.

The net effect of these influences is indicated in the following summary of gross revenues derived from various classes of electric business during the past two years:

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT GROSS OPERATING REVENUE

Classification.	1931 Amount.	Increase.		Decrease.	
		Amount.	%	Amount.	%
Domestic Lighting, Heating and Cooking.....	\$19,704,680	\$935,683	4.99%	-----	-----
Commercial Lighting, Heating and Cooking.....	9,733,843	314,670	3.34%	-----	-----
Lighting of Streets and Public Buildings.....	4,991,708	398,464	8.67%	-----	-----
Agricultural Power.....	9,265,915	253,426	2.81%	-----	-----
Power Sold to Other Utilities.....	1,229,374	416,699	51.28%	-----	-----
Miscellaneous.....	248,320	17,783	7.71%	-----	-----
General Industrial Power.....	17,050,994	-----	-----	\$887,296	4.95%
Electric Railway Power.....	2,757,427	-----	-----	170,659	5.83%
Mining Power.....	1,140,972	-----	-----	144,267	11.22%
Total Sales of Electricity.....	\$66,123,241	\$1,134,503	1.75%	-----	-----

Sales of gas in 1931 amounted to \$19,719,538, and exceeded the corresponding revenue in 1930 by \$998,363, or 5.3%. Concurrently, there was an increase of 6,351,711,200 cubic feet, or 27.5% in volume of gas sales, which aggregated 29,429,747,100 cubic feet and an increase of 57% on the basis of heating value. The disparity between the ratios of growth in gas department revenues and volumetric or heat unit sales was in part occasioned by the increased volume of gas sold at wholesale rates to major industrial consumers, but is, in a larger degree, a measure of the savings accruing to our customers generally through the introduction of natural gas.

The process of substituting natural for artificial gas, which was begun in August, 1929, continued without interruption until October, 1930, by which time approximately 97% of our gas outlets were converted to the use of the new fuel. It was only during the last two months of 1931, therefore, that the results of gas department operations were on a fairly comparable basis with the preceding year.

It was estimated that the substitution of natural for manufactured gas would save our customers \$8,750,000 annually during the first year of natural gas operation. It was also estimated that a recovery period of about three years would be required. It is, therefore, interesting to observe that domestic and commercial billings for 1931 were still \$3,818,641 below 1929, when natural gas represented less than 2% of gas sales. The following table compares gross revenues from gas sales in 1931 (98.4% natural gas) against 1930 (63.6% natural gas).

GAS DEPARTMENT GROSS OPERATING REVENUE

	1931.	1930.	Increase.	Decrease.
Domestic.....	\$14,262,444	\$14,209,598	\$52,846	-----
Industrial.....	2,197,183	1,298,070	899,113	-----
Commercial and Miscellaneous.....	3,259,911	3,213,507	46,404	-----
Total.....	\$19,719,538	\$18,721,175	\$998,363	-----

Sales of steam for heating purposes decreased \$66,000. Much of this loss represents business converted to the use of natural gas. There was a decrease of \$82,246 in the gross earnings of the Company's street railway properties. Revenues derived from transportation, however, constitute less than 0.7% of gross operating revenues from all sources.

(2) OPERATING AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, TAXES AND RESERVES—\$33,466,478:

Taxes aggregated \$9,608,210, or \$407,081 more than in the preceding year. The Company's contribution to the cost of government in 1931 was equivalent to 10.9% of gross, and to 19.2% of net operating revenue.

All other operating expenses, including salaries and wages paid to the administrative and operating personnel, purchases of power and fuel, material and supplies used in operation, commercial and new business expense, rentals and similar items were \$313,497 less than in 1930. This reduction in direct operating costs was achieved notwithstanding the larger volume of business and greater utilization, due to the dry season, of the Company's fuel-burning electric generating plants.

As shown by the following summary, the proportion of gross operating revenue required for the payment of operating and administrative costs and taxes has decreased steadily from 56% in 1924 to 37% in 1931, the lowest operating ratio in the Company's history.

OPERATING AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND TAXES

Year.	Gross Operating Revenue.	Operating and Administrative Expenses and Taxes.	Per Cent of Expenses to Gross.
1924.....	\$44,451,586	\$24,867,625	56%
1925.....	47,729,079	24,785,076	52%
1926.....	50,960,571	25,560,951	50%
1927.....	57,893,181	26,295,702	45%
1928.....	61,449,592	27,126,832	44%
1929.....	64,440,588	26,721,213	41%
1930.....	85,633,141	32,194,913	38%
1931.....	87,630,661	32,288,497	37%

The operating economies introduced during recent years, including those arising out of the acquisition and consolidation of other properties, and the heavier loading of existing facilities, have enabled the Company to make repeated reductions in the rates for its services. It is conservatively estimated that the savings to our customers resulting from rate reductions during the past 10 years and from the introduction of natural gas amount to not less than \$25,000,000 annually, or approximately \$5,000,000 in excess of a year's dividends on the entire outstanding issues of \$289,418,614 of preferred and common stocks.



Its liquid position enabled the Company to take advantage of all cash discounts offered for the prompt payment of bills, and a saving of \$101,269 was effected from this source during the year.

## PLANTS AND PROPERTIES.

At the beginning of the year the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's investment in properties as carried in the item "Plants and Properties" on the consolidated balance sheet was-----\$451,637,030  
Gross expenditures for additions, betterments and improvements constructed during the year 1931-\$27,794,942  
Deduct: Charges against depreciation reserve created by annual appropriations out of operating revenues for property renewed or replaced or otherwise disposed of as being of no further service----- 7,403,220

There was added through the acquisition of two small properties Properties of Great Western Power Company of California, San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, Midland Counties Public Service Corporation and subsidiary companies at December 31 1931, included in the consolidated balance sheet 181,502,571  
Total plants and properties as shown by the consolidated balance sheet December 31, 1931-----\$653,837,112

Gross construction expenditures on the consolidated system in 1931 were \$27,794,942. This outlay for additions and betterments, while less than in the two preceding years, was nevertheless a substantial factor in stabilizing employment in the Company's territory, an average of 5,264 employees having been continuously engaged on construction work during the year, exclusive of the regular operating forces.

The Salt Springs dam on the Mokelumne River, which had been under construction for four years, was completed, as was the installation of additional hydro-electric generating units aggregating 95,000 horsepower capacity in connection with this project. The extension of the 220,000 volt lines connecting the Mokelumne development with other branches of the Company's high tension electric transmission system and with the Newark substation, and the enlargement of the latter to care for greatly increased volume of electric energy handled through this station, one of the largest in the world, also reached completion during the year. Station "A," the Company's major steam electric generating plant in San Francisco, the reconstruction of which was begun in 1929, was also completed with the installation during 1931 of two new turbines, each with a rated capacity of 70,000 horsepower.

These construction activities closed for the immediate present a major program of additions to both hydro and steam electric generating capacity, and other facilities to provide for the growth of the business and the better coordination of the various units of the system. The completion of the new installations on the Mokelumne system and in Station "A" synchronized almost ideally with the period when added capacity became essential to supplement the diminished supply of hydro-electric energy occasioned by one of the driest seasons ever experienced in the State, and the additional units were operated almost at peak capacity until the winter rains relieved the water shortage.

There were no new projects of prime importance in the gas department, construction activities being practically confined to the enlargement or replacement of portions of the transmission and distribution system to provide for the more extensive use of natural gas.

Aside from the more or less routine extensions or improvements which are continuously required to meet the demands of the service, both gas and electric departments are now provided with sufficient facilities for present needs. Other projects of a substantial character are planned to provide for future business expansion, but the Company's construction program during 1932 is sufficiently flexible to permit of its adaption to the trend of business development.

Two relatively small gas distribution systems operating in the towns of Turlock and Madera were purchased in June, 1931.

A summary of annual plant additions since the Company's organization follows:

## SUMMARY OF ADDITIONS TO PLANT ACCOUNT.

Year.	Construction.	Other Properties Acquired.	Total.
1906	\$3,860,244	\$13,820,125	\$17,680,369
1907	3,674,475	47,861	3,722,336
1908	2,099,997	-	2,099,997
1909	1,746,706	90,632	1,837,338
1910	2,879,159	593,766	3,472,925
1911	2,248,521	4,768,950	7,017,471
1912	7,495,764	404,285	7,900,049
1913	7,406,416	389,208	7,795,624
1914	2,733,949	4,182	2,738,131
1915	2,089,447	120,478	2,209,925
1916	3,658,426	12,681	3,671,107
1917	2,781,530	1,797,062	4,578,592
1918	1,818,704	*6,406	1,825,110
1919	3,181,909	11,556,299	14,738,208
1920	10,600,209	1,211	10,601,420
1921	18,040,061	333	18,040,394
1922	16,422,278	1,132,582	17,554,860
1923	17,044,713	1,724,585	18,769,298
1924	29,937,668	220,408	30,158,076
1925	24,607,648	29,769	24,637,417
1926	15,793,347	1,692,084	17,485,431
1927	12,587,531	**3,453,736	9,133,795
1928	13,453,358	61,697,633	75,150,991
1929	31,565,304	136,647	31,701,951
1930	38,870,642	5,478,551	44,349,193
1931	20,391,722	305,789	20,697,511
Plants and properties of affiliated companies at December 31, 1931 included in the consolidated balance sheet	-----	181,502,571	181,502,571
Total	\$296,989,728	\$284,067,550	\$581,057,278

\*Decrease. \*\*After deducting water and telephone properties sold.

The adequacy of public utility regulation, with respect particularly to the issuance of securities, property acquisitions, valuations, and rates, is a subject which has received increasing attention during recent years. It is, therefore, of importance to holders of our securities, as well as to our customers, to observe that this Company has during the past twenty years been subject to regulation as to each of these essential phases of public utility operation by the Railroad Commission of the State of California. Every dollar of the approximately \$297,000,000 of construction shown in the foregoing tabulation represents money actually expended in building additions and betterments to the system; and the addition of acquired properties, which represent an aggregate investment of \$284,000,000, has resulted in almost every instance in a substantial reduction of outstanding capitalization as compared with that of the companies so acquired. Of the total of \$581,057,278 added to plant account in the twenty-six years since the Company's incorporation, approximately \$545,000,000, or 83% of the present book value of its total investment in fixed capital, represents properties constructed or acquired under the Commission's authorization.

## CAPITALIZATION.

At the close of 1931 the total par value of all securities of the Company and its subsidiary and affiliated corporations held by the public aggregated \$598,390,816. Of this amount bonds represented \$308,755,400 or 51.6%, the ratio of mortgage debt to total capitalization being the smallest in the Company's history. Preferred stocks, including stock subscribed but not yet fully paid, amounted to \$133,512,257, and common stock \$156,123,159, representing respectively 22.3% and 26.1% of all outstanding securities.

The proportion of total capitalization represented by these various classes of issues indicate the conservatism of the present capital structure, particularly with regard to the low ratio of senior obligations, enabling the Company to secure additional capital funds, which may be required for future expansion from the sale of either bonds, preferred stock or common stock, as the judgment of the management and the condition of the general financial markets of the country may indicate to be most expedient.

## SUMMARY OF OUTSTANDING CAPITALIZATION.

	Amount Outstanding.	Proportion of Total Capitalization.	
		1931.	1930.
Bonds of P. G. & E. Company and Subsidiary Companies	\$232,383,900	51.6%	53.3%
Bonds of Affiliated Companies	76,371,500		
Preferred Stocks of P. G. & E. Company	\$114,505,657	22.3%	22.4%
Preferred Stocks of Affiliated Companies	19,002,600		
Preferred Stock of Companies in Process of Dissolution	4,000	26.1%	24.3%
Common Stock of P. G. & E. Company	\$155,906,357		
Common Stock of Affiliated Companies	216,802		
Total Capitalization in Hands of Public	\$598,390,816	100.0%	100.0%

## FUNDED DEBT.

In January, 1931, an issue of \$25,000,000 par value of First and Refunding Mortgage Series "F" 4½% Bonds, maturing June 1, 1960, was sold at a price which yielded to the Company additional money at the lowest cost at which new capital has been secured since its organization. The proceeds of this issue, and of an issue of \$25,000,000 par value of 4½% bonds sold in August, 1930, on almost as favorable terms, were used primarily to complete the program of bond retirements undertaken in 1930, as a result of which, during the past two years, sixteen bond issues of the Company and its subsidiaries with an aggregate par value of \$34,689,300 were retired at maturity or called for prior redemption, considerably simplifying the financial structure and permitting of substantial savings in annual fixed charges. Of the bonds so retired, eleven issues aggregating \$19,831,800 par value bore a 6% coupon rate, two issues aggregating \$13,087,000 bore a 5½% coupon rate, and three issues aggregating \$1,770,500 carried a 5% rate.

There was a net decrease in funded debt during 1931 of \$2,169,700.

## PREFERRED STOCK.

In conformity with its long established policy of maintaining the utmost simplicity of corporate structure, and of securing direct ownership of controlled properties, the Company early in 1931 offered to the preferred stockholders of the Great Western Power Company of California and of the Feather River Power Company (a subsidiary of the former) the right to exchange their holdings for its own preferred shares on the following basis:

For each \$100 share of 6% and 7% preferred stocks of the Great Western Company, two \$25 shares of the 6% preferred stock and two \$25 shares of the 5½% preferred stock of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

For each \$100 share of the Class "A" 7% preferred stock of the Feather River Company, four \$25 shares of the 5½% preferred stock of the Pacific Company.

CONSTRUCTION.

As a result of these offers, \$17,540,000 par value, or upwards of 98.4% of the Great Western Company's preferred stock and \$646,500, or 65.6% of the Feather River Company's stock, had been exchanged for that of the parent company by the close of the year. The small remaining balance of outstanding Class "A" 7% preferred stock of the latter company was called for redemption at its par value on December 31, 1931. Liquidation proceedings directed toward the final winding up of the affairs of these companies will be instituted in the near future.

During 1931, \$3,282,000 par value of first preferred 5½% stock was sold direct to the local public at an average net price of \$24.98 per share, 3,556 subscriptions being received, or an average of 37 shares per subscriber.

At the close of the year \$114,505,657 par value of the Company's preferred stock was outstanding in the hands of 53,865 investors, of whom 47,741, or 88.6% were residents of California. Preferred stocks of subsidiaries aggregating \$19,006,600 were also held by the public, a reduction of \$18,399,100 compared with the preceding year.

COMMON STOCK.

In response to its Par Offering No. 6 made to holders of common stock of record on January 26, 1931, subscriptions were received for \$14,158,275 par value of common stock, or 99.81% of the total offering. As indicated by the following summary, there has been a consistent increase in the proportion of stock subscribed under each of these Par Offerings, reflecting apparently a clearer comprehension on the part of our stockholders of the nature and value of these periodical subscription privileges.

Par Offering Number.	Record Date.	Per Cent of Offering Subscribed.
1-----	Feb. 23, 1926	98.32
2-----	Jan. 26, 1927	98.72
3-----	Feb. 17, 1928	99.52
4-----	Feb. 8, 1929	99.70
5-----	Sept. 25, 1929	99.70
6-----	Jan. 26, 1931	99.81

At the close of 1931, the Company's common stock was held by 30,840 investors, or 3,753 more than at December 31, 1930. The steady decrease in the floating supply of common stock, which has been noticeable for many years, continued during 1931, only 3.2% of the entire outstanding issue being held in brokers' names at the close of the year.

DISTRIBUTION OF STOCK OWNERSHIP.

The Company's preferred and common shares at December 31, 1931, were held by 84,705 investors. The outstanding shares of San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation were held by 9,317 investors, bringing the system total up to 94,022.

The following summary shows the distribution of ownership of the Pacific Company's shares at December 31, 1931, an aggregate of 70,456 investors, or 83.1% of the total, owning blocks of 100 shares or less:

SUMMARY SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF STOCK.

Size of Holdings.	No. of Stockholders.			Per Cent of All Holders
	Pre-ferred.	Com-mon.	Total.	
Stockholders owning or subscribing for:				
1 to 5 shares of the par value of \$25.	6,277	3,836	10,113	11.9%
6 to 10 shares of the par value of \$25.	7,161	3,871	11,032	13.0%
11 to 100 shares of the par value of \$25.	31,394	17,917	49,311	58.2%
101 to 1,000 shares of the par value of \$25.	8,720	4,802	13,522	16.0%
Over 1,000 shares of the par value of \$25.	313	414	727	.9%
Total-----	53,865	30,840	84,705	100.0%

California stockholders number 68,410, or 80.8% of the above total, the relative proportion of local stockholders remaining the same as in 1930. The Company's stock registers included the names of 35,062 women, 31,013 men, 15,685 joint tenancies (usually husband and wife) and 2,945 insurance companies, banks, associations and other institutional investors.

REMOVAL OF STOCKHOLDERS' CONSTITUTIONAL LIABILITY.

For many years the constitution of the State of California contained a section providing, in effect that each stockholder of a California corporation was individually and personally liable for such proportion of its debts and liabilities incurred during the time he was a stockholder as the amount of stock owned by him bore to the entire subscribed capital stock of the corporation. A similar provision was also contained in the California civil code.

The sections of the State constitution providing for the individual liability of stockholders were repealed by an amendment adopted by the people of the State in November, 1930, and a bill was passed by the State legislature which, effective August 15, 1931, also repealed the provisions of the California civil code with respect to this proportional liability.

REPORT OF FIRST VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER.

Matters relating to the construction and operating departments are more fully dealt with in the following abstract of report by Mr. P. M. Downing, First Vice President and General Manager:

The Company's construction activities during 1931 were devoted primarily to the completion of work which was already in progress at the beginning of the year. On the Mokelumne River project the Salt Springs power house, immediately below the Salt Springs dam, was finished, together with the installation of an electric generating unit of 14,745 horsepower capacity. This plant was placed in operation on June 15, 1931. Provision has been made for the installation of an additional unit of approximately 40,000 horsepower capacity when needed.

At Tiger Creek, approximately twenty miles down stream from the Salt Springs dam, a second power house was erected housing two generators, each of 40,215 horsepower capacity. This plant was put on the line on June 28, 1931.

The delivery of power from these two plants to load centers required the construction of 16½ miles of 110,000 volt snow type tower lines between the two plants; and 16 miles of snow type tower construction to Mokelumne Hill and 92 miles of tower line to Newark substation of 220,000 volt capacity.

At Station "A," San Francisco, the largest steam electric generating plant on the system, the installation of two new generating units with an aggregate capacity of 134,048 horsepower was completed, the first of these units being placed in operation on February 8th, and the second on June 18th, 1931. The addition of these modern high pressure turbines resulted in increasing the capacity of Station "A" to 174,264 horsepower.

The construction program of the gas department consisted of extensions, replacements and improvements to existing transmission and distribution systems. A 26-inch high pressure main was constructed from the Potrero gas works in San Francisco to the San Mateo County line. The further extension of this main to connect with the gas intake station at Milpitas will probably be completed before next winter. Milpitas is the junction point near the southern extremity of San Francisco Bay, at which converge the Company's main trunk line from the Kettleman Hills and a branch line connecting at Tracy with the Standard-Pacific gas main from the Kettleman gas fields to Richmond. The completion of the new main will furnish San Francisco with a double source of gas supply from Milpitas.

New business offices and other facilities of modern type were constructed at various points on the Company's system. Our construction program in 1931 involved the expenditure of approximately \$27,800,000 and afforded continuous employment to an average of more than 5,200 men, with an aggregate payroll exceeding \$9,600,000.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS.

The year 1931 was abnormally dry and many streams established new minimum flow records. The resultant deficiency in available water supply necessitated withdrawals from storage reservoirs earlier than usual. The situation during the summer and fall months was further aggravated by the fact that the Hetch Hetchy power plant of the City and County of San Francisco, the entire output of which is absorbed by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, practically ceased all power deliveries early in September, 1931; and the Merced Irrigation District, which normally supplies considerable power to the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, had little or no available energy for sale after July 1st. Other utilities were also unable to supply needs of their customers, and the Company found itself in the position of assuming not only the burden of its own hydro electric deficiency, but also that of other utilities and irrigation districts in the northern and central part of California and in sections of the neighboring State of Nevada.

Evidence of a deficient water supply becoming apparent early in the year, the installation of the second generator in Station "A," San Francisco, and the construction of the new power houses at Salt Springs and Tiger Creek were rushed to completion as rapidly as possible. These new units, together with the turbine which was placed in operation in the San Francisco steam plant on February 8th, resulted in the addition of 184,317 horsepower to the Company's electric generating capacity, and enabled it to meet without curtailment all of the requirements of its own customers and those of other companies and utility districts in contiguous territory.

While the exceptionally dry season added substantially to operating costs, this additional burden was far less than it would have been had not an ample supply of natural gas been available for use as a boiler fuel in the Company's steam electric generating plants. From the beginning of July to the middle of November approximately 35% of the total gas available from its trunk lines was utilized for electric generation during the season when the domestic and commercial demand for gas was naturally at its minimum. This experience again clearly demonstrated the complementary nature of the gas and electric business in this territory and the advantages of their dual operation under a single management.

During the year, 15,458,524,000 cubic feet of gas, equivalent to 3,852,937 barrels of fuel oil were consumed in the Company's steam generating plants.

Sales of electricity on the consolidated system aggregated 3,351,343,235 kilowatt hours, a new record, exceeding by 62,088,081 kilowatt hours, or 1.89%, the volume of sales of all constituent companies during the preceding year. With the exception of a decrease of 4.59% in industrial energy

(including in this category power utilized in oil fields operations, in mining, for electric railways and for general power purposes), every class of electric service showed an increase in sales volume. Substantial gains were recorded in domestic and commercial consumption and street lighting, as indicated by the following summary:

	Increase in Sales, 1931.	
Street Lighting-----	3,704,130 Kwh. or	6.47%
Domestic Heating and Cooking-----	8,720,239 Kwh. or	6.28%
Commercial Heating and Cooking-----	3,328,265 Kwh. or	12.36%
Public Building-Lighting-----	3,272,922 Kwh. or	16.23%
Domestic Lighting-----	19,681,225 Kwh. or	7.06%

The increase in electric sales to domestic and commercial consumers, which has continued without interruption even during periods of adverse business conditions, while in considerable degree attributable to the more complete electrification of homes and business establishments resulting from persistent and intelligent sales effort, has also been favorably influenced by the downward trend in the average unit prices paid for electricity. The effect of so designing its schedules as to encourage larger usage through a sliding scale of prices, is reflected in an increase in average annual domestic and commercial consumption from 510 kilowatt hours in 1921 to 975 kilowatt hours in 1931, concurrently with a reduction in the average selling price of energy to those classes of consumers from 7.02 cents to 4.29 cents per kilowatt hour. Putting the matter in another way, these consumers in 1931 purchased an average of 91% more electrical energy than in 1921, with an average increase of only 17% in their annual bills. It may be readily computed, as a factor in recovering diminished revenue, that the Company now has to sell 23 kilowatt hours to these classes of customers to produce the same dollar of revenue derived from selling only 14 kilowatt hours in 1921. The following summary shows average consumption and unit revenue for each year during this interval exclusive of companies acquired in the past two years:

SUMMARY SHOWING AVERAGE CONSUMPTION AND REVENUE DERIVED FROM SALES TO COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS FOR LIGHTING AND DOMESTIC USE.

Year.	KWH per Consumer per Year.	Revenue per KWH.
1921-----	510	7.02 cents
1922-----	534	6.75 cents
1923-----	564	6.01 cents
1924-----	578	5.82 cents
1925-----	605	5.70 cents
1926-----	643	5.57 cents
1927-----	715	5.54 cents
1928-----	767	5.10 cents
1929-----	852	4.75 cents
1930-----	916	4.39 cents
1931-----	975	4.29 cents

Electric service at the close of 1931 was supplied to 618 cities and towns, of which 578 are served directly and 40 indirectly, and to a very large rural area. The average load on the Company's lines throughout 1931 was 62.1% of maximum demand, indicating the exceptionally well diversified character of its electric business.

The Company at December 31, 1931, operated 50 water power plants with a total installed capacity of 1,178,477 horsepower, and 15 steam electric generating station with an installed capacity of 510,187 horsepower, the aggregate installed capacity of the 65 plants in service being 1,688,664 horsepower.

#### GAS DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS.

Sales of gas on the consolidated system aggregated 29,429,747,100 cubic feet, the increase of 6,351,711,200 cubic feet or 27.5% greatly exceeding that of any previous year in the Company's history. Based on equivalent heat units, the growth was even larger, owing to the fact that many sections supplied with natural gas throughout 1931 were receiving during the preceding year artificial gas with a heating value less than one-half of that of the natural product.

In addition, more than 15,000,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas was used in 1931 as a boiler fuel in the Company's steam electric plants.

The volume of natural gas transported through the two main trunk lines for the Company's account increased from a daily average of 50,700,000 cubic feet in December, 1929, to 108,800,000 cubic feet in December, 1930, and to 154,821,000 cubic feet in December, 1931, with a maximum daily output last year of 167,861,000 cubic feet on October 22, 1931.

Active efforts directed toward the conservation of the natural resources of the California gas and oil fields were continued throughout 1931 and met with a large measure of success. The outstanding example is the organization during 1931 of the Kettleman North Dome Association, as a result of which the drilling and producing activities of a number of oil and gas producing companies were placed under a unified plan of operation, permitting a more orderly development of the Kettleman field, one of the largest producing areas in the world, from which the Company at the present time secures its entire output of gas. The prevention of unnecessary or uneconomical production in this field is, of course, beneficial to this Company as the major distributor of natural gas throughout the northern and central sections of the State.

Drilling operations in the Kettleman Hills area resulted in the completion during 1931 of 26 producing wells with a combined initial output exceeding 600,000,000 cubic feet of gas daily. An important feature of this operation was the drilling of a well in the so-called Middle Dome of the Kettleman fields, which proved the existence of a productive area in that Dome estimated to cover 2,200 acres, and gave assurance of an additional potential gas supply of large proportions.

Aside from the gas produced in the Kettleman Hills area, the Company has additional resources of natural gas in the Buttonwillow field. In the interest of conservation, no gas was drawn from this field during 1931.

At the close of the year, 516,169 gas customers were connected to our distribution lines, an increase of 9,316 during the twelve months' period.

Effective June 1, 1931, the gas distribution systems in Turlock and Madera were acquired from the Southern California Gas Company. These are two communities in the San Joaquin Valley in which this Company was already furnishing electric service, and their acquisition was therefore a logical development of our business.

#### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT.

A carefully prepared and vigorously executed advertising and sales campaign, involving the expenditure of approximately \$1,200,000, was conducted during 1931 and met with a substantial measure of success, notwithstanding the greater sales resistance resulting from adverse economic conditions. In the territory served by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company contracts were signed estimated to yield an annual revenue of \$9,193,000, or \$7.66 per dollar of sales expense, and approximately \$250,000 in excess of the quota established for the new business department in the latter part of 1930. In addition, new business was signed by the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation estimated to yield an annual revenue of \$1,662,000, the aggregate volume of new business contracted for on the entire system amounting to \$10,855,000 annually. This additional business was only partially reflected in our 1931 operations, and was to a large degree offset by discontinued or diminished usage by existing industrial and other consumers.

In furtherance of its efforts to secure additional outlets for its services, appliances valued at \$1,484,000 were sold direct to the public during the year. This represents, however, only a small proportion of the volume of appliance sales made by dealers in our territory, which aggregated approximately \$22,500,000. The Company continued its long-established policy of co-ordinating its efforts with those of appliance manufacturers, jobbers and dealers in its field of operations, confining its own direct sales of merchandise primarily to appliances which have not yet met with a ready public acceptance, and in the sale of which unusual promotional effort is necessary. Sales of such articles as electric refrigerators, for example, were handled entirely by dealers, although the Company co-operated to the fullest extent in sales work both by extensive advertising and personal solicitation. A particularly active co-operative campaign conducted during 1931 resulted in the sale of 26,594 commercial and domestic refrigerators, representing a merchandise volume to dealers of approximately \$6,746,000. This campaign is cited as being typical of others carried forward with equal vigor in various branches of both gas and electric merchandising.

In the field of domestic gas heating, 17,215 central heating installations were made in the Pacific Company's territory, including 8,159 furnaces and boilers, and 9,056 conversion burners. All of the latter represent installations in which natural gas displaced other forms of fuel. In addition, 23,039 floor furnaces, circulating heaters and other space heating appliances were installed. A substantial volume of new business was also added through new or enlarged commercial heating installations and contracts executed with industrial consumers. The largest consumer of natural gas connected to our lines in 1931 was the Spreckels Sugar Company, whose beet sugar establishment near Salinas consumes during its operating season of four months' duration, between twelve and sixteen million feet of gas each day, equivalent to the average consumption during this period of a city of 250,000 population. As this mill operates during the late summer and autumn months, at a time when the consumption of gas for domestic heating is substantially below the winter levels, business of this character is particularly desirable.

At the close of 1931 there were 451 industrial gas customers taking service from our lines, or approximately double the number at December 31, 1930.

#### PERSONNEL.

##### EMPLOYEES' SERVICE RECORD.

At the close of 1931 there were 11,897 employees in the service of the Company and its subsidiaries, of whom 10,288 were on the payroll of the parent company. Sixty per cent of the latter, or 6,178 employees, held service badges awarded in recognition of five or more years of continuous employment, indicating not only stability of employment but experience, skill and a thorough understanding of the requirements of public service on the part of employees.



Number of employees holding 5-year badges-----	3,184
Number of employees holding 10-year badges-----	1,755
Number of employees holding 15-year badges-----	574
Number of employees holding 20-year badges-----	366
Number of employees holding 25-year badges-----	199
Number of employees holding 30-year badges-----	58
Number of employees holding 35-year badges-----	21
Number of employees holding 40-year badges-----	21
Total-----	6,178

Many of the 1,609 employees still on the payrolls of subsidiary companies have also had sufficiently long terms of service to entitle them to similar recognition upon transfer to the parent company.

While the completion of several important new projects necessitated reduction in the Company's construction forces, the operating organization was kept practically intact and every effort was made to retain in the organization those whose years of service entitled them to special consideration.

PAYROLL.

An average of 13,643 men and women were employed on the consolidated system throughout 1931. Payrolls aggregated \$24,997,331, of which \$15,352,229 was paid to operating employees and \$9,645,102 to those engaged in construction work.

PENSIONS.

At December 31, 1931, 133 retired employees were receiving pensions under a formal system placed in effect in 1916, an increase of eleven during the year. Pension payments in 1931 aggregated \$109,418, and in the past sixteen years, \$859,118.

PACIFIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION.

This Association, with a membership of 9,086 at December 31, 1931, conducts educational and social work among employees, renders temporary financial assistance in case of need, and pays death benefits to its members. The membership, which is purely voluntary, includes substantially all executives and permanent employees of every rank. An increasing number of employees are availing themselves of the excellent educational courses conducted by the Association, 657 certificates being awarded to students completing these courses in 1931, and an aggregate of 3,591 certificates having been issued since the inauguration of the plan several years ago.

An employees' disability plan, with a present membership of 6,758, is conducted by the Association, the amount paid in benefits during 1931 aggregating \$63,352.20.

In closing this report, I desire to express to all officers and employees my sincere appreciation of the loyal and effective service, which was so largely instrumental in enabling the Company to bring to a successful conclusion, a year characterized by acute economic stress and unusual operating difficulties.

For the Board of Directors,

A. F. HOCKENBEAMER, *President.*

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1931.

Gross Operating Revenue-----	\$87,630,661.09
<b>Operating Expenses—</b>	
Maintenance-----	\$4,046,367.00
Operating, distribution, and administration	
expenses-----	23,858,268.41
Taxes-----	9,608,209.98
Depreciation-----	10,865,201.92
Total-----	48,378,047.31
Net Operating Revenue-----	\$39,252,613.78
Miscellaneous Income-----	906,185.49
Gross Income-----	\$40,158,799.27
<b>Deduct:</b>	
Interest on bonds-----	\$15,974,097.12
Amortization of bond discount and expenses	
-----	873,217.99
Miscellaneous interest-----	133,248.05
Total-----	\$16,980,563.16
Less interest charged to construction-----	1,613,146.07
Total-----	15,367,417.09
Net Income-----	\$24,791,382.18
Surplus, January 1, 1931-----	24,830,092.48
Surplus Credits-----	308,273.56
Surplus Before Deducting Dividends-----	\$49,929,748.22
<b>Dividends—</b>	
On Pacific Gas and Electric Company capital stocks:—	
Preferred-----	\$6,196,802.95
Common-----	12,191,318.55
On subsidiary companies' capital stocks:—	
Preferred-----	1,606,513.36
Common-----	6,798.00
Total-----	\$20,001,432.86
Minority interest-----	352.15
Total-----	20,001,785.01
Earned Surplus, December 31, 1931-----	\$29,927,963.21

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES. CERTIFICATE.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company:

We have audited your accounts and those of your subsidiary companies for the year ended December 31, 1931, and in our opinion the above consolidated statement of income and surplus sets forth the results of the companies' operations for that period.

HASKINS & SELLS.

San Francisco, March 24, 1932.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET, DECEMBER 31, 1931.

<b>ASSETS.</b>	
Plants and Properties-----	\$653,837,111.67
Investments-----	4,613,521.02
<b>Discount and Expenses on Capital</b>	
<b>Stocks-----</b>	<b>\$10,140,037.65</b>
Less premium on common capital stocks	
issued since January 1, 1929-----	9,361,630.00
Total-----	778,407.65
<b>Sinking Funds and Special Deposits—</b>	
Cash on deposit in sinking funds-----	\$15,338.53
Other deposits-----	140,438.00
Accrued interest on bonds held in sinking	
funds-----	146,305.82
Total sinking funds and special deposits-----	302,082.35
<b>Current Assets—</b>	
Cash-----	\$14,519,486.00
Cash on deposit with trustees	
for redemption of bonds-----	224,955.00
Total-----	\$14,744,441.00
Notes receivable-----	\$388,444.76
Accounts receivable-----	9,778,014.38
Total-----	\$10,166,459.14
Less reserve for doubtful	
accounts and notes-----	474,516.73
Remainder-----	9,691,942.41
Materials and supplies-----	6,002,910.15
Accrued interest on investments-----	7,904.43
Total current assets-----	30,447,197.99
<b>Deferred Charges—</b>	
Unamortized bond discount and expenses-----	\$15,079,611.84
Prepaid taxes and undistributed suspense	
items-----	3,524,447.02
Total deferred charges-----	18,604,058.86
<b>Reacquired and Treasury Bonds Not</b>	
<b>Included in Assets or Liabilities—</b>	
<i>Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Subsidiary Companies.</i>	
Pledged under bond issues-----	\$60,863,000.00 \$330,000.00
In treasury (held for sink-	
ing fund purposes)-----	11,000.00 7,234,500.00
In sinking funds-----	----- 13,713,100.00
Total-----	\$60,874,000.00\$21,277,600.00
Total-----	<u>\$708,582,379.54</u>

**LIABILITIES.**

<b>Capital Stocks of Pacific Gas and Electric Company—</b>	
<i>Common First Preferred</i>	
<i>No. of Shares. No. of Shares.</i>	
Authorized—\$25.00 par	
value-----	8,000,000 8,000,000
Outstanding-----	6,238,691.60 4,566,831.27 <sup>2/3</sup>
Less owned by subsidi-	
ary companies-----	6,427.33 <sup>1/2</sup> -----
Outstanding in hands of	
public-----	6,232,264.26 <sup>2/3</sup> 4,566,831.27 <sup>2/3</sup>
Subscribed for but not	
issued-----	3,990 13,395
Total first preferred	
capital stock-----	4,580,226.27 <sup>2/3</sup> \$114,505,656.91
Total common cap-	
ital stock-----	6,236,254.26 <sup>2/3</sup> ----- 155,906,356.67
Total capital stocks of Pacific Gas and Electric Com-	
pany-----	<u>\$270,412,013.58</u>
<b>Preferred Capital Stocks of Subsidiary</b>	
<b>Companies—</b>	
Authorized—\$100.00 par value each-----	1,455,000
Outstanding-----	447,062
Less owned by parent and subsidiary	
companies-----	256,996
Outstanding in hands of public-----	190,066 19,006,600.00
<b>Minority Interest in 1,300.88 Shares Common Capital</b>	
<b>Stock and Surplus of Subsidiaries-----</b>	<b>216,802.73</b>
<b>Funded Debt—</b>	
Pacific Gas and Electric Company bonds-----	\$205,495,000.00
Bonds of subsidiary companies-----	103,260,400.00
Total funded debt-----	308,755,400.00
<b>Current Liabilities—</b>	
Bonds called but not redeemed-----	\$235,955.00
Accounts payable-----	1,518,147.91
Drafts outstanding-----	474,843.02
Meter and line deposits-----	1,759,197.79
Dividends-----	3,182,590.30
Bond interest due-----	482,720.50
Accrued interest—Not due-----	3,725,598.75
Accrued taxes—Not due-----	10,579,277.86
Total current liabilities-----	21,958,331.13
<b>Reserves—</b>	
For Northern California Power Company	
Consolidated plant adjustments and	
accrued depreciation-----	\$1,622,007.07
For depreciation-----	51,275,243.76
Insurance—Casualty and other-----	3,640,856.69
Total reserves-----	56,538,107.52
<b>Surplus—</b>	
Capital surplus-----	\$1,767,161.37
Earned surplus-----	29,927,963.21
Total surplus-----	31,695,124.58
Total-----	<u>\$708,582,379.54</u>

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES. CERTIFICATE.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company:

We have audited your accounts and those of your subsidiary companies for the year ended December 31, 1931, and in our opinion the above consolidated balance sheet sets forth the financial condition of the companies at December 31, 1931.

HASKINS & SELLS.

San Francisco, March 24, 1932.

**The Commercial Markets and the Crops**

COTTON—SUGAR—COFFEE—GRAIN—PROVISIONS

PETROLEUM—RUBBER—HIDES—METALS—DRY GOODS—WOOL—ETC.

**COMMERCIAL EPITOME**

The introductory remarks formerly appearing here will now be found in an earlier part of this paper immediately following the editorial matter, in a department headed INDICATIONS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

*Friday Night, May 27 1932.*

COFFEE on the spot was firm; No. 7 Rio, 8½c.; Santos No. 4, 10½ to 10¾c.; Maracaibo, Trujillo, 9½ to 9¾c.; Cucuta, fair to good, 10½ to 11c.; prime to choice, 11¼ to 11¾c.; washed, 10¾ to 11c.; Ocana, 10¼ to 10½c. Bucaramanga, natural, 10¼ to 10¾c.; washed, 10½ to 11c.; Honda, Tolima and Giradot, 11¼ to 11½c.; Medellin, 12½ to 12¾c.; Manizales, 11½ to 11¾c.; Mexican washed, 14 to 15c.; Ankola, 25 to 34c.; Mandheling, 25 to 32c.; genuine Java, 23 to 24c.; Robusta washed, 9¼c.; Mocha, 13½ to 14½c.; Harrar, 12 to 12½c.; Abyssinian, 10¼ to 10½c.; Guatemala, good, 11½ to 12c.; Bourbon, 10¾ to 11c. On the 23d cost and freight offerings were unchanged to about 10 points higher in sympathy with firmness of the reis. Business quiet. Prompt shipment. Santos Bourbon 2-3s at 10.80 to 10.85c.; 3s at 10.35 to 10.60c.; 3-4s at 10.00 to 10.45c.; 3-5s at 10.15 to 10.25c.; 4-5s at 9.80 to 10.20c.; 5s at 10c.; 5-6s at 9.65 to 9.90c.; 6s at 9.50 to 9.90c.; 7-8s at 9.10c. Peaberry 4s at 10.20 to 10.30c.; part Bourbon 2-3s at 10.90c.; 3-5s at 10.25c.; Rio 7-8s at 7.70c.; Victoria 7-8s at 7.80c. Sao Paulo Bourbon 4s were offered at 10.10c. For June-Aug. shipment Rio 4s were offered at 8.30c., and 7s at 7.75c., while Victoria 7-8s for the same shipment were here at 7.70c. On the 23d Santos dollar rate fell 70 reis to 13\$200 early. Later the dollar buying rate at Santos declined 50 reis to 13\$150. Santos exchange on London advanced 1-16d. to 5 1-32d. The reis was quoted at New York later at 7.51 compared with 7.48 early according to quotations posted on the Exchange. On the 24th cost and freight prices were unchanged to 5 points higher. Some offerings of Bourbon coffee were reported from one source with 4s, old crop Bourbon offered at 9.95c. Santos Bourbon 2-3s were here at 10.50c. to 10.95c.; 3s at 10.40 to 10.60c.; 3-4s at 10 to 10.50c.; 3-5s at 10.20 to 10.30c.; 4-5s at 9.80 to 10.25c.; 5s at 9.95 to 10.00c.; 5-6s at 9.70 to 10.00c.; 6s at 9.50 to 9.90c.; 6-7s at 9.65c.; 7s 9.40c.; 7-8s at 9.30 to 9.35c.; Peaberry 3s at 10.40c.; 4s at 10.10 to 10.30c.; part Bourbon 2-3s at 10.90c.; Rio 7s for June-July shipment were here at 7.75c., and Victoria 7-8s for June-Aug. at 7.70c. Sao Paulo Bourbon 4s were offered at 10.15c.; Rio Bourbon 2-3s at 10.35c.; 3-4s at 10.00c., and 4s at 9.90c. Sales were reported of Victoria 7-8s on Monday at 7.65c. and yesterday at 7.70c.; for June shipment, while Rio 7s for the same shipment sold at 7.65c. to New York and 7.60c. to New Orleans. An Associated Press dispatch from Rio de Janeiro on May 24 said: "The coffee council announced that 320,744 sacks of coffee had been destroyed during the last week, making the total to date 6,565,641, of which 5,285,282 were destroyed in the State of Sao Paulo."

Deliveries of mild coffee in the United States last week were 51,569 bags bringing the total for the month thus far to 200,889 bags. Arrivals last week were 38,566 bags and for the month thus far 156,550 bags. Total stocks of mild coffee in the United States is now 336,686 bags, against 349,689 last week and 282,775 last year. Riots occurred at Sao Paulo on the 24th. If they persist they will be regarded as bullish. On the 25th inst., an Associated Press despatch from Sao Paulo said: The appointment of a new State Cabinet by a Federal interventor fulfills the demands of business houses for an immediate government. Commerce was resumed and the student strike is ended. On the 25th inst., cost and freight prices were unchanged to 10 points higher. For prompt shipment, Santos Bourbon 2-3s were here at 10.85 to 11.05c.; 3s at 10.47 to 10.70c.; 3-4s at 10.10 to 10.45c.; 3-5s at 10.20 to 10.25c.; 4-5s at 9.90 to 10.30c.; 5-6s at 9.70c.; 6s at 9.90 to 10.00c.; Peaberry 4s at 10.35 to 10.70c.; Rio 7s at 7.70c.; 7-8s at 7.65 to 7.70c., and Victoria 7-8s at 7.80c. For June-Aug. shipment, Rio 4s were offered at 8.30c. and 7s at 7.75c. From Rio, for immediate shipment, Bourbon 3s were here at 10.25c. and 4s at 10c. Santos 3s and 5s were offered at 9.95c. To-day, cost and freight offerings from Brazil averaged from unchanged to 5 points higher, but with one shipper 5 points lower. Only moderate offerings, including Santos Bourbon, 2-3s at 10.70 to 10.95c.; 3s at 10.55c.; 3-4s at 10.45c.; 3-5s at 10.10 to 10.35c.; 5-6s at 10.10c.; 6s at 9.95c.; 6-7s at 9.90c.; Peaberry 4s at 10.40c.; Part Bourbon 2-3s at 10.95c. and Victoria 7-8s at 7.85c. On the 21st inst. Rio futures here closed 1 to 3 points lower with sales of 1,000 bags; Santos futures here closed 1 to 8 points net lower with sales of 3,000 bags. Profit taking caused the decline. Some contend since destruction of coffee began and support has been given to Brazilian exchange prices have risen on the Exchange approximately 50%.

On the 23d inst. futures advanced 3 to 12 points with spot prices also higher, the dollar rate supported and the destructing of coffee of the Brazilian Government the

dominating feature. Cables to the Exchange here reported that the National Coffee Council in the week ended May 21 destroyed 311,000 bags of coffee, making the total destroyed since June 6,447,000 bags exclusive of the 478,000 bags burned by the Sao Paulo Coffee Institute to June 30. On the 24th inst. Rio futures here opened 2 to 9 points higher and closed 1 point lower to 9 higher with sales of 3,000 bags; Santos opened 2 to 7 points higher and closed at a net rise of 1 to 5 points with sales of 9,000 bags. On the 25th inst. Rio futures here closed 8 to 13 points net lower with sales estimated at 5,000 bags. Santos futures ended 7 to 8 points lower here with sales of 17,000 bags. The decline was due to profit taking and hedge selling by New Orleans. On the 25th 17 Santos notices and 12 Rio were issued. The dollar rate at Santos declined 40 reis to 13\$110. On the 26th inst. Rio futures here closed 6 to 10 points lower with sales of 4,000 bags; Santos 1 to 3 lower with sales of 6,000 bags. Profit taking accounted for the decline. May notices totalled 64 lots of Santos and 59 of Rio. To-day Rio futures here closed 10 to 12 points off with sales of 6,000 bags; Santos 4 to 20 off with sales of 10,000 bags. Final prices show a decline on Rio futures of 20 to 24 points and on Santos 9 to 28 points. To-day the dollar buying rate in Santos declined 40 reis to 13\$070.

Rio coffee prices closed as follows:

Spot unofficial.....	8½ @	December.....	6.38 @
July.....	6.60 @	March.....	6.40 @nom
September.....	6.48 @6.50	May.....	6.40 @nom

Santos coffee prices closed as follows:

Spot unofficial.....	10% @	December.....	9.07 @
July.....	9.51 @	March.....	9.00 @
September.....	9.15 @	May.....	9.00 @

COCOA to-day closed 2 to 3 points lower with sales of 32 lots. July ended at 3.98c.; Sept. at 4.13c.; Dec., 4.27c., and Mar. at 4.42c. Final prices are 16 to 18 points lower than a week ago. On the 26th Liverpool futures opened unchanged to 3d. decline. The Liverpool and spot market both opened 3d. lower. New York local licensed warehouse stocks on May 25 were 562,545 bags against 560,869 on the previous day and 224,382 last year. Arrivals of cocoa in New York since May 1, 98,471 compared with 263,694 for the corresponding period a year ago. New York declined owing to the suspension of Hornby Hemelrijk & Co. of Liverpool.

SUGAR.—On the 21st inst. futures closed unchanged to 2 points higher with sales of 1,200 tons. Spot raws were steadier and offerings of futures were smaller. On the 21st London closed ¼d. lower for May, but 1 to ¼d. higher on later positions. Receipts at United States Atlantic ports for the week were 34,561 tons, against 54,517 in the previous week and 30,792 in the same week last year; meltings 51,064 tons, against 53,698 in the previous week and 47,442 in the same week last year; importers' stocks 159,346, against 186,822 in the previous week and 153,969 in the same week last year; refiners' stocks 171,953 tons, against 188,456 in the previous week and 160,391 in the same week last year; total stocks 331,299, against 375,278 in the previous week and 314,360 in the same week last year. On the 23d inst. futures ended unchanged to 2 points lower with sales of 13,250 tons. Cuban interests and room traders sold. Wall Street and Porto Rico bought. The outstanding event of the day was the purchase by refiners of 18,250 tons of Philippines May-June shipment mostly at 2.58c., but including 2,500 tons at 2.59c. Meltings increased. Actual sugar gave a better account of itself than futures. Havana cabled for the week ended May 21: "Arrivals, 21,669 tons; exports, 29,768 tons; stock, 1,246,842 tons. Centrals grinding 18. The exports were distributed as follows: to New York, 8,106 tons; Baltimore, 3,604; New Orleans, 1,394; Savannah, 3,047; Galveston, 370; Wilmington, 480; Norfolk, 361; Interior U. S., 289; U. K., 7,008; China, 3,968, and New Zealand, 1,141. The Zorilla finished 23,892. On the 23d the New York Exchange stated the production of 117 centrals at 16,594,631 bags; quota, 15,297,931."

On the 23d London opened ½d. lower to ¼d. up. London terminal market at 3.15 p.m. was barely steady at unchanged prices to a decline of ½d. from opening quotations. London also cabled that the terminal market was very quiet. Old crop Cubas sold at 4s. 5½d. To-day 4s. 7½d. asked for new crop; trade dull. On the 23d the Sugar Institute, Inc., stated the total melt and total deliveries of fourteen United States refiners up to and including the week ended May 14 1932 and same period for 1931 as follows: Melt—1932, Jan. 1 to May 14, 1,310 long tons; 1931, Jan. 1 to May 16, 1,500,000 long tons. Deliveries—1932, Jan. 1 to May 14, 1,135,000 long tons; 1931, Jan. 1 to May 16, 1,315,000 long tons. It was remarked that the statement of receipts, meltings and stocks was favorable all these items showing decreases. On the 24th inst. futures closed unchanged to 2 points lower partly on hedge selling of December against buying of Philippines. Trading in

May ended on the 24th inst. and early in the day was 7 points higher on belated covering, buying including that by trade and other interests. Of actual sugar 3,000 tons of Philippines July-Aug. sold at 2.69c.; reported 4,000 Porto Rico to New Orleans, June arrival at 2.60c.; nearby held at 2.62c. Refined was quiet at 3.75c.

On the 24th inst., London opened at 1½d. higher for the spot month and ½ to ¼d. higher for later months. London at 3:15 p. m. was dull and unchanged to ¼d. lower, except current May, which was 1½d. lower as compared with opening prices. Another London cable said: Terminal market parcel sold 4s. 6¾d. Cargo July shipment 4s. 6d. On the 25th inst. futures closed 1 point net lower to 1 point net higher with sales of 8,650 tons. It was a small waiting market. Spot raws 2.85c. On the 25th inst., late cable advices from Havana reported that according to the Export Corporation statement as of May 14, the actual quotas of mills still grinding, after including increases due to purchases of quotas from other mills, aggregated 1,664,895 bags. Adding this amount to actual production of mills which to that date had finished grinding the Cuban crop this year will return approximately 2,603,199 long tons. On the 25th inst., one London cable said: Terminal market quiet, but steady. Parcel British West Indies sold 9s. 3d. Sellers New York old crops 4s. 6d. London terminal at 3:15 p. m. was steady and generally unchanged from the opening with the exception of Oct. which was ¼d. higher. On the 26th inst., London opened 1d. off to ¼d. up.

Points on the situation that some contend favor an ultimate advance: Low price of the article. Peak of production in Cuba has passed. Although two-thirds of the duty free sugar (Philippines, Hawaiian and Porto Rican) has only just been shipped, most of it is hedged on the Exchange here. Decrease in European acreage. Normal supply conditions are in the way of being re-established. Practically no invisible supplies anywhere. Reluctance of Cuban holds to sell at these prices. Much of the stock is hedged by sales of futures and will have to be covered as the actual sugar is sold. Forced curtailment of production by bad times and the extreme difficulty of financing the raising of Cuban sugar. Producing at a price below the producing costs as now cannot go on forever. On the other hand there is widespread pessimism. The world financial structure has been weakened. There is a decrease in consumption. Political uncertainties are a menace. Also there are the efforts of importing countries like India to increase their production of sugar. Production by American colonies is stimulated by high sugar duties. Far Eastern consumption notably in China and Japan may be further reduced. Financial stringency may cause further dumping of sugar. The heavy premiums on distant months tend to restrict buying. And there is the fear in order to live, Cuban producers must go on raising sugar regardless of the lowness of the price. On the 26th inst. futures closed 2 points lower to 1 up with sales of 17,800 tons. Rather large selling for the account of Hornby, Hemelryk & Co. whose suspension in Liverpool was announced was the feature at the opening. But it was well taken and prices changed but little. Some 6,800 bags of Porto Rico sold at a low of 2.58c. for duty free. Also 2,200 tons Philippines for June-July shipment sold to an operator at 2.67c., up 1 point. There was a sale of 5,000 tons of Cuba from store at New York to the United Kingdom at 4s. 6d., equal to about .62 f.a.s. New York.

To-day futures closed 1 point lower to 1 point higher with sales of 5,950 tons. Final prices are unchanged to 1 point lower for the week. Sales of raw included 93,600 bags of Porto Rico, 54,000 bags Philippines to refiners at 2.61c., and 18,000 bags of June-July Philippines to operators at 0.68c., and 18,000 at 0.70c. all Philippines. To-day two cargoes of Porto Ricos were sold to the Pennsylvania at 2.60c. for late May and early June loading. To-day London opened with May ¾d. higher, but other positions unchanged to ½d. lower. The London terminal market at 3:15 p. m. was steady, with prices unchanged to ¾d. above the opening level. Another London cable said: "No change terminal market. Two cargoes yesterday 4s. 6d., one old crop and one new crop. Parcel Continent 4s. 7½d. To-day sellers 4s. 6¾d.; buyers probably 4s. 6d."

Closing quotations follows:

Spot unofficial	0.60@	January	0.76@0.77
July	0.61@	March	0.80@0.82
September	0.68@0.69	May	0.85@0.86
December	0.76@		

LARD.—On the 21st inst. futures closed 3 to 10 points higher. On the 23d inst. futures advanced 2 to 5 points, supported by the rise in grain prices. Hogs were irregular; top \$3.45. Western receipts of hogs were 113,300, against 116,000 last year. Liverpool lard was unchanged to 3d. higher. Exports of lard from New York on Saturday were 1,393,000 lbs. to United Kingdom and Continental ports. Last week they were 3,739,000 lbs., against 2,725,000 the week before. Cash prime Western, 4.50 to 4.60c. in tierces c. a. f. New York; refined to Continent, 4¾c.; South America 5c.; Brazil, 5¼c. On the 24th inst. futures declined 5 to 18 points with grain and cotton lower. Hogs were steady with western receipts 89,700, against 95,000 a year ago. Cash prime Western, 4.40 to 4.50c.; refined for the Continent, 4¾c. On the 25th inst. futures closed 7 to 10 points off. Hogs were unchanged to 10c. lower. Liverpool declined 6 to 9d. On the 26th inst. futures closed 5 to 8 points. Hogs fell 5 to 10c. Liverpool closed 3 to 9d. off. Prime

Western cash here 4.25 to 4.35c.; refined to Continent, 4½ to 4½c.; South America, 4¾c. to 4¾c.; Brazil, 5½ to 5½c. To-day futures closed unchanged to 3 points higher. Final prices are 12 to 15 points lower for the week.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF LARD FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
May delivery	3.90	3.95	3.87-90	3.80	3.75	3.75
July delivery	4.10	4.12	3.97	3.90	3.82	3.85
September delivery	4.20	4.25	4.07	4.00	3.95	3.97

Season's High and When Made—	Season's Low and When Made—
May 7.00 Nov. 14 1931	May 3.70 May 14 1932
July 5.50 Feb. 1 1932	July 3.75 May 14 1932

PORK quiet; mess, \$16.25; family, \$17.25; fat backs, \$12.25 to \$14.25. Ribs, Chicago cash, 4.25c.; beef dull; mess nominal; packet nominal, family, \$12.50 to \$13; extra India mess nominal; No. 1 canned corned beef, \$2; No. 2, \$3.50; six pounds, South America, \$10.50; pickled beef tongues, \$40 to \$50. Cut meats steady; pickled hams, 14 to 16 lbs., 9¼c.; 10 to 12 lbs., 9¾c. Pickled bellies clear, f.o.b. New York, 8 to 12 lbs., 7¾c.; 6 to 8 lbs., 8c.; bellies, clear, dry salted, boxed, 18 to 20 lbs., 5½c.; 14 to 16 lbs., 6¾c. Butter, lower grades to higher than extra, 14 to 19c. Cheese, flats, 10½ to 20c.; daisies, 11½ to 16c.; Young America, 11½ to 17¼c.; lower grades, all sorts, 10 to 12¼c. Eggs, medium to special packs, 12 to 17¾c.

OILS.—Linseed was rather quiet and easier at 6.1c. to 6.2c. for carlots. Coconut, Manila coast tanks, 2¾ to 3c.; tanks, New York, 3¼c. Corn, crude tanks, f.o.b., Western mills, 2¾ to 3c. Chinawood, N. Y. drums, carlots, 6c.; tanks, 5¼c.; Pacific Coast tanks, 4¾ to 5c. Olive, denatured, spot, 60 to 61c.; shipment, 63c. Soya bean, tank cars, f.o.b. Western mills, 2.80c.; carlot delivered N. Y., 3¾ to 4c. Edible olive, \$1.65 to \$2.15. Lard, prime, 8¼c.; extra strained winter, N. Y., 6c. Cod, Newfoundland, 21 to 26c. Turpentine, 45 to 50c. Rosin, \$3.10 to \$6.10. Cottonseed oil sales, to-day, including switches, 5 contracts. Crude S. E., 2¾ to 2¾c. Prices closed as follows:

Spot	3.30@	October	3.75@3.80
June	3.50@3.67	November	3.82@3.87
July	3.70@3.75	December	3.85@3.92
August	3.62@3.75	January	3.90@3.99
September	3.70@3.75		

PETROLEUM.—Gasoline demand was more active. The warm weather stimulated consumption. Kerosene was steadier with 41-43 water white quoted at 5½ to 6c. in tank cars at refineries. Domestic heating oils were rather quiet. A large part of the business now going on is confined to closing contracts covering next winter's requirements. Grade C bunker oil was steady at 75c. Diesel oil was steady at \$1.50. Pennsylvania lubricating oils were more active and steady. There were rumors late in the week that a principal marketing organization in this territory was considering an advance of 2c. while other reports indicated that the price may be raised a full 4c.

Tables of prices usually appearing here will be found on an earlier page in our department of "Business Indications," in an article entitled "Petroleum and Its Products."

RUBBER.—On the 21st inst. trading was small with final prices 1 to 5 points higher. Sales were 90 tons of No. 1 standard with that contract closing with May at 2.95c.; July, 2.96 to 2.98c.; Dec., 3.22c.; new "A" May, 2.95c.; June, 2.95c. Outside prices: Plantation R. S. sheets, spot, May and June, 2 13-16 to 2 15-16c. On the 21st London closed steady, and unchanged. Spot, May and June, 1 13-16d.; July, 1¾d.; July-Sept., 1¾d. Singapore closed steady and unchanged; May, 1½d. On the 23d London opened quiet and unchanged and at 2:36 p.m. was still quiet and unchanged; spot, May and June, 1 13-16d. London closed dull and unchanged to 1-16d. lower. Spot, May and June, 1¾d.; July, 1¾d. London's stock on May 21 increased 505 tons to 58,606 tons from the week preceding. Liverpool decreased 326 tons to 60,583 tons from a week ago. Singapore closed quiet and 1-16d. off; June, 1 9-16d.; July-Sept., 1½d. On the 24th inst. futures closed unchanged to 2 points lower. Early in the day they were 4 points up. The sales of No. 1 standard dropped to 350 tons, against 670 on the previous day. No. 1 standard contract ended with July, 2.90c.; Sept., 3.00c.; Dec. 3.15c.; March 3.32c. New "A" contract closed with May, 2.85c. nominal; June, 2.85c. sold; 2.87c. nominal; July, 2.90c.; sales 10 tons. Outside prices: Spot, May and June 2 13-16 to 2¾c.

The New York Exchange will be closed on May 28. On the 24th inst., London opened dull and unchanged to 1-16d. lower; at 2:35 p. m. was quiet. Spot, May, June and July and July-Sept., 1 13-16d. London closed quiet at 1-16d. advance; July-Sept., 1¾d.; Oct.-Dec., 1 15-16d. and Jan.-March, 2 1-16d. Singapore closed unchanged; June, 1 9-16. Batavia cabled the Rubber Exchange here: The government statistical bureau states that tapping on 256 rubber estates in the Dutch East Indies has been completely abandoned while tapping on 130 other estates has been partially abandoned. The unkept area now is 49,187 hectares (not including periodical tapping) or 13% of the total tapable area. On the 25th inst. prices touched new lows as a rule. The net decline was 3 to 5 points with sales of 680 tons of No. 1 standard closing with May at 2.81c.; July, 2.85 to 2.87c.; Dec., 3.10c.; Jan., 3.16c.; March, 3.27 to 3.29c.; new "A" June, 2.83c.; July, 2.85c.; Aug., 2.91c.; Sept., 2.97c. Outside prices: Spot, May and June, 2¾ to 2 13-16c.; July-Sept., 2 15-16c.; Oct.-Dec., 3¾c.; Jan.-March, 3¼c. On the 25th inst., London closed steady, unchanged to ½d. lower; spot, June, July and July-Sept., 1 13-16d.

Oct.-Dec.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. and Jan.-March, 1 15-16d. The Senate Finance Committee again has changed the tax on tires to  $2\frac{1}{4}$ c. per pound and the tubes to 4c. according to Washington advices. Singapore closed steady, unchanged to 1-16d. lower on the 25th inst.; June,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.; July-Sept.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Oct.-Dec., 1 11-16d. On the 26th inst., London opened at 1-16d. decline; at 2:36 p. m. was quiet. Spot, June, July and July-Sept.,  $1\frac{3}{4}$ d., and closed so. Singapore closed unchanged to 1-16d. lower; June, 1 9-16d.; July-Sept.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.

On the 26th inst. a new low price of 2.70c. was reached for June. A decline in Dutch shipments was ignored. New York was 4 to 10 points lower and spot rubber fell 1-16 to 3-16c. outside. Dutch East Indies shipments for April fell off to 17,952 tons, against 18,350 tons in Mar. and 21,637 tons during April last year. But European estate sections of Java and Madeira shipped 6,830 tons, against 5,025 tons in Mar. and 6,577 tons last year. So British and Dutch estates in the Dutch East Indies maintained production whatever the recent talk to the contrary. No. 1 standard contract closed with May at 2.71c.; June, 2.76c.; July, 2.81 to 2.83c.; Sept., 2.91c.; Dec., 3.05c.; Jan., 3.11c.; Mar., 3.21 to 3.23c.; sales 950 tons. New "A" June ended at 2.76c.; July, 2.81c.; Aug., 2.86c. Outside prices: spot, May and June, 2 11-16 to  $2\frac{3}{4}$ c.; July-Sept.,  $2\frac{7}{8}$ c.; Oct.-Dec., 3 1-16c.; Jan.-Mar.,  $3\frac{1}{4}$ c.; spot, first latex thick and thin pale latex,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ c.; clean thin brown No. 2, 2 11-16c.; rolled brown crepe, 2 7-16c.; No. 2 amber, 2 13-16c.; No. 3,  $2\frac{3}{4}$ c.; No. 4,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ c.; Paros, upriver fine spot,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  to  $5\frac{1}{2}$ c.; Acre, fine spot,  $5\frac{3}{4}$  to 6c. To-day No. 1 standard contract closed unchanged to 1 point lower with sales of 72 lots and with July at 2.79c.; Sept. at 2.91c.; Dec. at 3.04c., and Mar. at 3.21c. New "A" June, 2.74c.; July, 2.79c. Final prices are 9 to 14 points lower than a week ago. To-day London opened quiet and unchanged to 1-16d. lower; at 2:36 p. m. was unchanged; spot, June, July and July-Sept.,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ d., and closed at these prices. Singapore closed 1-16d. lower; June,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.; July-Sept., 1 9-16d. and Oct.-Dec.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. Unofficial estimate of stocks in Great Britain for the week ending May 28 shows: London, 2,100 tons decrease; Liverpool, 450 decrease; total, 2,550 decrease. In New York trading in May standard contracts ceased at noon to-day.

HIDES.—On the 21st inst. prices closed unchanged to 10 points higher on the old contract and unchanged to 5 up on the new but with no sales of either. The New York Hide Exchange will be closed on May 28, the Saturday preceding Memorial Day. Closing prices on the 21st inst. were as follows: June old, 3.92 to 3.95c.; new, 3.90c.; Sept. old, 4.60 to 4.70c.; new, 4.50c.; Dec. old, 5.27 to 5.34c.; new 5.30c.; March old, 5.75 to 5.95c.; new, 5.75 to 5.95c. Spot hides were more active with sales of 13,500 extra light native steers, April-May at  $4\frac{1}{2}$ c.; 2,000 extra light native steers, Feb.-March at 4c.; 18,000 heavy native steers, April-May at  $4\frac{1}{2}$ c.; 5,000 light native cows, April-May at  $4\frac{1}{2}$ c. On the 23rd inst. old contracts closed 2 points lower to 15 higher and new contract unchanged to 10 points higher, ending with June old at 4.05c.; Sept. old 4.70c.; new, 4.55c.; Dec. old 5.25 to 5.35c.; new, 5.30c.; March old 5.75 to 6c. and new 5.80 to 5.95c. On the 24th inst. prices closed unchanged to 10 points lower on both contracts ending with Sept. old, 4.61 to 4.70c.; new, 4.50c.; Dec. old, 5.25 to 5.30c.; new, 5.30c. On the 24th inst. spot sales of Argentine included 4,500 May frigorifico extremes at  $4\frac{1}{2}$ c. while in the Chicago packer hide market 1,000 May branded cows were moved at 4c. and 1,000 April-May light Texas steers at  $3\frac{1}{2}$ c. At New York 1,600 April Colorado steers sold at  $3\frac{3}{4}$ c. On the 25th inst. old contract closed unchanged to 16 points lower and the new 5 to 15 points lower ending with June old at 3.95c.; Dec. old, 5.10 to 5.20c.; new, 5.15c.; March old, 5.55c.; new, 5.60 to 5.70c. Of spot hides 8,000 May frigorifico steers sold at 4 9-16c. On the 26th inst. prices closed unchanged to 5 points lower on both contracts with sales of 720,000 lbs. June old ended at 3.93 to 4c.; Sept. old at 4.45 to 4.50c.; new, 4.35c.; Dec. old 5.10 to 5.20c.; March new, 5.55c.

OCEAN FREIGHTS.—At one time there was a good business in grain and sugar. Lower rates and a larger trade were the later features.

CHARTERS included grain 23,000 qrs. Montreal N. Spain, 10c.; Spanish Mediterranean, 11c.; May recent; 27,000 qrs. 10. Montreal May 28 cancel; No. Spain,  $10\frac{1}{2}$ c.; A. R., 8c.; prompt Gulf, Greece, 13c.; 27,000 qrs. Montreal, prompt, Antwerp-Rotterdam,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ c.; Northern Spain,  $9\frac{1}{2}$ c. Grain booked:  $1\frac{1}{2}$  loads Montreal Rotterdam, June,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ c.; 28 loads Montreal, June, London mills, 1s. 9d.; 10 loads New York, same early June, 1s.  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 25 loads spot Montreal, Marseilles, Genoa, 10c.; 6 loads New York-French Atlantic, S.C., and 12 loads between Antwerp and Rotterdam, ex Montreal, May and early June at 7c. Sugar—Cuba, 7,000 tons, June, Odessa, 16s.; recent, United Kingdom-Continent, Cuba, prompt, 14s.; Santo Domingo, 13s.; June, Cuba, Odessa, London, rate, 15s. 9d.; prompt, Cuba, 6,500 tons, United Kingdom-Continent, 14s. Trips—prompt Philadelphia, redelivery United Kingdom-Continent, about 90c.; West Indies round, 60c.; West Indies round, 50c.; round Gulf, 80c.

TOBACCO was in fair demand and steady. Sales last week in the Southern markets were as follows: At Mayfield, 873,480 lbs., at an average of 2.84, or 2c. lower than in the preceding week. At Paducah, 135,340 lbs., at an average of \$3.01, or 48c. lower than in the previous week. At Murray, 101,665 lbs., averaging \$3.36, or 21c. higher. At Hopkinsville, 535,825 lbs., average \$4.49, or \$1.10 higher. At Clarksville, 1,149,825 lbs., at an average of 4.34, or 19c. higher. At Springfield, 1,148,455 lbs., averaging \$5.66, or 47c. higher. Paducah, Ky., to the U. S. Tobacco Journal: Approximately 2,000,000 lbs. of tobacco grown by members of the Western Dark Fired Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association in the Paducah region have been graded and

delivered to the prizers since the 1932 season opened. Havana: The cigarmakers' strike is still on here in Havana. It is thought that a settlement is not very distant, although there is no definite indication of when it may be brought about nor under what conditions. Louisville: The Western Dark Fired Tobacco Growers' Association was the first to be backed by the Federal Government. Prices already are better on some grades since deliveries to the pools started. Deliveries have been running as high as half a million lbs. daily to the four receiving stations. Tobacco not sold is being prized in good condition. Foreign inquiries have been coming in. The dark growers are reducing their 1932 crops drastically. There was a reduction of only 14% in the Burley area. In the Clarksville-Hopkinsville district it is reported is 35%, Paducah district, 30%, Henderson stemming district 37%. One-Sucker district 34%, and Green River, 44%. Reduced foreign demand and a glutted market have necessitated the step.

COAL was in fair demand. Coke has also sold fairly well. At lower prices there has been a fair trade in coke in Long Island, Manhattan and New England. Later trade was quiet here and in the interior.

SILVER.—On the 21st inst. prices closed 10 to 24 points lower with sales of 450,000 ounces. May ended at 27.85 to 27.90c.; June, 27.85 to 27.90c.; Aug., 28.15c. On the 23d inst. prices closed 9 to 20 points net higher with sales of 450,000 ounces, ending with July at 28.15 to 28.20c.; Aug., 28.30 to 28.34c.; Sept., 28.40 to 28.53c.; Oct., 28.60 to 28.70c. On the 24th inst. prices ended 7 to 15 points lower with sales of 175 ounces, closing with May, 27.90 to 28.05c.; July, 28.01 to 28.20c.; Sept., 28.30 to 28.45c., and Oct., 28.50 to 28.60c. On the 25th inst. prices closed 6 points lower to 25 points higher with sales of 850,000 ounces. May ended at 28.15c.-N; July, 28.20c.-B; Aug., 28.32c.-N; Oct., 28.53c.-T. On the 26th inst. prices closed 20 points lower to 1 higher with sales of 250,000 ounces. May ended at 27.95c.; July at 28.10 to 28.25c.; Sept. at 28.36 to 28.50c., and Oct. at 28.50c. To-day futures closed 7 points lower to 20 points higher with June, 27.80 to 27.88c.; July, 28c.; Aug., 28.10c.; Oct., 28.40c., and Dec., 28.70c. Final prices are 18 points lower on July for the week.

COPPER was firmer. Domestic inquiry was a little better. Export sales on the 25th inst. increased to over 500 tons. Domestic copper at  $5\frac{1}{4}$ c. was scarcer, it being rumored that but one custom smelter was still willing to do business so low. Generally custom smelters became settled at  $6\frac{3}{4}$ c. for delivery through third quarter, the price of  $5\frac{1}{2}$ c. generally applying to fourth quarter. Copper exports by the United States in April totaled 12,835 short tons, against 12,464 tons in March and 11,011 tons in Feb. according to the American Bureau of Metal Statistics. Imports in April came to 14,975 tons against 19,895 tons in March and 21,370 in Feb. In London on the 25th inst. spot standard was unchanged at the first session at £27 10s.; futures off 1s. 3d. to £27 11s. 3d.; sales 200 tons spot and 1,000 tons futures. Electrolytic unchanged at £31 14s. bid and £32 15s. asked; at the second London session prices for standard copper fell 2s. 6d. on sales of 100 tons of futures. On the 21st inst. futures here closed 10 to 20 points lower; no sales. May and June ended at 3.90c. and July at 3.94c. On the 23rd inst. futures here closed net unchanged to 20 points higher with sales of 25 tons, ending with May 3.90 to 4.19c.; June, 3.90 to 4.20c.; and July 3.95 to 4.30c. On the 24th inst. prices closed 5 to 15 points lower; no sales. May and July ended at 3.80c. and Sept. at 4.39c. On the 26th inst. futures here closed 10 to 30 points lower with sales of 324 tons. July ended at 3.90c.; Sept. at 4c.; Dec., 4.10c. In London on the 26th inst. spot standard fell 1s. 3d. to £27 8s. 9d.; futures dropped 3s. 9d. to £27 7s. 6d.; sales 700 tons futures; electrolytic unchanged at £31 15s. bid and £32 15s. asked; at the second session standard copper advanced 1s. 3d. on sales of 50 tons of futures. To-day futures here closed with June at 4.15c.; July, 4.20c.; Aug., 4.25c. and Sept., 4.30c.; sales 150 tons.

TIN was quiet with spot Straits called 21.10c. on the 25th inst. The packs of foodstuffs this year promise to be smaller than last year, there being frequent reports of curtailment. This would indicate that the consumption in the canning trade will be less this year. In London on the 25th inst. all descriptions advanced 7s. 6d.; spot standard, £123 7s. 6d.; futures, £125 12s. 6d.; sales 150 tons spot and 300 futures; spot Straits ended at £127 12s. 6d. Eastern c. i. f. London advanced £1 2s. 6d. to £129 on sales of 50 tons; at the second session standard tin was unchanged with sales of 50 tons spot and 70 of futures. On the 23d inst. prices closed 35 points lower; no sales. May ended at 20.35c.; and July at 20.65c. On the 24th inst. prices closed 25 points higher with sales of 50 tons. May ended at 20.60c.; July, 20.90c., and Sept., 21.20c. On the 26th inst. futures here closed 25 to 30 points lower with sales of 10 tons, ending with July at 20.55c.; Sept., 20.95c.; Dec., 21.55c., and Mar., 22.15. On the 26th inst. spot Straits declined to  $20\frac{3}{4}$ c. London at the first session on the 26th inst. declined £2 5s. or more while at the second session standard tin advanced 5s. with sales for the day amounting to 650 tons. To-day futures ended with June at 20.15c. bid; July, 20.25c. bid and May, 20.40c. nominal.

LEAD was in good demand and steady at 3c. New York and 2.90c. East St. Louis. In London on the 25th inst.







AT THE INTERIOR TOWNS the movement—that is, the receipts for the week and since Aug. 1, the shipments for the week and the stocks to-night, and the same items for the corresponding periods of the previous year, is set out in detail below:

Table showing movement to May 27 1932 and May 29 1931 for various towns. Columns include Receipts (Week, Season), Shipments (Week, May 27, May 29), and Stocks (Week, May 27, May 29). Lists towns like Ala., Birmingham, Eufaula, etc.

Total, 56 towns 23,519,581,535 56,826,155,472 23,045,479,372 45,394,103,759

\* Includes the combined totals of 15 towns in Oklahoma.

The above totals show that the interior stocks have decreased during the week 33,383 bales and are to-night 517,123 bales more than at the same period last year.

MARKET AND SALES AT NEW YORK.

The total sales of cotton on the spot each day during the week at New York are indicated in the following statement. For the convenience of the reader, we also add columns which show at a glance how the market for spot and futures closed on same days.

Table showing Spot Market Closed and Futures Market Closed for SALES. Columns include Spot, Contr't, and Total. Rows include Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Total week since Aug. 1.

OVERLAND MOVEMENT FOR THE WEEK AND SINCE AUG. 1.—We give below a statement showing the overland movement for the week and since Aug. 1, as made up from telegraphic reports Friday night. The results for the week and since Aug. 1 in the last two years are as follows:

Table comparing 1931-32 and 1930-31 overland movement. Columns include Week, Aug. 1, and Since. Rows include May 27 Shipped, Via St. Louis, Via Mounds, etc., and Total gross overland.

\* Including movement by rail to Canada.

The foregoing shows the week's net overland movement this year has been 25,605 bales, against 12,183 bales for the week last year, and that for the season to date the aggregate net overland exhibits a decrease from a year ago of 170,392 bales.

Table showing In Sight and Spinners' Takings. Columns include Week, Aug. 1, and Since. Rows include Receipts at ports to May 27, Net overland to May 27, Southern consumption to May 27, Total marketed, Interior stocks in excess, Excess of Southern mill takings over consumption to May 1, Came into sight during week, Total in sight May 27, and North spinners' takings to May 27.

\*Decrease.

Movement into sight in previous years:

Table showing movement into sight in previous years. Columns include Week, Bales, and Since Aug. 1. Rows include 1930-June 1, 1929-June 2, and 1928-June 3.

QUOTATIONS FOR MIDDLING COTTON AT OTHER MARKETS.—Below are the closing quotations for middling cotton at Southern and other principal cotton markets for each day of the week:

Table showing Closing Quotations for Middling Cotton on Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday for various locations like Galveston, New Orleans, Mobile, etc.

NEW ORLEANS CONTRACT MARKET.—The closing quotations for leading contracts in the New Orleans cotton market for the past week have been as follows:

Table showing New Orleans Contract Market quotations for various months from May to October, including Spot and Options.

ACTIVITY IN THE COTTON-SPINNING INDUSTRY FOR MAY.—Persons interested in this report will find it in our department headed "Indications of Business Activity" on earlier pages.

REVISED ESTIMATES OF COTTON ACREAGE, YIELD PER ACRE, AND PRODUCTION, 1931, BY STATES.—The Crop Reporting Board of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, from the reports and data furnished by crop correspondents, field statisticians, co-operating State Boards (or Departments) of Agriculture and agricultural colleges, and ginnings, makes the following revised estimates of cotton acreage in cultivation July 1, acreage finally harvested, yield per acre, and production, crop of 1931. Cotton ginnings for the 1931 crop, as reported by the Bureau of the Census, May 17 1932, are also shown:

Table showing Revised Estimates of the Cotton Crop of 1931, by States. Columns include State, Area in Cultivation July 1 1931, Area Picked 1931, Yield of Lint Cotton Picked Per Acre 1931, Production 1931, and Ginnings 1931 Crop As Reported by Census May 17 1932.

a Bales rounded to thousands, allowances made for inter-State movement of seed cotton for ginning and added for United States total. b Including Pima long staple, 30,000 acres, yield 225 lbs. per acre, production 14,000 bales. c Not included in California figures, nor in United States total. d Ginnings 26,112 running bales, as enumerated by California Co-operative Crop Reporting Service.

COMMENTS CONCERNING COTTON REPORT OF MAY 20 1932.—The United States Department of Agriculture in giving out its report on May 20, also added the following comments:

The Crop Reporting Board, in revising statistics of acreage, yield and production of the 1931 cotton crop, estimates the area in cultivation in the United States on July 1 1931 to have been 41,189,000 acres; the area harvested, 40,693,000 acres; and the yield of lint cotton to have been 201.2 pounds per harvested acre. The report of the Bureau of the Census, published on May 17 placed final ginnings for the 1931 crop at 17,095,594 equivalent 500-pound bales.

The acreage and yield estimates for the United States are each about 1/2 of 1% above the preliminary estimates made last December, an adjustment of 1% in total production being necessary to make the estimate conform with the total quantity ginned. The yield per acre of 201.2 pounds is the highest realized since 1914 when the yield was 209.2 pounds.

Forecasts of cotton production made by the Crop Reporting Board during the 1931 season and comparisons with final production were as follows: Aug. 1, 15,584,000 bales, 8.8% below; Sept. 1, 15,685,000 bales, 8.3% below; Oct. 1, 16,284,000, 4.7% below; Nov. 1, 16,903,000, 1.1% below; and Dec. 1, 16,918,000, 1.0% below. Each forecast made during the season showed improvement in crop prospects over the preceding forecast, as the 1931 season was extraordinarily favorable for the production and harvest of cotton from spring until late fall. The forecasts are necessarily



based upon indications at the time the reports are prepared and upon the assumption that weather conditions after that time will be about average.

REPORT ON REDUCTION IN COTTON YIELDS FROM STATED CAUSES IN 1931.—United States Department of Agriculture also made public on May 20, the following:

Reductions from full yield of cotton during the favorable season of 1931 were much less than usual for each of the various causes considered. The total reduction from various causes is reported to have been only 27.8% of a normal or full crop, based upon an inquiry to cotton reporters on this subject. In 1930 the reported reduction was 47.1%; in 1929, 43.8%, and in 1928, 36.4%.

Deficient moisture, or drouth was responsible for only 8.3% reduction in yield, compared with 27.7% in 1930 and 10.8% in 1929. Damage attributed to excessive moisture was 2.6%, compared with 2.8% in 1930 and 7.2% in 1929.

Boll weevil damage in 1931, while somewhat greater than in 1930, was less than average and relatively unimportant. Loss from this cause was reported at 8.3%, compared with 5.0% in 1930, 13.3% in 1929 and 14.1% in 1928.

"Other climatic" causes, including floods, frost, heat and hot winds, contributed 3.5% to the loss in 1931, against 6.3% in 1930 and 6.0% in 1929. Plant diseases are reported to have caused losses of about 2.0%, which is about the same as in each of the last three years. Loss due to insects other than boll weevil was reported at 1.8%, which is the lowest percentage attributed to this cause in recent years.

This statement on losses is based upon reports of correspondents made in February, on a general crop damage inquiry in which the correspondents were asked to report the per cent of a normal yield per acre of cotton harvested the preceding year, the per cent of loss in yield, and to distribute the loss to stated causes. The resulting indicated percentages represent the consolidated judgment of the crop reporters and are useful as a rough index of relative losses from the stated causes.

Details by States follow:

COTTON REDUCTION FROM FULL YIELD PER ACRE FROM STATED CAUSES 1929, 1930 AND 1931.

Table showing cotton reduction from full yield per acre from stated causes (Deficient Moisture, Excessive Moisture, Other Climatic) for 1929, 1930, and 1931 across various states and an average of 13 states.

Table showing cotton reduction from full yield per acre from stated causes (Plant Diseases, Boll Weevil, Other Insects) for 1929, 1930, and 1931 across various states and an average of 13 states.

FOREIGN COTTON PRODUCTION AND ACREAGE.

From the latest information received on the 1931-32 cotton crop in foreign countries the preliminary estimate of production in all foreign countries is now placed at 10,404,000 bales of 478 pounds. This compares with an estimated foreign production of 11,868,000 bales during 1930-31 and 11,672,000 bales in 1929-30, and was the smallest since 1926-27. The large domestic crop, however, gives a world production of about 27,500,000 bales or an increase of 1,700,000 bales over 1930-31, was 1,000,000 larger than 1929-30 and was the largest since 1926-27 when the total world production was about 28,400,000 bales.

The increased production which took place in Brazil and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan resulted from a return to more normal yields. The yields in the Sudan in 1930-31 were unusually low due to serious damages from two diseases known as "Leaf Curl" and "Black Arm" whereas a severe drouth in some of the principal cotton producing States materially reduced the average yield per acre in Brazil. The increased production in Russia resulted from an increase in acreage, the yield per acre showing a decrease compared with 1930-31. Reports from Russia early in the season stated that the crop would be 700,000 or more bales larger than this Bureau estimated, but at present Russian estimates are very close to ours. The reduced Russian yields this season have resulted from the expansion of production into new regions most of which are not irrigated. In 1930-31 Russian acreage increased about 50% and production increased almost 25%. This season the acreage increased 37% and production 23%. As a result of these decreasing yields the Russian officials are said to have planned for an acreage increase in 1932-33 of only 13 or 14% with greater efforts to be made in improving the yields and quality.

COTTON ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION IN COUNTRIES REPORTING FOR 1931-32, WITH COMPARISONS.

Table showing cotton acreage and production in countries reporting for 1931-32, with comparisons for 1928-29, 1929-30, 1930-31, and 1931-32. Includes acreage and production in 1,000 acres and bales for various countries and world totals.

Compiled by the Division of Statistical and Historical Research largely from data received through the Foreign Agricultural Service, including information received up to May 19.

Official sources and International Institute of Agriculture except as noted.

a Estimates of Chinese Millowners' Association.

b Estimated as being between 194,000 and 204,000 bales.

WEATHER REPORTS BY TELEGRAPH.—Reports to us by telegraph this evening indicate that the weather during the week has been mostly unfavorable, there being too much rain in the Gulf sections. Temperatures have been too low during most of the week but have been considerably higher the past few days. Progress and condition of early planted cotton are mostly good.

Texas.—Much replanting is necessary in this State. Cool nights have retarded growth. Some lowlands are too wet for work.

Memphis, Tenn.—Condition and progress of cotton are good.

Table showing weather reports by telegraph including Rain, Rainfall, and Thermometer readings for various locations from Galveston, Tex. to Memphis, Tenn.

The following statement we have also received by telegraph, showing the height of rivers at the points named at 8 a. m. of the dates given:

Table showing the height of rivers at various points (New Orleans, Memphis, Nashville, Shreveport, Vicksburg) on May 27 1932 and May 29 1931, measured in feet.

Dallas Cotton Exchange Weekly Crop Report.

The Dallas Cotton Exchange each week publishes a very elaborate and comprehensive report covering cotton crop conditions in the different sections of Texas and also in Oklahoma and Arkansas.

TEXAS. WEST TEXAS.

Abilene (Taylor Co.)—Weather has been favorable this week except a little cool first of week. Planting has progressed rapidly and with good weather will be completed in a few days. Some cotton up south of town where rains have not been so heavy.

NORTH TEXAS.

Clarksville (Red River Co.)—Have had six full working days without rain and soil is in better shape. Fields are beginning to look clean and plant has a healthy look in spite of too much cool weather in the early mornings.

CENTRAL TEXAS.

Austin (Travis Co.)—Weather all right this week except too cool during nights. Bartlett (Bell Co.)—Have had entirely too much rain in the recent past. Many fields are grassy. Small per cent of crop will be replanted on account of grass.

EAST TEXAS.

Marshall (Harrison Co.)—Crop getting off to a good start. About 85% planted and 70% up. Stands perfect. Soil in excellent condition and plenty of labor. About 5% reduction in acreage.

SOUTH TEXAS.

Alice (Jim Wells Co.)—Dry weather needed. Good rains first part of week. Some fields grassy but work progressing well in most places. Cotton squaring freely. No weevil reported in this country but have heard of some in Duval Co.

OKLAHOMA.

Hugo (Choctaw Co.)—Crop progress very favorable. All planted and mostly chopped out. Stands good. Uplands will need showers next week.

hot sunshine. Occasional showers would prove beneficial, but generally speaking conditions are very promising for a cotton crop. Think this County reduced fully 12% in acreage from last year.

ARKANSAS.

Ashdown (Little River Co.)—95% planted. 80% up. Stands ranging all the way from poor to good. 25% chopped. Late planted will not germinate until it rains. Cold nights causing plant to continue to die, considerable replanting.

OKLAHOMA.

Frederick (Tillman Co.)—90% crop planted—small per cent up—conditions good to date—too early for much of an opinion.

RECEIPTS FROM THE PLANTATIONS.—The following table indicates the actual movement each week from the plantations. The figures do not include overland receipts nor Southern consumption; they are simply a statement of the weekly movement from the plantations of that part of the crop which finally reaches the market through the outports.

Table with 9 columns: Week Ended, Receipts at Ports (1932, 1931, 1930), Stocks at Interior Towns (1932, 1931, 1930), Receipts from Plantations (1932, 1931, 1930). Rows include Feb, Mar, Apr, May.

The above statement shows: (1) That the total receipts from the plantations since Aug. 1 1931 are 10,085,626 bales; in 1930 were 8,857,662 bales, and in 1929 were 8,547,177 bales.

WORLD'S SUPPLY AND TAKINGS OF COTTON.—The following brief but comprehensive statement indicates at a glance the world's supply of cotton for the week and since Aug. 1 for the last two seasons from all sources from which statistics are obtainable; also the takings or amounts gone out of sight for the like period:

Table with columns: Cotton Takings, Week and Season, 1931-32 (Week, Season), 1930-31 (Week, Season). Rows include Visible supply, American in sight, Bombay receipts, etc.

\* Embraces receipts in Europe from Brazil, Smyrna, West Indies, &c. a This total embraces since Aug. 1 the total estimated consumption by Southern mills, 3,286,000 bales in 1931-32 and 3,716,000 bales in 1930-31—takings not being available—and the aggregate amounts taken by Northern and foreign spinners, 13,286,052 bales in 1931-32 and 12,242,291 bales in 1930-31, of which 8,929,052 bales and 7,306,191 bales American.

INDIA COTTON MOVEMENT FROM ALL PORTS.—The receipts of India cotton at Bombay and the shipments from all Indian ports for the week and for the season from Aug. 1, as cabled, for three years, have been as follows:

Table with 4 columns: May 26 Receipts at—, 1931-32 (Week, Since Aug. 1), 1930-31 (Week, Since Aug. 1), 1929-30 (Week, Since Aug. 1). Row includes Bombay May 26.

Table with columns: Exports From, For the Week (Great Britain, Continent, Japan & China, Total), Since August 1. (Great Britain, Continent, Japan & China, Total). Rows include Bombay, Other India, and Total all.

According to the foregoing, Bombay appears to show an increase compared with last year in the week's receipts of 9,000 bales. Exports for all India ports record a decrease of 11,000 bales during the week, and since Aug. 1 show a decrease of 1,637,000 bales.

ALEXANDRIA RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS.—We now receive weekly a cable of the movements of cotton at Alexandria, Egypt. The following are the receipts and shipments for the past week and for the corresponding week of the previous two years:

Table with columns: Alexandria, Egypt, May 25, 1931-32, 1930-31, 1929-30. Rows include Receipts (Cantars) and Export (Bales).

Note.—A cantar is 99 lbs. Egyptian bales weigh about 750 lbs. This statement shows that the receipts for the week ending May 25 were 60,000 cantars and the foreign shipments 9,000 bales.

MANCHESTER MARKET.—Our report received by cable to-night from Manchester states that the market in both yarns and cloths is quiet. Demand for both yarn and cloth is poor. We give prices to-day below and leave those of previous weeks of this and last year for comparison.

Table with columns: 1932, 1931. Rows include Feb., Mar., April, May with sub-columns for 32s Crop Twist, 8 1/2 Lb. Shirts, Cotton Midd'g.

SHIPPING NEWS.—Shipments in detail:

Table with columns: Destination, Date, Bales. Rows include GALVESTON, MOBILE, HOUSTON, SAVANNAH, CHARLESTON, PENSACOLA.

Table with columns: Destination, Date, Bales. Rows include NEW ORLEANS, LOS ANGELES, NORFOLK, NEW YORK, JACKSONVILLE, BOSTON, TEXAS CITY, LAKE CHARLES.

COTTON FREIGHTS.—Current rates for cotton from New York, as furnished by Lambert & Barrows, Inc., are as follows, quotations being in cents per pound:

Table with columns: High Density, Stand. ard., Destination, High Density, Stand. ard., High Density, Stand. ard. Rows include Liverpool, Manchester, Antwerp, Havre, Rotterdam, Genoa, Oslo.

LIVERPOOL.—By cable from Liverpool we have the following statement of the week's sales, stocks, &c., at that port:

Table with columns: Date, Forwarded, Total stocks, Total imports, Amount afloat. Rows include May 6, May 13, May 20, May 27.

The tone of the Liverpool market for spots and futures each day of the past week and the daily closing prices of spot cotton have been as follows:

Table with columns: Spot, Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Rows include Market, Mid. Up'ds, Sales, Futures, Market.

Prices of futures at Liverpool for each day are given below

Table with columns: Date, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Rows include New Contract, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December, January, February, March, April, May.

BREADSTUFFS

Friday Night, May 27 1932. FLOUR was quiet but firm, and late last week advanced. On the 23rd inst. prices advanced 10c. Though trade was still quiet, flour responded to rising prices for wheat. WHEAT has risen some 1/2 to 1c. under the spur of persistent bad crop accounts from the winter wheat belt.

bought 400,000 bushels. July in Kansas City was only 5c. under Chicago, the smallest difference of the season.

On the 23rd inst. prices ended 1 1/4 to 1 5/8c. higher on bad winter wheat news, reports of Hessian fly in Illinois and Indiana, and grasshoppers in the Northwest. East of the Missouri things look bad for the winter wheat owing to pests, dry weather, and the effects of the freeze in March, which are becoming more apparent as time goes on. One estimate of five States, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Texas and Colorado, was 164,000,000 bushels against 444,000,000 harvested there last year.

On the 25th inst. prices made a goo rally after an early decline, with stocks off and rains in Kansas, Nebraska, Illinois and Iowa. The presence on the Chicago Board of Trade of Cutten, Livermore and Howell attracted attention. Wall Street bought. Professionals in Chicago were understood to be buying. The technical position was considered better. A fair export business was done. Rumor said that it was of substantial size overnight. Apparently a good export trade in barley was done at Winnipeg. Some of the buying was on reports of dust storms in Saskatchewan. The speculation showed a tendency to broaden on the bad outlook for the winter wheat crop. The spring wheat crop seems to be doing well. The French foreign wheat quota for mills was increased. On the 25th inst. prices ended 5/8 to 3/4c. higher, after being at one time 3/8 to 1/2c. lower.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF BONDED WHEAT IN NEW YORK.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. for May and July.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT IN NEW YORK.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. for No. 2 red.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. for May, July, Sept, Dec delivery.

Season's High and When Made / Season's Low and When Made for May, July, Sept, Dec.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN WINNIPEG.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. for May, July, Oct delivery.

INDIAN CORN has been dull both as to speculation and the cash trade. These factors offset the smallness of the country offerings. On the 21st inst. prices advanced 1/4 to 3/8c. lifted by wheat, but with shipping demand slow.

1,134,000 bushels. The total is now 20,562,000 bushels against 13,749,000 a year ago. The Nebraska report said that planting was 70% completed and that the acreage increase is 15%. On the 24th inst. prices ended 1/4 to 1c. lower, May acting the best. Corn took its tone largely from wheat, but showed no activity.

On the 24th inst. sales in Chicago were 3,130,000 bushels; open contracts, 31,063,000 bushels. On the 25th inst. prices closed 3/8c. lower to 1/2c. higher, December showing the most strength. May was the weakest. The Nebraska mid-month crop report estimated 70% of the corn had been planted, with a 15% increase in acreage, or around 1,500,000 acres, suggesting 11,500,000 acres for the 1932 crop. Shipping demand remained slow, while the country sold 75,000 bushels to arrive. On the 26th inst. prices closed 1/4 to 5/8c. net lower, with the weather favorable and wheat lower.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN IN NEW YORK.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. for No. 2 yellow.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. for May, July, Sept, Dec delivery.

Season's High and When Made / Season's Low and When Made for May, July, Sept, Dec.

OATS have been dull and a fraction lower, with no features of special interest. On the 21st inst. prices closed 1/2c. lower to 1/8c. higher, with May liquidation a drawback. On the 23rd inst. prices advanced 3/8 to 5/8c., with corn higher. On the 24th inst. prices closed 1/2 to 5/8c. lower, with other grain down. But commission houses bought on the decline. On the 25th inst. prices closed 1/8c. lower to 1/8c. higher. May fell under the weight of liquidation. On the 26th inst. prices declined 1/4 to 1/2c., with other grain lower.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS IN NEW YORK.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. for No. 2 white.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. for May, July, Sept, Dec delivery.

Season's High and When Made / Season's Low and When Made for May, July, Sept, Dec.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN WINNIPEG.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. for May, July delivery.

RYE has declined owing as much as anything else to the lack of an export trade, though when wheat declined to-day rye followed. On the 21st inst. prices were 1/2 to 5/8c. higher. On the 23rd inst. prices advanced 3/8 to 1c. under the lead of wheat, with no other special incidents. On the 24th inst. prices declined 1 1/2 to 2c. on the decline in wheat and persistent selling by commission houses.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF RYE FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. for May, July, Sept delivery.

Season's High and When Made / Season's Low and When Made for May, July, Sept.

Closing quotations were as follows:

Table listing prices for GRAIN (Wheat, Corn, Rye) and FLOUR (Spring pat, Rye flour patents, etc.).

Table listing prices for FLOUR (Spring pat, Rye flour patents, etc.).

All the statements below regarding the movement of grain—receipts, exports, visible supply, &c.—are prepared by us from figures collected by the New York Produce Exchange. First we give the receipts at Western lake and river ports

for the week ending last Saturday and since Aug. 1 for each of the last three years:

Table with 7 columns: Receipts at—, Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Rye. Rows include Chicago, Minneapolis, Duluth, Milwaukee, Toledo, Detroit, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Peoria, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Joseph, Wichita, Sioux City, Buffalo (Lake) and weekly totals since Aug. 1, 1931, 1930, 1929.

Total receipts of flour and grain at the seaboard ports for the week ending Saturday, May 21 follows:

Table with 7 columns: Receipts at—, Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Rye. Rows include New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Newport News, Mobile, New Orleans, Galveston, Montreal, Halifax, Boston, Sorel and weekly totals since Jan. 1, 1932, Week 1931, and since Jan. 1, 1931.

\* Receipts do not include grain passing through New Orleans for foreign ports on through bills of lading.

The exports from the several seaboard ports for the week ending Saturday, May 21 1932, are shown in the annexed statement:

Table with 7 columns: Exports from—, Wheat, Corn, Flour, Oats, Rye, Barley. Rows include New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Mobile, New Orleans, Galveston, Montreal, Sorel, Halifax and weekly totals for 1932 and 1931.

The destination of these exports for the week and since July 1931 is as below:

Table with 7 columns: Exports for Week and Since July 1 to—, Flour, Wheat, Corn. Rows include United Kingdom, Continent, So. & Cent. Amer., West Indies, Brit. No. Am. Col., Other countries and totals for 1932 and 1931.

The visible supply of grain, comprising the stocks in granary at principal points of accumulation at lake and seaboard ports Saturday, May 21, were as follows:

Table with 7 columns: United States—, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, Barley. Rows list various locations like New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, Galveston, Fort Worth, Buffalo, Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Wichita, Hutchinson, St. Joseph, Peoria, Indianapolis, Omaha, On Lakes, On Canal and River and weekly totals for May 21 1932, May 14 1932, and May 23 1931.

Note.—Bonded grain not included above: Oats, New York, 1,000 bushels; total, 1,000 bushels, against 442,000 bushels in 1931. Barley, New York, 1,000

bushels; Erie, 282,000; total, 283,000 bushels, against 1,674,000 bushels in 1931. Wheat, New York, 1,440,000 bushels; New York afloat, 1,215,000; Buffalo, 2,372,000; Buffalo afloat, 670,000; Erie, 126,000; on Lakes, 239,000; Canal, 1,114,000; total, 7,176,000 bushels, against 8,471,000 bushels in 1931.

Table with 7 columns: Canadian—, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, Barley. Rows include Montreal, Ft. William & Pt. Arthur, Other Canadian and weekly totals for May 21 1932, May 14 1932, and May 23 1931.

Table with 7 columns: Summary—, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, Barley. Rows include American and Canadian totals for May 21 1932, May 14 1932, and May 23 1931.

The world's shipment of wheat and corn, as furnished by Broomhall to the New York Produce Exchange, for the week ending Friday, May 20, and since July 1 1931 and 1930, are shown in the following:

Table with 7 columns: Exports—, Wheat, Corn. Rows include North Amer., Black Sea, Argentina, Australia, India, Oth. countries and weekly totals for 1932 and 1931.

WEATHER REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDED MAY 25.—The general summary of the weather bulletin issued by the Department of Agriculture, indicating the influence of the weather for the week ended May 25, follows:

Low pressure persisted in east Gulf sections during practically the entire week, while two extensive "highs" moved eastward over Northern States. This pressure distribution brought to Southeastern States cloudy and rainy weather throughout nearly the entire period, while it was mostly fair and decidedly cool north of the eastern half of the cotton belt.

Chart I shows that the week, as a whole, was decidedly cool in nearly all sections east of the Mississippi River, with the Appalachian and Atlantic States having the greatest departures from normal temperature. On the other hand, the Northwest, extending as far east and south as central Iowa and Oklahoma, had much above normal temperature, with the plus departures ranging from six deg. to as much as 12 deg. over considerable areas.

Chart II shows that rainfall was substantial in sections of the Southeastern States, but excessive amounts were confined to relatively small areas, principally along the immediate Gulf coast from eastern Louisiana to northwestern Florida and in southern Florida. The heaviest weekly falls reported were 10.5 inches at New Orleans, La., and Mobile, Ala.; 10.1 at Eufaula, Ala., and 8.3 at Miami, Fla. A considerable number of stations in east Gulf districts had around five inches of rainfall.

The outstanding feature of the week's weather was the substantial to heavy precipitation in the Southeast, which effectively relieved the seriously droughty conditions that had developed in that area. A few localities had excessive rains, with attendant crop damage, but these were confined principally to immediate east Gulf sections and southern Florida; they were comparatively local in character. On the whole, the agricultural outlook was much improved by the week's weather from southern North Carolina to Florida and in the east Gulf States.

In the Northwestern States conditions continue generally satisfactory, though the past week was somewhat less favorable than recent weeks. This was due to high, drying winds, and the absence of precipitation in many places. A few sections of the Northwest are now needing moisture, but the general situation remains satisfactory. Grasshoppers have hatched rapidly in South Dakota and Nebraska, and are reported in western Iowa; in some places they have appeared in large numbers and are causing apprehension.

In the central States, between the Appalachian and Rocky Mountains, conditions are gradually becoming less favorable, especially for grass and small grains, because of the growing tendency to dryness. This is most pronounced in the western Ohio and lower Missouri Valleys, especially in Missouri, and over the Great Plains from Nebraska southward to Oklahoma. Opportune rains were very helpful, especially for small grains, in the north Pacific area, while the range and livestock continue to improve gradually in Rocky Mountain and Great Basin States.

SMALL GRAINS.—In the eastern and southern Ohio Valley sections winter wheat progress and condition continued very good to excellent, but in central and western valley areas advance was checked by dryness and low temperatures, and there was local deterioration. Rain is rather badly needed in the latter area, and also in Missouri where the crop is heading northward to west-central sections, but on short straw; condition remains fair in the northwestern part of this State and on main river bottoms, but many uplands are in poor shape. In Kansas wheat developed satisfactorily in east-central and northeastern parts, but continued to deteriorate in the western half; most of the crop is headed out in the eastern half, but there is very little heading in the western third.

In the Southwest progress of winter wheat was poor in some sections, but condition ranges from poor to very good; harvest has started in Texas. Winter grains did very well in the Northwest, except for some dry areas in the north-central Great Plains. Good rains in the north Pacific section were of material benefit. The heavy rains in the Southeast delayed harvest.

In the spring wheat region advance continued largely favorable, except in some locally dry areas. Oats vary widely, with the winter varieties fair to good in parts of the Southwest, but the spring crop very poor; reports were rather poor from some other central parts of the country. Flax seeding is progressing in the northern Great Plains, while rye is heading locally.

The Weather Bureau furnishes the following resume of the conditions in the different States:

Virginia.—Richmond: Temperatures somewhat below normal; heavy rain at beginning of week. Cotton planted and some sprouted. Peanuts being planted. Cultivation of corn begun in south. Grains fair; heading short. Sweet potatoes and tobacco being transplanted. Truck improving; meadows and pastures excellent.

North Carolina.—Raleigh: Cool, with much cloudiness and frequent rains in south; heavy in southeast, but light elsewhere and more needed in north. Advance of crops fair to good in south, but poor in north. Cotton mostly good stands, except parts of north, but growth retarded.

South Carolina.—Columbia: Daily rains improved all crops, but delayed winter cereal harvest. Weather especially favorable for sweet potato transplanting, which is active. Young tobacco growing nicely. Tree fruits

made seasonal growth. Cotton and corn generally good stands, and cotton being chopped in north and practically completed in south; both early crops being cultivated. Truck, gardens and grass vigorous.

**Georgia.**—Atlanta: Almost daily rains, with excessive falls locally in south where mostly needed, were extremely beneficial, despite accompanying cool weather. Germination of cotton much improved and comparatively little replanting necessary; growth slow, but will be rapid with warmer nights; chopping continues, mostly in northern division. Progress of corn very good; planting on lowlands continues. Transplanting sweet potato, pepper and tomato plants now progressing rapidly. Pastures, melons, truck and all minor crops much improved.

**Florida.**—Jacksonville: Weekly rainfall averaged 2 to 3 inches, except in west-central coast district where totals less generous. Damaging rains in small areas, but marked improvement of corn, cane, peanuts, melons, tobacco, truck and citrus. Planting sweet potatoes active, but potato harvest delayed.

**Alabama.**—Montgomery: Cool throughout; rains quite general—excessive in localities of south, but mostly light in north. Farm work delayed. Corn planting well advanced; corn up and mostly doing well; rains delayed cultivation. Progress and condition of potatoes, truck and pastures mostly fair to good. Cotton planting practically finished; progress, condition and stands poor to good, but averaging fair; coolness retarding growth; complaints of too much rain in south where chopping practically finished.

**Mississippi.**—Vicksburg: Frequent light showers in extreme north and northwest, with moderate to excessive falls elsewhere. Mostly cool. Growth of corn and cotton fair; progress of cultivation poor to fair. Warmth needed throughout. Progress of truck and pastures fair to good.

**Louisiana.**—New Orleans: Generally cool, with heavy to excessive rains in east-central and southeast and light showers in west and extreme north. Too cool for best development of cotton, but otherwise favorable, except for excessive rains in southeast; progress fair to good. Corn mostly very good; cultivation good. Cane, truck and potatoes good progress. Rice only fair.

**Texas.**—Houston: Warm in Panhandle and extreme west, but moderate to cool elsewhere. Dry in south, but widely scattered showers over north half. Condition of cotton fair to good; much replanting necessary in central portion account recent excessive rains; growth retarded by cool nights; chopping backward, but progressing to extreme north, except on lowlands where soil too wet. Progress of corn steady, despite cool nights; some tasseling in south. Condition of oats only poor to fair. Winter wheat mostly fair to good; grain cutting starting. Rice mostly planted.

**Oklahoma.**—Oklahoma City: Mostly clear, warm days, but cool nights. Light to moderate scattered showers general, but rain needed in all sections. Progress of winter wheat poor as too dry; condition poor to very good; ripening rapidly in south, but headed on short straw in north. Progress of corn poor as too dry, but condition generally very good; stands and cultivation good. Progress of cotton fairly good; stands generally good; planting finished in south and well advanced in north. Winter oats fair to good and ripening rapidly; spring oats mostly very poor and heading short.

**Arkansas.**—Little Rock: Progress of early cotton very good and stands and condition very good; chopping advancing rapidly and crop clean and well cultivated; germination of late poor in some northern and western portions, due to dry soil, but elsewhere germination good. Progress of corn very good, but rain needed. Wheat, oats, truck and strawberries damaged in some northern and western portions by dryness, but fair to very good elsewhere.

**Tennessee.**—Nashville: Progress of early corn very good, but needs general rain and warmth. General progress of cotton fair; some not germinating account coolness and absence of rain, and replanting in sections. Condition and progress of winter wheat fair; oats poor to fair and need rain. Setting tobacco delayed account dry soil.

**Kentucky.**—Louisville: Cool and very dry. Corn planting nearly finished; seed beds unsatisfactory and impossible to perfectly condition soil; cultivation of early commenced and stands fairly good; some land unbroken in extreme north. Growth of tobacco plants irregular because of dryness; some ready and need good rain for setting. Progress and condition of winter wheat very good; mostly headed in south and heading generally in north. Oats, clover, meadows and pastures showing effects of dry weather. Rain and warmth badly needed.

## THE DRY GOODS TRADE

New York, Friday Night, May 27 1932.

The continuance of favorable weather and scattered improvement of consumption at retail has made it necessary for stores to place a certain amount of re-order business on seasonal goods. Some slight expansion of buying at distributors' hands resulted in some quarters, it is reported, but the improvement in total was not sufficiently marked to encourage the hope that a significant change in the textile situation is in prospect. The improvement was confined largely to a few lines, notably wash goods, sheets and pillow cases. Textile markets, while doing much toward consolidating their present position against eventualities are inclined to center attention on the situation in Washington, where nothing conclusive has yet been done toward balancing the Federal budget and instituting an acceptable relief program. It is generally conceded that no genuine revival of business in general can be expected while these issues remain unclarified. Many textile observers, meanwhile, share the apprehension of all business observers with regard to the inflationary flavor of many of the plans being considered. While it is thought that the Goldsborough and Veterans' Bonus bills will not be enacted, they are not the only measures which are being looked at askance in some quarters. The relief programs now being offered in Washington include the alternative measures of a large Government bond issue, or an expansion of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation's resources, which similarly involves Government expenditures, with the difference that smaller issues of bonds would be issued from time to time instead of immediately in one lump. Both these projects, together with other aspects of the programs, are being vigorously criticized by reputable commentators, though it is generally conceded that some such plan is necessary. This confusion of viewpoint is aggravating the nervousness occasioned by Congress's failure so far to accomplish anything definite. The forthcoming conference at Lausanne is meanwhile not being lost sight of. Hope is apparently waning in many quarters as to the prospects of any satisfactory solution of the pressing problem of international debts at that meeting, though the warning is widely voiced that the world cannot recover from the depression while it is burdened with debts as at present. However, hopeful expressions continue to be made in textile markets on the score of the great curtailment now going forward; reduced costs of production, greatly deflated values, recent evidence of slackening in the rate of decline in commodity prices. The outlook is concededly disquieting, but hope has by no means been relinquished that the next three months will usher in clarified conditions, renewed confidence, and measures to cope adequately with the fundamental evils of the depression and enable the country's purchasers to take advantage of the

excellent values available. New constructive developments are of course urgently needed to stimulate confidence, and they may be provided relatively early, possibly by the groups of financiers now occupied in finding ways to utilize the country's stagnant funds. Meanwhile, there is no indication of any early change in the dullness which prevails throughout textiles, and the necessity of continued intensive and intensified curtailment is being recognized in the only suitable way—that is, by conforming to it. Further news of additional curtailment has been coming to hand daily, especially in the cases of cotton and rayon mills, it is reported. In the rayon division general shutdowns are in prospect, to offset burdensome stocks which are threatening to undermine prices. The woolen goods division continues heavily curtailed, while closing down of finishing and printing machinery in the cotton goods division is proceeding steadily. Financial backers are said to be having something to do with forcing this concerted move to stabilize values against the effect of accumulations. Prices have continued to fall off here and there.

**DOMESTIC COTTON GOODS.**—Scattered, small, replenishment of seasonable goods was not sufficient to make any noteworthy change in the cotton goods situation, which continues very slow, with attention divided between the insistent struggle to obtain adequate curtailment of production, and the disturbing tenor of conditions outside the industry. Buyers' caution appeared to be as marked as ever, and they placed orders only for small lots for spot or nearby needs. There was some inquiry for future needs, but it was reported as somewhat below that of last week. One encouraging development in this respect, however, is the refusal of many mills to consider orders for July to September delivery at current prices. Complaints from some quarters that retail prices are often too high still, in relation to the declines that have taken place in raw materials and primary prices for goods, are aggravated by the accusation that retailers are undermining consumer confidence by concentrating too much on low qualities. It is charged that retailers, in order to attract consumers, are offering them low qualities, which are amenable to bargain prices rather than reducing their prices on quality goods. The fact that a vast amount of unfast and unserviceable cotton goods is being offered to consumers at this time in place of the sound fabrics that are available is widely deprecated by leaders in the trade, who fear that considerable damage will thus be done to the good reputation of cotton goods which has been built up in the public mind. National Cotton Week, everything considered, is reputed to have been a pronounced success. The Cotton-Textile Institute elicited a general and very gratifying response from the retail trade which promoted cotton dresses and domestic products vigorously, and with some material success. For instance, there has been no letup in re-ordering of cotton dresses, which have continued to move steadily into consumption since termination of National Cotton Week. Print cloths prices continued to recede in dull trading. Print cloths 27-inch 64x60's constructions are quoted at 2½c., and 28-inch 64x60's at 2¼c. Gray goods 39-inch 68x72's constructions are quoted at 3 5/16c., and 39-inch 80x80's at 3¾ to 4c.

**WOOLEN GOODS.**—Greatly curtailed activity in all respects continues to characterize the woollens and worsteds trade, with production greatly reduced and in some places at a complete standstill, and duplicates on fall men's wear suitings coming to hand slowly and stipulating for small quantities. Price unsettlement seems to be somewhat less marked than in recent weeks. Some men's wear mills have reduced prices on semi-staples 5c. to 10c., which brings them in line with lower prices for wool, and instances are reported of reductions on certain highly competitive fabrics by large mills, but it is denied that such reductions were drastic enough to unsettle the market. Current demand for tropicals is described as disappointing, and pressure for reduced prices is insistent. Retailers, it is reported, want cheap tropicals and cannot afford to use standard cloths. However, this situation has not yet weakened the position of mills, which continue to hold prices firm in anticipation of the time when really hot weather will, it is predicted, make the limited supplies of tropicals now available move into consumption very quickly. Initial business on women's cloakings for fall was not particularly gratifying following openings by a majority of women's wear mills. There is as yet no certainty as to style-leaders, and buyers are holding back until they have had an opportunity to consider well. Active buying is not looked for until early in July, when, however, it is expected to approximate satisfactory proportions.

**FOREIGN DRY GOODS.**—Continued favorable weather and the appearance of a sharply expanded volume of inquiry for men's linen suitings during the past week have led importers to assume that clothing manufacturers will be buying linens in a large way within the next fortnight. Retailers, it is understood, are taking larger quantities of suits, and clothing makers' stocks are depleted. Burlap business during the week comprised a small amount of small spot orders for quick delivery. Less than carload lots were specified in most instances. The tone of the market was barely steady, lacking any constructive news from Calcutta. Light weights are quoted at 3.15c., and heavies at 4.33c.

State and City Department

NEWS ITEMS

Florida.—Summary of Supreme Court Decision on Priority of State, County and City Tax Liens.—The effect of the decision recently handed down by the Supreme Court of Florida holding that there is no priority between the liens for State and county taxes and the liens for municipal taxes, in a lawsuit instituted by the Bondholders' Protective Committee of Sanford—V. 134, p. 3854—is summarized in a statement prepared for the committee by Thomson, Wood & Hoffman, bond attorneys of New York City. The statement reads as follows:

City of Sanford vs. J. C. Dial.

The suit involved the question of whether there were any priorities between the liens for State and county taxes and the liens for taxes and special assessments levied by the City of Sanford. The Bondholders' Protective Committee of the City of Sanford was interested in establishing that the lien for city taxes was not inferior to the lien for State and county taxes, and counsel for the committee participated in the argument of this case in the Supreme Court of Florida. The court held that the liens for State and county taxes and for city taxes rank on a parity, but that under the provisions of the Sanford charter the liens for special assessments, levied under the charter, were inferior to the liens for State and county and city taxes. The decision that the liens for special assessments were inferior to the liens for State and county and city taxes was based upon the language of the Sanford charter, and the court's decision in this respect is applicable solely to special assessments levied by the City of Sanford. Many municipal charters and special Acts of the Florida Legislature expressly provide that the liens for special assessments shall rank on a parity with the liens for State and county taxes. The decision of the Supreme Court in the case of Sanford vs. Dial does not apply to special assessments levied under such statutes.

Moreover, the bonds of the City of Sanford, for the payment of which special assessments have been pledged, are general obligations of the city. The validity of these bonds and the obligation of the city to levy taxes for their payment were not involved or questioned in the litigation. The right of the holder of such bonds to compel the levy of taxes upon all taxable property in the city for their payment is not impaired by that decision, and the court expressly held that the lien for such taxes ranks on a parity with the lien for State and county taxes.

The decision in this case is favorable to the holders of Florida municipal bonds rather than prejudicial to their interests provided their bonds are general obligations of the municipality, as is almost invariably the case. The holder of such bonds is assured by this decision that the taxes levied by the municipality for the payment of the principal and interest of the bonds will not be rendered uncollectible by reason of the foreclosure of the lien securing the State and county tax levied upon the same property, and conversely the holder of bonds secured by county taxes is assured that the lien securing the payment of such taxes will not be extinguished by the foreclosure of the lien securing the collection of municipal taxes.

Ruling Given on Payment of Bonds by Delinquent Drainage Districts.—Bond money collected in the treasury of a delinquent drainage district cannot be paid out by supervisors to the first bondholders who ask for it, but must be divided equally among all holders of the issue, Judge A. V. Long of Gainesville, has ruled, according to dispatches from Tampa to the "Wall Street Journal" of May 24. It is stated that the decision sets a precedent for payment of money by drainage districts which is opposed to the ruling set in the case of municipalities by the Supreme Court which ruled in the case of cities the first bondholders to come should be the first served (see item under Coral Gables in V. 134, p. 354).

Idaho.—Statement on Bonded Debt of Taxing Units for 1930.—The following is the latest available data on the indebtedness of the counties and taxing units of the State, as tentatively reported in V. 134, p. 3316, forwarded to us in response to our inquiry by E. G. Gallet, State Auditor, under date of May 4:

Bonded Indebtedness of the 44 Counties of Idaho as Shown by Annual Reports of the County Auditors for 1930.

Table with 3 columns: County, County Bonds, Tot. All Units. Lists 44 counties from Ada to Washington with their respective bonded indebtedness and total units.

Summary table for Bonding Unit. Columns: Bonding Unit, Total Bond, Debt. Rows include County, Cities and villages, Independent school districts, Rural high school districts, Common school districts, Irrigation districts, Drainage districts, Road and highway districts, and Total, all bonding units.

Financial Statement (As Officially Reported May 13 1932). Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Rows include Assessable value of property within Province, Gross funded and temporary debt, Less: Revenue-producing debt, Total sinking funds, Less sinking fund on revenue-producing debt, Deposit with Dominion Government, Net funded and temporary debt, Contingent liabilities in respect to guaranteed obligations, Ordinary revenue fiscal year ended Oct. 31 1931, Ordinary expenditure fiscal year ended Oct. 31 1931, Population 408,255 (1931 Census). Area, 27,985 sq. miles.

Maine.—Additions to List of Savings Bank Legal Investments.—In a bulletin made public on May 21 it was announced by Sanger N. Annis, State Bank Commissioner, that the following public utility bonds have been added to the list of investments considered legal for savings banks:

- Blackstone Valley Gas & Electric Co., B 5s of 1952. Northern Pennsylvania Power Co., 1st & ref. A 5s of 1956. Northern Pennsylvania Power Co., 1st & ref. B 5s of 1962.

Michigan.—Public Debt Commission Organized to Refund Maturing Bonds.—The following is taken from a Lansing dispatch to the Detroit "Free Press" of May 22 regarding the organization of a Public Debt Commission that was authorized at the recent special session—V. 134, p. 3854—designed to act as a refunding advisory body for municipalities in the State which have bonds maturing within the next five years:

Michigan's new Public Debt Commission was organized to-day to avert a State-wide calamity by refunding bonds totaling \$50,000,000 within the next 12 months. The groundwork was laid for a refinancing program that will offer relief to almost every county, township, school district and municipality by permitting renewal of obligations totaling \$300,000,000 or more during the five years the Commission is to exist.

Created by an Act passed during the special session of the Legislature, the Commission is composed of State Treasurer Howard C. Lawrence, Attorney-General Paul W. Voorhies and Auditor-General O. B. Fuller. Mr. Lawrence was made Chairman at the board's first meeting.

Saves Bond Default.

"There would have been a State-wide calamity had this law not been enacted," State Treasurer Lawrence declared. "Hundreds of local governments would have been forced by circumstances to default their bonds maturing this year. Governmental credit would have been destroyed and the thousands of persons owning the securities would have been compelled to wait indefinitely for their money. Meanwhile, interest payments would have stopped.

"These bonds were sold during those prosperous years when most governments were plunging recklessly into debt. The obligations are beginning to mature—and the governments are without funds, principally because of tax delinquencies and the huge cost of welfare work. Had the Legislature not acted, most of the debts would have been repudiated for the time being.

"The new law sets up a safe and sound method of refinancing these obligations, thus solving the problems. But we are going to prescribe rigid rules to guard against recurrence of a situation such as exists to-day. We are going to see to it that when the refunding bonds mature, the money will be in the local treasuries to take them up."

Rules Being Drafted.

The rules of procedure are now being prepared and probably will be announced by the Commission within two weeks.

The outstanding debt of the local governments is now \$814,148,000. The State Treasurer estimated that \$71,800,000 of this obligation will become due within the next 12 months. He said the local units will be able to retire about \$22,000,000 and that probably \$50,000,000 will be refunded.

The debt includes \$233,121,000 in sinking fund and long-term securities; \$353,736,000 in serial bonds (most of them issued by school districts); \$57,417,000 in special assessment bonds; \$60,154,000 in notes and other interim paper; \$44,603,000 in Covert Road bonds, and \$18,365,000 in drain bonds.

Before any of these debts may be refinanced, the local governments must apply to the Public Debt Commission and submit to the State a detailed analysis of their financial conditions.

Mississippi.—Outline of New General Tax Law.—The following detailed outline of the outstanding provisions contained in the new general tax measure signed by Governor Conner on April 28—V. 134, p. 3668—is sent to us in response to our request of recent date by Leigh Watkins, Jr., Director of the State Tax Commission:

Salient Features of Emergency Revenue Act of 1932.

(Prepared by Leigh Watkins, Jr., Director)

1st.—License tax of one dollar must be paid to the Tax Commissioner from and after the 30th of April for the privilege of engaging in any business taxable under the Law, conditioned that the tax accruing under the Act shall be paid.

2nd.—Businesses and Professions Taxable, and rates:

(1)—All manufacturers. Rate 1/4 of 1% except manufacturers of brick, drain tile, building tile, sewer pipe, Portland Cement and Portland cement products and clay products, at rate of 1%. Bottled soft drinks, 1%. Ice factories, 1/2 of 1%. Cotton seed oil mills, 1/4 of 1%.

(2)—Producers and miners, rates as follows: Oil, 2%; Natural gas, 2 1/2%; Limestone, sand, gravel and other mineral products, 2%; timber, 2%. Freight on mineral and manufactured products to be deducted when sold on delivered price. Timber-tax to be applicable only to persons principally engaged in producing timber for commercial purposes. Tax to be based on production within state, regardless of whether sale or deliveries are made without state.

(3)—Retailers (any person engaged in the business of selling any tangible property whatsoever, real or personal, not including bonds, stocks or other evidences of indebtedness) Rate 2%.

a. Wholesalers and jobbers (selling only to retailers or jobbers)—Rate 1/2 of 1%.

b. Auto dealers—Rate 1%.

Persons doing business as both wholesaler and jobber must pay rate required on business under each classification or if books are not so kept, must pay on basis of retailer.

(4)—Public Utilities:

a. Water or public sewerage, or street railway—Rate 2%, except municipally owned.

b. Electricity, power and gas—Industrial rate 1%. All other purposes, 2%; except municipally owned.

c. Telegraph business—2%.

d. Railroad—2%.

e. Sleeping or palace car (Pullman)—2%.

f. Express companies—2%.

g. Pipe line companies—2%.

h. Motor busses, 2%—except school busses.

Exceptions: Inter-State commerce or commerce with foreign countries.

(5)—Every person engaging in any business, profession, trade or calling taxed under the privilege tax laws of the state, except persons paying taxes under the Amusement Tax Laws of the State and those otherwise taxed under the Act, at rate of 2%.

(6)—Contractors (as defined in Privilege Tax Law)—Rate 1%.

Legislature Adjourns.—The regular biennial session of the State Legislature adjourned on May 18 after having been in session for 107 days, according to the New Orleans





for payment on July 1, on which date interest shall cease, various of the 4 3/4% and 5% North Bridge bonds of the issue of July 1 1918, to be payable at the Irving Trust Co. in New York, and a few of the 4 3/4% School District No. 1 bonds of the issue of July 1 1917. These bonds are payable at the office of the County Treasurer.

**CHICAGO, Cook County, Ill.—WARRANTS CALLED FOR REDEMPTION.**—Lewis E. Myers, President of the Board of Education, has announced that the following tax anticipation warrants are called for redemption on or before May 31, payment of which will be made upon presentation of the same to the office of the City Treasurer, Halsey, Stuart & Co. of Chicago or the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York: Building fund, 1930, No. 1535, for \$1,000, and Nos. 1618 to 1629, for \$5,000 each, 5 3/4%, dated Nov. 1 1930.

**CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.**—Charles C. Frazine, Director of Finance, will receive sealed bids until 11 a. m. (Eastern standard time) on June 6 for the purchase of \$198,050 6% bonds divided as follows: \$111,000 street impmt. bonds. Due Oct. 1 as follows: \$11,000 from 1933 to 1937 incl.; \$12,000 in 1938, and \$11,000 from 1939 to 1942 incl. 49,550 sewer bonds. Due Oct. 1 as follows: \$4,550 in 1933 and \$5,000 from 1934 to 1942 incl. 27,000 park impmt. bonds. Due Oct. 1 as follows: \$2,000 in 1933; \$3,000 from 1934 to 1937; \$2,000 in 1938; \$3,000 from 1939 to 1941 and \$2,000 in 1942. 10,500 water main bonds. Due Oct. 1 as follows: \$1,500 in 1933 and \$1,000 from 1934 to 1942 incl.

Each issue will be dated July 1 1932. Prin. and int. (A. & O.) payable at the office of the Director of Finance or at the legal depository of the city in Cleveland. Bids for the bonds to bear interest at a rate other than 6%, expressed in a multiple of 1/4 of 1%, will also be considered. A certified check for 3% of the bonds bid for, payable to the order of the Director of Finance, is required.

**BOND OFFERING.**—Mr. Frazine will receive sealed bids until 11 a. m. (eastern standard time) on June 20, for the purchase of \$2,345 6% property portion water course improvement bonds, first issue of 1932. Dated July 1 1932. Due Oct. 1 as follows: \$145 in 1933; \$300 in 1934; \$200 in 1935 and 1936; \$300 in 1937; \$200 in 1938 and 1939; \$300 in 1940; \$200 in 1941, and \$300 in 1942. Principal and interest (April and October) payable at the office of the Director of Finance or at the legal depository of the City in Cleveland. Bids for the bonds to bear interest at a rate other than 6%, expressed in a multiple of 1/4 of 1%, will also be considered. A certified check for 3% of the amount bonds bid for, payable to the order of the Director of Finance, must accompany each proposal.

**COCHISE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16 (P. O. Bisbee), Ariz.—BONDS NOT SOLD.**—The \$2,000 issue of 6% semi-annual school bonds offered on April 23—V. 134, p. 2950—was not sold, as there were no bids received. Dated April 15 1932. Due \$200 from 1933 to 1942 incl.

**COLUMBUS, Lowndes County, Miss.—BOND DETAILS.**—The two issues of refunding street impmt. bonds aggregating \$29,000, that were purchased by local investors—V. 134, p. 2767—were awarded as 6s, and were sold at par. Due in 20 years.

**CORSICA SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Corsica), Jefferson County, Pa.—BONDS NOT SOLD.**—A \$3,240 issue of school bonds was offered on May 20 but was not sold as there were no bids received, according to A. W. Luther, District Secretary.

**CRANFORD TOWNSHIP (P. O. Cranford), Union County, N. J.—BOND OFFERING.**—Sealed bids addressed to Alvin R. Denman, Township Clerk, will be received until June 14 for the purchase of \$174,000 bonds, comprising \$116,000 assessment bonds and \$54,000 of public improvement.

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY (P. O. Fayetteville), N. C.—BOND SALE.**—We are informed that a \$75,000 issue of 5 3/4% semi-annual road, bridge, court house and jail refunding bonds authorized by the County Commissioners last November has been purchased at par by T. A. Uzzell & Co. of Greensboro.

**DEFIANCE COUNTY (P. O. Defiance), Ohio.—BOND SALE.**—The following issues of coupon bonds aggregating \$40,000 offered on May 23—V. 134, p. 3670—were awarded as 5 1/2s to the Provident Savings Bank & Trust Co., of Cincinnati, at par plus a premium of \$108, equal to a price of 100.27, a basis of about 5.44%: \$30,000 bridge construction bonds. Due Sept. 1 as follows: \$4,000 from 1934 to 1938 incl., and \$5,000 in 1939 and 1940. 10,000 road bonds. Due Sept. 1 as follows: \$2,000 in 1934 and 1935, and \$3,000 in 1936 and 1937.

Each issue is dated Dec. 1 1931. Bids received at the sale were as follows:

Bidder	Int. Rate	Premium
Provident Savings Bank & Trust Co. (purchaser)	5 1/2%	\$108.00
Banc Ohio Securities Co., Columbus	5 3/4%	72.00
Seasegood & Mayer, Cincinnati	5 3/4%	51.00
Assel, Goetz & Moerlein, Cincinnati	5 3/4%	56.50
Widman, Holzman & Katz, Cincinnati	5 3/4%	23.00
Well, Roth & Irving Co., Cincinnati	6%	261.00
Prudden & Co., Toledo	6%	106.00
State Bank, Defiance	6%	Par

**DES MOINES INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Des Moines), Polk County, Iowa.—BOND SALE.**—An issue of \$149,000 4 1/2% coupon school refunding bonds was purchased recently by the Harris Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago at a price of 101.51, a basis of about 4.26%. Denom. \$1,000. Dated July 1 1932. Due on July 1 as follows: \$24,000 in 1938; \$65,000, 1939, and \$30,000 in 1940 and 1941. Principal and interest (J. & J.) payable in the office of the School Treasurer at Des Moines. Legality to be approved by Chapman & Cutler of Chicago.

Financial Statement (As Officially Reported on May 1 1932 by the Secretary).

Value of taxable property	\$229,335,064
*Total debt (this issue included)	7,709,500
Population 1930 census, 142,559; 1920 census, 126,468.	

\* The constitutional debt limit is 5% of the value of taxable property. The Supreme Court of Iowa defined this to be 5% of the actual value of taxable property as returned by the assessor and as equalized.

**DETROIT, Wayne County, Mich.—COUNCIL VOTES TO RENEW NOTE ISSUES.**—The city council has voted to renew until Sept. 1 1932, at not to exceed 6% interest, \$15,750,000 bond anticipation notes which become due on June 1. It also voted to extend until Aug. 16 1932, at not to exceed 6% interest, maturing tax anticipation notes to the amount of \$582,000.

G. Hall Roosevelt, City Controller, has stated that the note holders have indicated a willingness to renew their holdings. Those holding the notes are: First Wayne National Bank, \$7,000,000; Guardian National Bank of Commerce, \$1,000,000; Detroit Trust Co., \$500,000; Packard Motor Car Co., \$500,000; Detroit Savings Bank, \$500,000, and the Bankers Trust Co., \$6,250,000.

Tax anticipation notes for \$582,000 are held by the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York.

**DUNMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT, Lackawanna County, Pa.—BONDS DEFEATED.**—The election held on April 26 resulted in the defeat of the proposal to issue \$400,000 school building construction bonds. The measure was closely contested, votes in the affirmative numbering 2,921 as compared with 3,020 in the negative.

**EAST BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP (P. O. Old Bridge) Middlesex County, N. J.—OPTION GRANTED.**—The First National Bank of Milltown, has taken a 30-day option on the issue of \$60,000 6% coupon or registered temporary water bonds successfully offered on May 5—V. 134, p. 3857. Dated May 1 1932. Due May 1 as follows: \$6,000 from 1934 to 1937 incl.; \$12,000 in 1938 and \$6,000 from 1939 to 1942 incl.

**EAST FORK IRRIGATION DISTRICT (P. O. Odell), Hood County, Ore.—BOND OFFERING.**—Sealed bids will be received until 2 p. m. on June 22 by E. E. Lage, President of the Board of Directors, at Room 16 of the Iyethian Bldg., in Hood River, for the purchase of a \$26,200 issue of 6% refunding bonds. Denom. \$500 and \$100. Dated July 1 1932. Due \$5,000 on July 1 1937; \$4,000 Jan. 1 and \$4,500 July 1 1938; \$4,500 Jan. 1 and July 1 1939; \$500, Jan. 1 1940, and \$200 on July 1 1942. Prin. and int. (J. & J.) payable in gold or its equivalent at the office of the County Treasurer. A certified check for 2% of the face value of the bonds bid for, payable to the President of the Board, is required. (This report supersedes the preliminary notice given in V. 134, p. 3857.)

**ELBRIDGE, Onondaga County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.**—Aurilla Wood, Village Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 8 p. m. (Eastern Standard time) on May 31 for the purchase of \$52,000 not to exceed 6% interest

coupon or registered water bonds. Dated June 1 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$2,000 on June 1 from 1937 to 1962 incl. Rate of interest to be expressed in a multiple of 1/4 of 1%. Principal and interest (June and Dec.) will be payable at the Syracuse Trust Co., Syracuse, or at the New York Trust Co., New York. A certified check for 2% of the amount of bonds bid for, payable to the order of the Village, must accompany each proposal. The approving opinion of Hawkins, Delafield & Longfellow, of New York, will be furnished the successful bidder. (These bonds were voted at an election held on Oct. 21 1931.—V. 133, p. 2793.)

**ELLSWORTH, Hancock County, Me.—BOND SALE.**—The \$75,000 coupon funding bonds offered on May 25—V. 134, p. 3857—were awarded as 4 3/4s to the Chase Harris Forbes Corp., of Boston, at a price of 98.43, a basis of about 4.50%. Dated June 1 1932. Due on June 1 as follows: \$5,000 from 1933 to 1941 incl., and \$10,000 from 1942 to 1944 incl. Only one bid was received at the sale.

**ELWOOD, Madison County, Ind.—BOND SALE.**—The \$30,000 4 1/2% swimming pool construction bonds offered on May 16—V. 134, p. 3670—have been purchased at a price of par by the contractors for the project. Dated Jan. 1 1932. Due on Jan. 1 as follows: \$3,000 from 1935 to 1942 incl., and \$6,000 in 1943.

**ESSEX COUNTY (P. O. Salem), Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.**—The Second National Bank, of Boston, has purchased a \$200,000 temporary loan at 2.07% discount basis. Due on Nov. 10 1932. Bids received at the sale were as follows:

Bidder	Discount Basis
Second National Bank (successful bidder)	2.07%
Merchants National Bank of Salem (plus \$.95 premium)	2.42%
Gloucester Safe Deposit & Trust Co.	2.84%
Faxon, Gade & Co.	2.93%
Naumkeag Trust Co.	3.02%
Cape Ann National Bank	3.15%

**EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, Clay County, Mo.—BOND SALE.**—The \$10,000 issue of emergency bonds that was authorized by the City Council on May 9—V. 134, p. 3857—is reported to have since been purchased by the local depository.

**FAYETTEVILLE, Cumberland County, N. C.—BOND REPORT.**—The city is reported to have made arrangements for the issuance of the \$65,000 of river terminal bonds that were voted on Nov. 17 1931—V. 133, p. 3492.

**FLINT, Genesee County, Mich.—ASSESSED VALUATION FIGURE REDUCED.**—The State Board of Review has reduced the total of assessed valuation an additional \$17,600,000, the total contraction in the figure for 1932 as compared with that of 1931 being \$30,000,000, according to report.

**FORT EDWARD, Washington County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.**—Fred J. Betts, Village Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 7:30 p. m. (day-light saving time) on June 7 for the purchase of \$23,000 not to exceed 5% interest street paving bonds. Dated July 1 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due July 1 as follows: \$4,000 from 1934 to 1938 incl. and \$3,000 in 1939. Principal and interest (January and July) will be payable at the Fort Edward National Bank. A certified check for 10% of the amount of the bid, payable to the order of the village Treasurer, is required.

**FORT SCOTT, Bourbon County, Kan.—BOND ELECTION.**—It is reported that an election will be held on June 7 in order to vote on the proposed issuance of \$45,000 in bridge bonds.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY (P. O. Columbus), Ohio.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—The application of the county for authority to issue \$601,600 poor relief bonds in accordance with legislation enacted at a special session of the State Legislature—V. 134, p. 3502—was favorably acted upon by the State Relief Commission on May 19. Proceeds of the bonds will be distributed to the various local sub-divisions in the county in accordance with their needs, and re-payment of the same will be made from the proceeds of an additional 1% levy on the gross revenues of utilities in the State.

**FREDERIC, Polk County, Wis.—BONDS VOTED.**—At the election held on May 16—V. 134, p. 3671—the voters approved the proposed issuance of \$25,000 in street paving bonds by a large majority. It is stated that the Village Board then authorized a \$25,000 loan application from the trust funds of the State to carry on work.

**FROSTBURG, Allegany County, Md.—BONDS NOT SOLD.**—The issue of \$25,000 4 1/2% coupon tax-exempt water improvement bonds offered on May 19—V. 134, p. 3671—was not sold, as all of the bids submitted were rejected. Dated June 1 1931. Due \$1,000 annually on June 1 from 1936 to 1960 incl.

**GALVESTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Galveston), Galveston County, Tex.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—The Board of School Trustees is reported to have been authorized by the City Commission to issue and sell \$100,000 in school bonds.

**GLADEWATER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Gladewater), Gregg County, Tex.—BOND ELECTION.**—It is reported that an election will be held on May 30 in order to have the voters pass on the proposed issuance of \$125,000 in 5% semi-ann. school bonds. (This report supplements the preliminary notice given in V. 134, p. 1811.)

**GLOUCESTER, Essex County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.**—The \$75,000 temporary loan offered on May 25—V. 134, p. 3857—was awarded to Arthur Perry & Co. of Boston, at 2.50% discount basis. Dated May 25 1932 and due on Nov. 25 1932. Bids received at the sale were as follows:

Bidder	Discount Basis
Arthur Perry & Co. (successful bidders)	2.50%
Gloucester Safe Deposit & Trust Co.	2.79%
Gloucester National Bank	2.815%
Cape Ann National Bank, Gloucester	2.95%
Faxon, Gade & Co.	2.98%
Jackson & Curtis	3.24%

**GOOSE CAMP SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 (P. O. Selfridge), Sioux County, N. Dak.—CERTIFICATE OFFERING.**—Sealed bids will be received until 2 p. m. on June 4 by Oscar Brugmann, District Clerk, at the office of the County Auditor in Fort Yates, for the purchase of an issue of \$1,000 certificates of indebtedness. Denom. \$500. Dated June 4 1932. Due \$500 on June 4 1933 and 1934. Prin. and int. payable at a place designated by the purchaser. A certified check for 2% of the bid, payable to the District Treasurer, is required.

**GRAND JUNCTION, Mesa County, Colo.—BONDS CALLED.**—It is stated that the City Treasurer is calling for payment at his office on June 11, on which date interest shall cease, various alley paving district, paving district, sidewalk district, combined sewer district and sewer district bonds.

**GRAND RAPIDS, Kent County, Mich.—BOND SALE.**—The \$250,000 social service relief bonds offered on May 23—V. 134, p. 3857—were awarded as 4 3/4s at a price of par to the First Securities Corp. of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Dated June 1 1932. Due \$50,000 on June 1 from 1934 to 1938 incl.

**GRAND RAPIDS AND KENT TOWNSHIPS FRACTIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 3 (P. O. East Grand Rapids) Kent County, Mich.—BOND OFFERING.**—Louis J. DeLamar, Secretary of the Board of Education, will receive sealed bids until 7 p. m. on May 23 (to-day) for the purchase of \$16,000 not to exceed 6% refunding bonds, dated June 1 1932 and \$2,000 on June 1 from 1933 to 1940, incl. Principal and semi-annual interest payable at the Grand Rapids Savings Bank, Grand Rapids. The School District will furnish at its own expense the printed bonds and the legal opinion of Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone, of Detroit. A certified check for 2% of the amount of the bid must accompany each proposal.

**GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 100 (P. O. Montesano) Wash.—BONDS PARTIALLY AWARDED.**—Of the \$35,000 issue of 6% refunding bonds offered for sale on May 23—V. 134, p. 3504—a block of \$20,000 bonds was purchased by the State of Washington at par. Dated June 10 1932. Due in from 2 to 10 years and optional after 2 years.

**GREENBURGH (P. O. Tarrytown), Westchester County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.**—The \$65,142.75 coupon or registered street improvement bonds offered on May 26—V. 134, p. 3857—were awarded as 5.40s to the M. & T. Trust Co. of Buffalo at a price of 100.379, a basis of about 5.34% Dated March 1 1932. Due on March 1 as follows: \$5,142.75 in 1933 and \$5,000 from 1934 to 1945 inclusive.

**GREENVILLE, Hunt County, Tex.—BONDS REGISTERED.**—On May 19 a \$45,000 issue of  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  refunding, series C of 1932 bonds was registered by the State Comptroller. Denom. \$1,000. Due serially.

**HALLOWELL WATER DISTRICT, Kennebec County, Me.—BOND SALE.**—The issue of \$25,000  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  coupon sinking fund gold bonds unsuccessfully offered on Feb. 4—V. 134, p. 1062—has since been sold at par as follows: \$13,000 to the Augusta Savings Bank, of Augusta, and \$12,000 to H. M. Payson & Co., of Portland. Dated Jan. 1 1932 and due on Jan. 1 1937.

**HAMILTON COUNTY (P. O. Cincinnati), Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.**—E. J. Dreih, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, will receive sealed bids until 12 M. on June 17 for the purchase of \$403,371.63  $4\frac{3}{4}\%$  Deer Park sewer construction bonds. Issue will be dated June 1 1932. The bonds will mature as follows: \$11,371.63 March 15 and \$10,000 Sept. 15 1933; \$11,000 March and \$10,000 Sept. 15 in 1934 and 1935, and \$10,000 March and Sept. 15 from 1936 to 1952 incl. Prin. and int. will be payable at the office of the County Treasurer. Bids for the bonds to bear interest at a rate other than  $4\frac{3}{4}\%$ , expressed in a multiple of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1%, will also be considered. In bidding for the sewer construction issue, a certified check in amount of \$4,034, payable to the order of the County Treasurer, is required. A complete transcript of the proceedings with respect to the issue will be furnished the successful bidder. Unofficial reports state that bids will also be received on June 17 for the purchase of \$1,000,000  $4\frac{3}{4}\%$  poor relief bonds, dated June 1 1932 and due from 1934 to 1938 incl.

**HAMPDEN COUNTY (P. O. Springfield), Mass.—LOAN OFFERING.**—John J. Murphy, County Treasurer, will receive sealed bids until 12 m. (daylight saving time) on June 8 for the purchase at discount basis of a \$100,000 temporary loan. Dated June 9 1932 and payable on Nov. 8 1932. Denoms. \$25,000, \$10,000 and \$5,000. Notes evidencing the existence of the debt will be authenticated as to genuineness and validity by the First National Bank of Boston under advice of Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins of Boston.

**HANNIBAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Hannibal) Marion County, Mo.—BONDS VOTED.**—It is reported that at an election held recently the voters approved a proposal calling for the issuance of \$320,000 in high school construction and negro school improvement bonds.

**HARRISON COUNTY (P. O. Corydon), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.**—Fred I. Wolpert, County Auditor, will receive sealed bids until 2 p. m. on May 21 for the purchase of \$5,100  $4\%$  Morgan Township road construction bonds. Dated May 31 1932. Denom. \$255. Due one bond each six months from July 15 1933 to Jan. 15 1943.

**HARTLEY COUNTY (P. O. Channing), Tex.—BOND ELECTION.**—It is reported that an election will be held on June 25 in order to have the voters pass on the proposed issuance of \$150,000 in highway bonds.

**HENDRICKS COUNTY (P. O. Danville), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.**—Byron N. Cox, County Treasurer, will receive sealed bids until 10 a. m. on June 3 for the purchase of \$8,000  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  Brown Township road improvement bonds. Dated June 1 1932. Denom. \$400. Due one bond each six months from July 15 1933 to Jan. 15 1943.

**HILLSDALE, COPAKE, CLAVERACK, TAGHKANIC, AUSTERLITZ, ANCRAM, GALLATIN AND NORTHEAST CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Hillsdale), N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.**—N. P. Holmes, District Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 2:30 p. m. on June 18 at the office of James B. Bell, Hillsdale, for the purchase of \$295,000 not to exceed 6% int. coupon or registered school bonds. Dated June 1 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due June 1 as follows: \$5,000 from 1934 to 1938 incl.; \$10,000 from 1939 to 1942 incl.; \$15,000 from 1943 to 1946 incl.; \$20,000 from 1947 to 1952 incl.; and \$25,000 in 1953 and 1954. Rate of int. to be expressed in a multiple of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 1%. Prin. and int. (J. & D.) will be payable at the Farmers National Bank, Hudson, or at the Chase National Bank, New York. Legality approved by Hawkins, Delafield & Longfellow of New York.

**HILLSIDE TOWNSHIP (P. O. Hillside), Bergen County, N. J.—BONDS NOT SOLD.**—The failure of the township to receive a bid at the offering on May 25 of \$1,438,000 not to exceed 6% int. bonds marked the third occasion on which the bonds have been unsuccessfully offered.—V. 134, p. 3857. Bidders were privileged to name a price of 99 for the issue under the provisions of a bill signed on March 23 by Governor A. Harry Moore.—V. 134, p. 2574. Following the unsuccessful offering, the township council authorized H. L. Allen & Co. of New York, to negotiate for the exchange of \$1,000,000 of the bonds for a like amount of temporary securities, which became due on Jan. 1 1932. The Township itself will endeavor to effect a similar exchange agreement with the holders of a further \$355,000 notes, which also fell due on Jan. 1. The holders of the notes have agreed to extend the maturity date until July 1 1932. In the interim the township has tried to fund the issue through the sale of the permanent obligations.

**HINTON, Summers County, W. Va.—BONDS DEFEATED.**—At the election held on May 10 (V. 134, p. 3504) the voters rejected the proposal to issue \$30,000 in bridge bonds.

**HOBOKEN, Hudson County, N. J.—BOND OFFERING.**—William H. Gilfert, Director of the Department of Revenue and Finance, will receive sealed bids until 10 a. m. (Daylight saving time) on June 7 for the purchase of \$216,000  $6\%$  coupon or registered bonds, divided as follows: \$161,000 school bonds. Due July 1 as follows: \$15,000 from 1933 to 1940 incl.; \$20,000 in 1941, and \$21,000 in 1942. \$55,000 fire and police bonds. Due July 1 as follows: \$5,000 in 1934 and 1935; \$6,000 from 1936 to 1939 incl., and \$7,000 from 1940 to 1942 incl.

Each issue is dated July 1 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Prin. and int. (J. & J.) will be payable at the City Treasurer's office or at the Bank of New York & Trust Co., New York. No more bonds are to be awarded than will produce a premium of \$1,000 over the amount of each issue. A certified check for 2% of the bonds, payable to the order of the city, must accompany each proposal. The approving opinion of Hawkins, Delafield & Longfellow, of New York, will be furnished the successful bidder.

**HOLCOMB, Ontario County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.**—The \$32,500 coupon or registered water bonds offered on May 24 (V. 134, p. 3671) were awarded as 5s to the Ontario County Trust Co. of Canandaigua, the only bidder, at par plus a premium of \$325, equal to a price of 101, a basis of about 4.915%. Dated June 1 1932. Due June 1 as follows: \$1,000 from 1935 to 1965, incl., and \$1,500 in 1966.

**HUMPHREYS COUNTY (P. O. Belzoni), Miss.—NOTE SALE.**—A \$30,000 issue of 6% tax anticipation notes is reported to have been purchased by the Union & Planters Co. of Memphis. Dated April 4 1932. Legality approved by Benj. H. Charles of St. Louis.

**INDIANAPOLIS, Marion County, Ind.—BIDS ASKED FOR BONDS OF THE CITY ITSELF, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE SANITARY DISTRICT.**—William L. Elder, City Comptroller, will receive sealed bids until 11 a. m. (Central standard time) on June 1 for the purchase of \$100,000  $4\frac{3}{4}\%$  coupon municipal street improvement bonds of 1932, first issue. Dated June 1 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$5,000 on July 1 from 1933 to 1952, incl. Principal and interest (Jan. and July) will be payable at the office of the City Treasurer and will constitute an obligation of the city, according to the notice of sale. Proposals must be accompanied by a certified check for  $2\frac{1}{2}\%$  of the issue.

**SCHOOL DISTRICT BONDS OFFERED.**—A. B. Good, Business Director of the Board of School Commissioners of the city, will receive sealed bids until 11:30 a. m. on June 7 for the purchase of \$48,000  $4\frac{3}{4}\%$  Arsenal Technical School remodeling bonds. Dated June 10 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$2,000 on Jan. 1 from 1933 to 1956, incl. Interest payable semi-annually in Jan. and July. A certified check for 3% of the bonds bid for, payable to the order of the Board of School Commissioners, must accompany each proposal. Paraphernalia to be used in bidding for the issue will be furnished upon application to the Business Director of the district. Legislative enactment authorizing issuance of the bonds will be found in the Indiana statute of March 9 1931 (Acts of 1931, page 291).

**SANITARY DISTRICT BONDS OFFERED.**—William L. Elder, City Comptroller, will receive sealed bids until 11 a. m. on June 15 for the purchase of \$409,000  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  bonds of the Indianapolis Sanitary District, divided as follows:

\$266,000 bonds, fourth issue of 1932. Denom. \$950. Due \$13,300 annually on Jan. 1 from 1934 to 1953, incl.

108,000 bonds, second issue of 1932. Denom. \$900. Due \$5,400 annually on Jan. 1 from 1934 to 1953, incl.

35,000 bonds, third issue of 1932. Denom. \$875. Due \$1,750 annually on Jan. 1 from 1934 to 1953, incl.

Each issue will be dated June 15 1932. Bids will be received for the purchase of all or any part of the bonds. Prin. and int. (Jan. and July) will be payable at the office of the County Treasurer or at one of the authorized depositories of the city. A certified check for 3% of the bonds bid for, payable to the order of the Treasurer of the Sanitary District, must accompany each proposal. The official call for bids contains the following paragraph in respect to the nature of the obligations:

"Said bonds shall be negotiable as inland bills of exchange and shall be payable at the office of the Treasurer of Marion County, Indiana, in the City of Indianapolis, Indiana, or at one of the authorized depositories of said city. Said bonds shall not in any respect be a corporate obligation of the City of Indianapolis, Ind., but shall be and constitute an indebtedness of the Sanitary District of Indianapolis, as a special taxing district, and said bonds and interest thereon shall be payable only out of a special tax to be levied upon all property in said Sanitary District, as provided by law, which terms shall be recited on the face of said bonds, together with the purpose for which they are issued."

**ISLIP UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 12 (P. O. Brentwood) Suffolk County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.**—The \$17,000 coupon or registered school bonds offered on May 23—V. 134, p. 3857—were awarded as 6s, at a price of par, to A. C. Allyn & Co. of New York, the only bidder. Dated June 1 1932. Due June 1 as follows: \$3,000 from 1933 to 1935, incl. and \$4,000 in 1936 and 1937.

**JACKSON, Jackson County, Mich.—TEMPORARY LOAN.**—The city has been obliged to borrow \$20,000 from local banks to meet operating expenses. This loan is in addition to one of \$10,000 obtained from the same source a short time ago.

**JACKSON, Hinds County, Miss.—BOND SALE.**—A \$90,000 issue of refunding street improvement and liquidation bonds is reported to have been purchased on May 17 by Saunders & Thomas of Memphis at a price of 95.00.

**JACKSON COUNTY (P. O. Independence) Mo.—BOND SALE.**—The two issues of coupon bonds aggregating \$1,200,000, offered on May 24—V. 134, p. 3858—were purchased by a syndicate composed of the National City Co. of New York, the Northern Trust Co. of Chicago, R. H. Montan & Co. of New York, the First National Co. of St. Louis and the City Bank & Trust Co. of Kansas City as  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  at a price of 100.10, a basis of about 4.49%. The issues are divided as follows: \$1,000,000 Kansas City court house bonds. Due from Jan. 1 1937 to 1952 incl.

200,000 Independence court house bonds. Due from Jan. 1 1937 to 1952 incl.

Denom. \$1,000. Dated June 1 1932. Interest payable J. & J.

**BONDS OFFERED FOR SUBSCRIPTION.**—The successful syndicate re-offered the above bonds for general investment priced to yield as follows: 1937 and 1938 maturities, 4.25%; 1939 to 1942 maturities, 4.30%, and 1943 to 1952 maturities to yield 4.35%. These bonds are said to be exempt from all Federal income taxes and tax free in Missouri. They are legal investment for savings banks and trust funds in New York and other States.

**JASPER, Pickens County, Ga.—BOND OFFERING.**—Sealed bids will be received until noon on June 10 by Mayor R. M. Edge for the purchase of a \$24,000 issue of 6% coupon water works bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Dated June 1 1932. Due \$1,000 from Jan. 1 1939 to 1962, incl. Prin. and int. (J. & J.) payable in gold at the Chase National Bank in New York. These bonds were approved by the voters on April 9—V. 134, p. 3135. No certified check is required.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY (P. O. Steubenville) Ohio.—NOTES NOT SOLD.**—The issue of \$120,000 6% notes offered on May 11—V. 134, p. 3319—was not sold, as no bids were received. Dated May 15 1932 and due in six months.

**JOHNSON COUNTY (P. O. Iowa City), Iowa.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—On April 30 the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution providing for \$17,300.54 5% semi-annual funding bonds. Denom. \$1,000, one for \$300.54. Dated April 1 1932. Due as follows: \$1,000 on Nov. 1 1934; \$2,000, Nov. 1 1935; \$3,000, May and \$4,000 Nov. 1 1936; \$3,000 May and \$4,300.54 Nov. 1 1937.

**JEFFERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Jefferson) Greene County, Iowa.—BOND ELECTION.**—It is reported that an election will be held on June 1 to submit to the voters a proposal to issue \$40,000 in grade school bonds.

**JORDAN SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Sandy) Salt Lake County, Utah.—BONDS DEFEATED.**—We are informed that at the election held on March 8 the proposal to issue \$80,000 in school bonds was rejected by the voters, not approved as reported in V. 134, p. 2004.

**KANE SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Lakota) Nelson County, North Dakota.—BOND SALE.**—The \$60,000 issue of 5% semi-ann. school bonds that was voted on April 1—V. 134, p. 2769—has been purchased at par by the State of North Dakota. Due from 1935 to 1952.

**KANSAS, State of (P. O. Topeka).—BOND OFFERING.**—Sealed bids will be received until 10 a. m. (Central standard time) on June 10 by Governor Harry H. Woodring for the purchase of a \$500,000 issue of  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  soldiers' compensation bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Dated July 1 1932. Due on July 1 1954. Prin. and int. (J. & J.) payable at the office of the State Treasurer at Topeka, or at the sub-fiscal agency of the State in N. Y. City, at the option of the holder. Coupon bonds, registerable as to principal by the Treasurer of the State. Bids must be submitted on a form furnished by the Secretary of State. Bonds will not be sold for less than par. Purchasers will be furnished with the legal opinion of Roland Boynton, State's Attorney-General. A certified check for  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1% of the par value of the bonds bid for, payable to T. B. Boyd, State Treasurer, is required.

**KENEDY, Karnes County, Tex.—BONDS REGISTERED.**—The State Comptroller registered on May 19 a \$23,000 issue of  $5\frac{1}{2}\%$  water works refunding, series A of 1932 bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Due serially.

**KOHLER, Sheboygan County, Wis.—BOND REPORT.**—It is stated that the \$100,000 issue of sewage disposal plant storm and sanitary sewer system bonds voted on April 5 (V. 134, p. 3505) has been printed and are now ready to be offered for sale.

**LAGUNA BEACH ACQUISITION AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 4 (P. O. Laguna Beach) Orange County, Calif.—BOND OFFERING.**—Sealed bids will be received until 8 p. m. on July 6, by G. W. Prior, City Clerk, for the purchase of a \$56,845 issue of improvement bonds. Int. rate is not to exceed 8%, payable J. & J. Dated April 6 1932. Denoms. \$1,000 and \$500, one for \$345. Due on April 6 as follows: \$3,500, 1937 to 1951, and \$4,345 in 1952. Prin. and int. payable in gold at the office of the City Treasurer. No bids for said bonds will be considered for less than par. Bids may be submitted on blank forms furnished by the City Clerk. These bonds are issued under the provisions of the Acquisition and Improvement Act of 1925, as amended. A certified check for 10%, payable to the City, must accompany the bid. (The preliminary report of this offering appeared in V. 134, p. 3858.)

**LANSING, Ingham County, Mich.—BOND SALE.**—The \$98,000 coupon or registered welfare emergency bonds offered on May 23—V. 134, p. 3671—were sold as  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ , at a price of par, to the Lansing Water and Light Board, following the rejection of these bids: The First Detroit Co., of Detroit, bid a price of 98.30 for the issue at  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  interest, while a bid of 100.35 for 6s was made by Stranahan, Harris & Co., of Toledo. The bonds are dated April 15 1932 and will mature on April 15 1935.

**LEAVENWORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Leavenworth), Leavenworth County, Kan.—BOND SALE.**—The \$120,000 issue of high school bonds that was voted on March 22—V. 134, p. 2769—is stated to have since been purchased by local banks. Denom. \$1,000. Dated April 1 1932. Due in from 1 to 20 years.

**LEWISTON, Androscoggin County, Me.—TEMPORARY LOAN.**—John C. Reardon, City Treasurer, reports that a \$450,000 tax anticipation loan was sold on April 15 to the National Shawmut Bank, of Boston, at 5% discount basis. At an offering on April 8 of a \$225,000 loan, scheduled to mature Sept. 1 1932, the city failed to receive an offer.—V. 134, p. 3769.

**LIBERTY SCHOOL TOWNSHIP (P. O. North Liberty), St. Joseph County, Ind.—BOND OFFERING.**—C. E. Bowser, Trustee, will receive sealed bids until 10 a. m. (standard time) on June 11 for the purchase of \$18,000 5% funding bonds. Dated June 1 1932. Denom. \$900. Due one bond each six months on June and Dec. 30 from 1933 to 1942, incl. Principal and semi-annual interest (June and Dec. 30) payable at the Merchants National Bank, South Bend. A certified check for 2% of the bonds bid for, payable to the order of the Trustee, must accompany each proposal.

LIMA, Allen County, Ohio.—BONDS NOT SOLD.—The issue of \$50,000 6% first series sewage disposal bonds offered on May 26—V. 134, p. 3505—was not sold, as no bids were received. Dated May 15 1932. Due on Nov. 15 as follows: \$2,000 from 1933 to 1954 incl., and \$3,000 in 1955 and 1956.

LINCOLN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. McIntosh), Sioux County, N. Dak.—CERTIFICATE OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received by Robert Knispel, District Clerk, at the office of the County Auditor in Fort Yates, until 2 p. m. on May 28 for the purchase of a \$2,000 issue of certificates of indebtedness. Denom. \$500. Dated May 28 1932. Due \$500 on May and Nov. 28 1933 and 1934. Prin. and int. payable at a place designated by the purchaser.

LINNEUS, Linn County, Mo.—BONDS APPROVED.—The \$38,000 issue of 5 1/2% school building bonds that was voted in February—V. 134, p. 1617—has recently been approved as to legality by B. H. Charles of St. Louis. Dated April 15 1932.

LONG BEACH, Nassau County, N. Y.—CITY HOLDS SALE OF \$500,000 TAX LIENS.—Thomas J. Hogan, City Treasurer, has stated that the municipality has balanced its budget and is in excellent financial condition as a result of the sale on May 19 of approximately \$500,000 tax liens half of which were purchased by bidders, while the remaining \$250,000 was bid in by the city. Three syndicates are reported to have made offers for this latter amount. Mr. Hogan added that the city is now in a position to offer its bonds for sale, instead of resorting to emergency temporary borrowing previously contemplated.

LORAIN, Lorain County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.—The \$38,234.32 special assessment street improvement bonds offered on May 26—V. 134, p. 3538—were awarded as 6s to the Weil, Roth & Irving Co., of Cincinnati, at par plus a premium of \$14, equal to 100.29, on a basis of 94%. Dated June 1 1932. Due Sept. 15 as follows: \$3,234.32 in 1933; \$3,000 in 1934, and \$4,000 from 1935 to 1942 incl.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT (P. O. Los Angeles), Calif.—BOND OFFERING.—Sealed bids will be received until 2 p. m. on May 31, by L. E. Lampton, County Clerk, for the purchase of a \$2,000,000 issue of 5% storm water bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Dated July 2 1924. Due on July 2 as follows: \$63,000, 1933 to 1948, and \$62,000, 1949 to 1964, all incl. Prin. and int. (J. & J.) payable in lawful money, at the office of the County Treasurer. No bids will be considered at a lower rate of interest than 5%. The bonds will be sold for cash only, and for not less than par and accrued interest. The approving opinion of O'Melveny, Tuller & Myers of Los Angeles, will be furnished. A certified check for 2% of the amount of bonds, payable to the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, is required. The following information is furnished with the offering notice:

The assessed valuation of taxable real property in said Los Angeles County Flood Control District for the year 1931 was \$2,938,629,120, and the amount of bonds previously issued and now outstanding is \$13,122,250.

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District contains an area of approximately 1,722,880 acres.

LOWELL, Middlesex County, Mass.—\$1,000,000 REFUNDING ISSUE APPROVED.—The city council on May 19 approved of Mayor Slowe's \$1,000,000 refunding loan bill, thereby advancing a step further the city's efforts to refinance itself and retire current obligations that now total about \$850,000. Almost \$650,000 of that figure constitutes unpaid municipal payrolls dating from the week ended March 5, according to report.

LUDLOW, Kenton County, Ky.—BOND REPORT.—We are informed that the \$120,000 issue of 6% semi-annual water works revenue bonds offered for sale without success on April 7—V. 134, p. 2952—has not as yet been sold. Due \$6,000 from Dec. 1 1933 to 1952, inclusive.

MCGINTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Bastrop) Morehouse Parish, La.—BOND REPORT.—We are informed that the \$5,000 issue of 6% semi-annual school bonds offered for sale without success on Nov. 17—V. 134, p. 1230—will not be re-offered in the near future.

McKEAN COUNTY (P. O. Smethport), Pa.—BOND OFFERING.—The Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids until June 2 for the purchase of \$200,000 4 1/2% county bonds. Dated June 15 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$20,000 on June 15 from 1942 to 1951 incl. The county reports an assessed valuation of \$28,250,000.

MACOMB COUNTY (P. O. Mount Clemens), Mich.—PROPOSED BOND ELECTION MAY BE BLOCKED.—The State Attorney General's office has been asked to decide as to the validity of the action of the county officials in calling an election for June 15 to permit of a vote on a proposed \$200,000 building bond issue—V. 134, p. 3558. Under the provision of a recent enactment by the State Legislature, a municipality whose tax delinquency exceeds 25% may not issue additional bonds. The present delinquency in the county, exceeding special assessments, is said to aggregate 34%.

MALDEN, Middlesex County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.—The city sold a temporary loan amounting to \$200,000 to the First National Bank of Malden at 4.35% discount basis. Due on Dec. 27 1932.

MARIETTA, Washington County, Ohio.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.—The city council has adopted an ordinance providing for the issuance of \$36,500 5 1/2% police station and jail construction bonds, to be dated June 1 1932. Denom. \$500. Due Dec. 1 as follows: \$1,500 in 1933; \$2,000, 1934; \$1,500, 1935; \$2,000, 1936; \$1,500, 1937; \$2,000, 1938; \$1,500, 1939; \$2,000, 1940; \$1,500, 1941; \$2,000, 1942; \$1,500, 1943; \$2,000, 1944; \$1,500 in 1945, and \$2,000 from 1946 to 1952 incl. Principal and interest (J and Dec.) payable at the municipal depository in Marietta.

MARION COUNTY (P. O. Indianapolis), Ind.—BOND SALE.—The \$6,000 6% coupon tuberculosis hospital equipment bonds offered on May 18—V. 134, p. 3320—were awarded to Newton Todd, a local investor, at par plus a premium of \$112.25, equal to a price of 101.83, a basis of about 5.00%. Dated May 15 1932. Due \$2,000 on May 15 from 1933 to 1935, incl. A group composed of the Fletcher American Co., Fletcher Trust Co. and the Union Trust Co., all of Indianapolis, bid par plus a premium of \$26 for the issue.

MARTIN COUNTY (P. O. Shoals), Ind.—BONDS NOT SOLD.—The \$3,940 4 1/2% road construction bonds offered on May 4—V. 134, p. 3320—were not sold, as no bids were received. Dated May 4 1932. Denom. \$197. Due one bond each six months on Jan. and July 15 from 1933 to 1942 inclusive.

BONDS NOT SOLD.—The further issue of \$1,860 4 1/2% township road impt. bonds offered on May 21—V. 134, p. 3672—also was not sold, no bids having been submitted. Dated May 21 1932. Due one bond each six months from July 15 1933 to Jan. 15 1943.

MEADVILLE, Crawford County, Pa.—BOND SALE.—The issue of \$25,000 4% coupon city bonds unsuccessfully offered on Nov. 10—V. 133, p. 3289—has since been sold over the counter. Subscription price was par. Bonds are dated Jan. 1 1932 and will mature \$5,000 on Jan. 1 in 1936, 1940, 1944, 1948 and 1952.

MERIDIAN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 320 (P. O. Bellingham) Whatcom County, Wash.—BOND SALE NOT CONSUMMATED.—It is reported that the sale of the \$10,000 school bonds to the State of Washington, as 6s, at par—V. 134, p. 3136—was not consummated.

MIAMI COUNTY (P. O. Peru), Ind.—BOND SALE.—The \$600 4 1/2% coupon road construction bonds offered on May 24—V. 134, p. 3559—were awarded at a price of par to Louise Wolf, a local investor, the only bidder. Dated May 15 1932. Due semi-annually from July 15 1933 to Jan. 15 1943.

MIDDLEBURGH HEIGHTS (P. O. Bearea, R. F. D.), Cuyahoga County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.—The Guardian Trust Co. of Cleveland purchased on May 23 a total of \$295,500 6% street impt. bonds, including the \$285,264.26 special assessment issue unsuccessfully offered on Jan. 9—V. 134, p. 541.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY (P. O. New Brunswick), N. J.—BOND OFFERING.—W. A. Allgar, County Treasurer, will receive sealed bids until 3 p. m. (daylight saving time) on May 31 for the purchase of \$600,000 not to exceed 6% interest coupon or registered bonds, divided as follows: \$500,000 temporary road, bridge and building bonds. Due June 1 1936. 100,000 tax revenue bonds. Due June 1 1934.

Each issue is dated June 1 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Principal and interest (June and Dec.) will be payable at the office of the County Treasurer. Rate of interest to be expressed in a multiple of one one-hundredth of 1%. The bonds will be prepared under the supervision of the Continental Bank &

Trust Co., of New York, which will certify as to the genuineness of the signatures of the County officials and the seal impressed thereon. A certified check for 2% of the bonds bid for, payable to the order of the County Treasurer, must accompany each proposal. Legality of bonds to be approved by Caldwell & Raymond, of New York.

Financial Statement.

Assessed valuation, taxable real estate, 1932-----\$185,243,443.00 Assessed valuation, taxable personal property, 1932-----26,236,625.00

Total assessed valuation-----\$211,480,068.00 Total bonded debt now outstanding (excl. of these issues)---6,580,000.00 Sinking fund (as of Jan. 1 1932)-----424,740.13 Population, 1931 census, 212,208.

MILTON SCHOOL DISTRICT, Chittenden County, Vt.—BOND OFFERING.—Gertrude P. Lombard, Treasurer, will receive sealed bids on or before June 4 for the purchase of \$7,000 5% coupon school bonds. Denom. \$500. Due one bond annually on Dec. 1 from 1933 to 1946 incl. Principal and semi-annual interest payable at the Essex Trust Co., Essex Junction, Vermont.

MILWAUKEE, Milwaukee County, Wis.—BONDS SOLD.—The \$520,000 in 4 1/2% coupon semi-ann. bonds that were approved on Feb. 2 by the Common Council Finance Committee—V. 134, p. 1230—are reported to have since been purchased by the various pension funds of the city. The bonds are divided as follows: \$420,000 school and \$100,000 grade-crossing abolition bonds. Denom. \$1,000. Dated Jan. 1 1932.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY (P. O. Milwaukee), Wis.—OFFERING NOTICE.—In connection with the offering scheduled for June 6 of the \$420,000 4 1/2, 4 1/2, 4 1/2 or 5% metropolitan sewerage, report of which appeared in V. 134, p. 3859—we are informed by the County Treasurer that the bonds will mature \$42,000 from Oct. 1 1942 to 1951, instead of April 1, as previously given. These bonds are issued in conformity with resolutions presented to and adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of Milwaukee County, Wis., at a continued annual meeting held on May 10 1932, and in conformity with section 7, subdivision (b) of Chapter 554 of the Laws of Wisconsin of 1921, being section 59.96 sub-section 7, subdivision (c) of the Wisconsin Statutes of 1929, for the purpose of procuring the necessary money to pay for the projection, planning, construction and maintenance of a sewerage system for the collection, transmission and disposal of house and other sewage and for constructing and building a sewage disposal plant, pursuant to a resolution adopted Sept. 19 1930, by the Sewerage Commission of the City of Milwaukee, pursuant to section 7 subdivision (b) of chapter 554 of the Laws of Wisconsin of 1921, being section 59.96 sub-section 7 subdivision (c) of the Wisconsin Statutes of 1929, that it required \$840,000 for the projection, planning and construction of a sewerage system for the collection, transmission and disposal of house and other sewage and for constructing, building and maintaining a sewage disposal plant in connection therewith. \$420,000 4% Metropolitan Sewerage Area bonds have previously been authorized and sold to comply in part with this resolution.

MINNESOTA, State of (P. O. St. Paul).—LIST OF BIDDERS.—The following is a list of the other bids received on May 20 for the \$10,000,000 coupon or registered semi-ann. trunk highway bonds that were awarded on that day to a syndicate headed by the Chase Harris Forbes Corp. of New York as 4s and 4 1/2s, at a price of 100.158, a net interest cost of about 4.20%—V. 134, p. 3859.

The second highest tender was 100.038 for the same combination of coupons, representing an interest cost of 4.214%. This bid was submitted by the First National Bank of New York; Halsey, Stuart & Co.; Dillon, Read & Co.; the Bancamerica-Blair Corp.; Stone & Webster and Blodgett, Inc.; Salomon Brothers & Hutzler; the Northern Trust Co.; Phelps, Fenn & Co.; George B. Gibbons & Co.; the First National Bank of Minneapolis; Darby & Co.; B. J. Van Ingen & Co.; Dewey, Bacon & Co.; Lawrence Stern & Co.; the M. & T. Trust Co.; Schaumberg, Rebhann & Osborne; M. F. Schlater & Co.; Stifel, Nicolaus & Co.; the First National Co. of St. Louis; Justus F. Lowe & Co., and Smith, Moore & Co.

Lehman Brothers and associates submitted a bid of 100.10 for all 4 1/2s, which is a net interest cost of 4.236%. This group included also Estabrook & Co.; the First Detroit Co., Inc.; Kidder, Peabody & Co.; the Chemical Bank & Trust Co.; F. S. Moseley & Co.; the Mercantile Comers National Co.; G. M.-P. Murphy & Co.; Foster & Co.; the Milwaukee Co.; the Mississippi Valley Co.; Stern Brothers & Co.; Werthem & Co., and Webb, Hemenway & Co.

A tender of 100.089 for all 4 1/2s, or a net interest cost of 4.237%, was named by the National City Co.; the Guaranty Co.; the First Union Trust & Savings Bank; the First National Old Colony Corp.; the First Securities Corp. of Minnesota, Wells-Dickey Co.; the First Wisconsin Co.; Kelley, Richardson & Co.; Hannahs, Ballin & Lee, Stix & Co.; Piper, Jaffray & Hopwood; William R. Compton Co., and the Northern Trust Co.

MISSISSIPPI, State of (P. O. Jackson).—BOND REPORT.—In connection with the report in V. 134, p. 3859 of the unsuccessful offering of the \$12,500,000 deficit and refunding bonds, we give the following from the Jackson "News" of May 20:

"In spite of the 'balanced budget' the State did not sell its \$12,500,000 in bonds Thursday. But Governor Conner and other members of the State Bond Commission said 'satisfactory progress' was made.

"Following an all-afternoon session of the Bond Commission with the legislative advisory bond committee and representatives of five bond houses, the Governor announced that the bonds were not offered for sale, but that an investigation was started of the possibility of disposing of bonds in the future.

"Of the \$12,500,000 issues offered, \$8,000,000 were deficit bonds to take up outstanding State warrants and \$4,500,000 were of refunding bonds to take care of bond and interest payments due.

"The previous announcement that the bonds would be offered for sale yesterday was an 'oversight,' Governor Conner said.

"Following the session the Commission issued the following formal statement:

"No State bonds were advertised for sale on this date, and the meeting of the Bond Commission to-day was not for the purpose of selling bonds but for the purpose of conferring with representatives of various financial organizations interested in buying and selling bonds with regard to the ways and means of marketing our securities at the proper time."

MONONGAHELA, Washington County, Pa.—BOND OFFERING.—Robert B. Albright, City Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 7 p. m. on June 6 for the purchase of \$15,000 4% improvement bonds. Dated April 15 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due April 15 as follows: \$1,000 in 1934; \$2,000 in 1935, and \$3,000 from 1936 to 1939 incl. Interest will be payable in April and October. A certified check for \$500, payable to the order of the city, must accompany each proposal. (These bonds were previously offered on April 18, at which time all of the bids received were rejected.—V. 134, p. 3136.)

MORGAN CITY, St. Mary Parish, La.—BOND REPORT.—We are informed that the \$175,000 issue of 6% semi-ann. municipal water, electric light and power plant bonds offered for sale without success on Feb. 8—V. 134, p. 1230—has not as yet been sold.

MURRAY COUNTY (P. O. Slayton), Minn.—INTEREST RATE.—We are informed by the County Auditor that the \$87,000 issue of drainage refunding bonds that was purchased by the State Board of Investment at par—V. 134, p. 3859—was purchased as 4 1/4s, not as 4 1/2s. Due from May 1 1937 to 1947 incl.

MUSKOGON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT, Mich.—MATURING BONDS TO BE REFUNDED.—The District proposes to refund \$32,000 of bonds which become due during the year ending May 10 1933, which figure includes a block of \$10,000, held by the First State Savings Bank, that became due on May 10 1932. Other bonds scheduled to mature are as follows: \$5,000 Aug. 1 1932; \$1,000 Feb. 1 1933; \$16,000 March 15 1933 and \$10,000 May 10 1932. The State Public Debt Board has stated that it will give every consideration to any refunding application that the District may submit.

NASSAU COUNTY (P. O. Mineola), N. Y.—PRICES REDUCED ON UNSOLD PORTION OF \$2,849,000 BONDS.—The syndicate headed by Dillon, Read & Co. of New York, which obtained the award on May 3 of four issues of 4 1/2% bonds totaling \$5,000,000, and made immediate public re-offering at prices to yield 4.30% for all maturities—V. 134, p. 3506—published an advertisement on May 24 offering the unsold portion of \$2,849,000 bonds at prices to yield 4.30% for the maturities from 1944 to 1951 incl., 4.35% for those from 1951 to 1955 incl., and 4.40% for the 1956 to 1961 bonds.

**NEW BRITAIN, Hartford County, Conn.—BONDS PUBLICLY OFFERED.**—The \$310,000 4½% coupon or registered bonds awarded on May 20 to Phelps, Fenn & Co., of New York, at a price of 101.69, a basis of about 4.35%—V. 134, p. 3860—are being re-offered for general investment at prices to yield from 3.00 to 4.25%. Bonds are legal investment for savings banks and trust funds in the States of New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut, according to the bankers. G. L. Austin & Co., of Hartford, bid a price of 100.636 for the bonds, and a bid of 100.07 was tendered by Estabrook & Co., of Boston, and Putnam & Co., of Hartford, jointly. The third and last bid of 98.189 was tendered by a group composed of R. L. Day & Co., E. M. Bradley & Co., F. R. Cooley & Co., Conning & Co. and R. F. Griggs & Co.

**NEW JERSEY (State of).—PROPOSED BOND SALE REDUCED TO \$18,000,000.**—At a meeting of the State House Commission on May 25 it was decided to reduce the amount of the proposed bond sale previously announced at \$21,000,000 to \$18,000,000. This latter figure will comprise \$15,000,000 highway impt. bonds and \$3,000,000 institution building bonds. No definite date for the reception of bids has been fixed, although June 16 has been tentatively set for that purpose. (The proposed offering of these bonds has been treated in more detail in V. 134, p. 3672.)

**NEW JERSEY (State of).—BONDS PUBLICLY OFFERED.**—The Chase Harris Forbes Corp., of New York, made public offering on May 24 of a block of 5% State bonds, due July 1 1941, priced to yield 4%.

**NEW ORLEANS, Orleans Parish, La.—BOND SALE.**—The \$750,000 issue of 5% coupon or registered semi-ann. street, road, bridge, sidewalk, park and playground bonds offered for sale on May 23—V. 134, p. 3673—was purchased by a syndicate composed of the Chase Harris Forbes Corp., and the National City Co., both of New York, the Hibernia Securities Corp., the Canal Bank & Trust Co., the Whitney Trust & Savings Bank, the Interstate Trust & Banking Co. and the American Bank & Trust Co., all of New Orleans, at a price of 96.00, a basis of about 6.49%. Dated June 1 1932. Due from June 1 1933 to 1937, incl. No other bids for the bonds were received.

**BONDS OFFERED TO PUBLIC.**—The above purchasers re-offered the bonds for general investment priced as follows: 1933 maturity to yield 5.00; 1934 maturity to yield 5.25; and 1935 to 1937 maturities to yield 5.50%. They are stated to be direct city obligations, legal for savings banks in New York State.

**NEWPORT, Newport County, R. I.—LOAN OFFERING.**—W. Norman Sayer, City Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 5 p. m. on June 2 for the purchase at discount basis of a \$150,000 temporary loan, dated June 7 1932 and payable on Sept. 1 1932 at the First National Bank, of Boston. The notes will be issued under the supervision of and certified as to genuineness by the aforementioned bank. The approving opinion of Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins, of Boston, will be furnished the successful bidder.

**NEWTON (P. O. West Newton) Middlesex County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.**—Francis Newhall, City Treasurer, reports that the \$200,000 temporary loan offered on May 25 was awarded to the Boston Safe Deposit & Trust Co. of Boston, at 1.637% discount basis. Due on Nov. 3 1932. Payable in Boston or New York City. Legality approved by Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins, of Boston.

Bids received for the loan were as follows:

Bidder	Discount Basis
Boston Safe Deposit & Trust Co. (successful bidder)-----	1.637%
Shawmut Corp.-----	1.73%
Second National Bank of Boston-----	1.81%
First National Old Colony Corp-----	1.95%
Day Trust Co.-----	1.96%
Arthur Perry & Co.-----	2.00%

**NEW YORK, N. Y.—\$700,000 BONDS VOTED FOR SUBWAY OPERATION PURPOSES.**—The Board of Estimate voted on May 20 to issue \$700,000 special revenue bonds or certificates of indebtedness to make possible municipal operation of the new Eighth Ave. subway, should no outside bid for operation of the line be received on May 31, the date set for the opening of tenders.

**NEW YORK (State of).—BONDS PUBLICLY OFFERED.**—The Chase Harris Forbes Corp., of New York, offered for public investment on May 24 4½% registered State bonds, due March 1 1965, priced to yield 3.65%.

**NORTHAMPTON, Hampshire County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.**—The \$125,000 temporary loan offered on May 24—V. 134, p. 3860—was awarded to the First National Bank of Northampton at 2.85% discount basis. Dated May 26 1932 and payable on Nov. 26 1932 at the Merchants National Bank of Boston. Bids received at the sale were as follows:

Bidder

Bidder	Discount Basis
First National Bank, Northampton (successful bidder)----	2.85%
Merchants National Bank of Boston-----	3.00%
Shawmut Corp. of Boston-----	3.25%

**NORTH CASTLE COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5 (P. O. Armonk), Westchester County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.**—The \$87,000 coupon or registered school bonds offered on May 24—V. 134, p. 3860—were awarded as 5½% to the Guaranty Co. of New York at a price of 100.072, a basis of about 5.74%. Dated June 1 1932. Due June 1 as follows: \$5,000 from 1934 to 1950 inclusive and \$2,000 in 1951.

**NORTH ELBA, Essex County, N. Y.—BOND SALE.**—The \$150,000 coupon or registered public parks and playground bonds offered on May 24—V. 134, p. 3860—were awarded as 5.90% to the M. & T. Trust Co. of Buffalo at a price of 100.274, a basis of about 5.87%. Dated July 1 1931. Due July 1 as follows: \$3,000 from 1932 to 1941 incl. and \$6,000 from 1942 to 1961 incl.

**NORTH PELHAM, Westchester County, N. Y.—BIDS REJECTED.**—At the offering on May 26 of \$66,000 not to exceed 6% int. coupon or registered highway bonds—V. 134, p. 3860—the following tenders were rejected:

Bidder

Bidder	Int. Rate	Rate Bid
Batchelder & Co.-----	5.70%	100.42
M. & T. Trust Co.-----	5.70%	100.479
Wachsman & Wassall.-----	5.90%	100.199

**NORWOOD, Hamilton County, Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.**—W. R. Locke, City Auditor, will receive sealed bids until 12 M. (Eastern standard time) on June 6 for the purchase of \$7,000 6% police and fire, motor and apparatus, series No. 1-1932 bonds. Dated April 1 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due Oct. 1 as follows: \$1,000 in 1933, and \$2,000 from 1934 to 1936 incl. Principal and interest (April and Oct.) will be payable at the First National Bank, of Norwood. A certified check for 5% of the amount of the bonds, payable to the order of the City Treasurer, must accompany each proposal. Bidders must satisfy themselves as to the validity of the issue before bidding for same. The favorable opinion of Peck, Shaffer & Williams, of Cincinnati, will be furnished the successful bidder at his own expense.

**NORWOOD, Norfolk County, Mass.—TEMPORARY LOAN.**—The \$100,000 revenue loan offered on May 23—V. 134, p. 3860—was awarded to F. S. Moseley & Co. of Boston at 3.65% discount basis. The accepted bid was the only one submitted. Loan is dated June 1 1932 and will mature on Dec. 1 1932.

**OSCEOLA, Saint Clair County, Mo.—BOND ELECTION.**—It is reported that an election will be held on June 3 in order to submit to the voters a proposal to issue \$30,000 in municipal light plant bonds.

**OYSTER BAY, Nassau County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.**—Charles E. Ransom, Town Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 3 p. m. (daylight saving time) on June 7 for the purchase of \$21,000 not to exceed 6% interest coupon Jericho Water District (Oyster Bay Cove extension) bonds. Dated June 15 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$1,000 on June 15 from 1937 to 1957 incl. Rate of interest to be expressed in a multiple of ¼ or 1/10 of 1%. Principal and interest (June and Dec. 15) will be payable at the Bank of Syosset. A certified check for 2% of the amount of bonds bid for, payable to the order of the town, must accompany each proposal. The approving opinion of Clay, Dillon & Vandewater of New York will be furnished the successful bidder.

Financial Statement.

Total Assessed valuation, 1931-32-----	\$123,758,995
Total bonded debt, including this issue-----	4,238,875
Water district bonds-----	\$3,371,875 (included above)
Sewer district bonds-----	530,000 "
Sidewalk district bonds-----	150,000 "
Town hall bonds-----	187,000 "
Population—1920 Federal Census, 20,296; 1925 State Census, 29,610	
1930 Federal Census, 36,774.	

**PANHANDLE, Carson County, Tex.—BOND SALE.**—The \$41,500 issue of 6% funding, series of 1931 bonds that was registered by the State Comptroller in October—V. 133, p. 3126—has since been purchased by the Dunne-Davidson-Ransom Co. of Wichita.

**PASSAIC, Passaic County, N. J.—BOND OFFERING.**—A. D. Belton, City Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 3 p. m. (daylight saving time) on June 7 for the purchase of \$1,235,000 6% coupon or registered improvement bonds. Dated June 1 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due June 1 as follows: \$80,000 from 1933 to 1945 incl.; \$90,000 in 1946, and \$105,000 in 1947. Principal and interest (June and December) will be payable at the Passaic National Bank & Trust Co., Passaic, or at the Chase National Bank, of New York. No more bonds are to be awarded than will produce a premium of \$1,000 over the amount offered. A certified check for 2% of the bonds bid for, payable to the order of the city, must accompany each proposal. The approving opinion of Hawkins, Delafield & Longfellow, of New York, will be furnished the successful bidder.

**PITTSFIELD, Berkshire County, Mass.—LOAN OFFERING.**—J. P. Barnes, City Treasurer, will receive sealed bids until 11 a. m. (daylight saving time) on June 10 for the purchase at discount basis of a \$300,000 temporary loan. Dated June 10 1932 and payable on Dec. 10 1932 at the First National Bank of Boston. Denom. to suit purchaser. The notes will be authenticated as to genuineness and validity by the First National Bank of Boston under advice of Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins of Boston.

**PLEASANTVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT, Venango County, Pa.—BOND OFFERING.**—George K. Folwell, Secretary of the School Board, will receive sealed bids until 8 p. m. (eastern standard time) on June 13 for the purchase of \$7,000 4¼% school bonds. Dated April 1 1932. Denom. \$500. Due April 1 1947. Principal and interest (April and October) will be payable at the office of the District Treasurer. A certified check for 2% of the bonds bid for, payable to the order of the School District, must accompany each proposal.

**POLK COUNTY (P. O. Crookston), Minn.—BOND SALE.**—The \$30,600 issue of 4¼% ditch refunding bonds that was authorized by the County Board on Feb. 10—V. 134, p. 1410—has since been purchased by the State of Minnesota.

**PORTAGE COUNTY (P. O. Ravenna), Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.**—R. I. Linton, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, will receive sealed bids until 12 m. (eastern standard time) on June 13 for the purchase of \$18,840.57 6% special assessment road improvement bonds. Dated July 1 1932. One bond for \$340.58, others for \$500. Due as follows: \$1,840.58 April 1 and \$2,000 Oct. 1 1933; \$1,500 April 1 and \$2,000 Oct. 1 1934; \$2,000 April and Oct. 1 1935; \$1,500 April 1 and \$2,000 Oct. 1 1936, and \$2,000 April and Oct. 1 1937. Interest payable in April and Oct. Bids for the bonds to bear interest at a rate other than 6%, expressed in a multiple of ¼ of 1%, will also be considered. A certified check for 3% of the bonds bid for, payable to the order of the County Treasurer, must accompany each proposal. The proceedings leading up to the issue of the aforesaid bonds have been taken under the direction of Squire, Sandes Dempsey, Cleveland, whose approving opinion may be obtained by the purchaser at his own expense. Only bids so conditioned or wholly unconditioned will be considered, and the Board of County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

**PORT CHESTER, Westchester County, N. Y.—BONDS PUBLICLY OFFERED.**—The \$40,000 5¼% coupon or registered War Memorial bonds awarded on May 17 to George B. Gibbons & Co., Inc., of New York, at 101, a basis of about 5.61%—V. 134, p. 3861—are being re-offered for general investment at prices to yield 5.20%. Legal investment for savings banks and trust funds in New York State, according to the bankers.

**PORTLAND, Multnomah County, Ore.—BOND SALE.**—An \$88,995.27 issue of 6% semi-annual improvement bonds was offered on May 25 1932 awarded to a syndicate composed of Geo. H. Burr, Conrad & Broom, Smith, Camp & Riley and Atkinson, Jones & Co., all of Portland, at a price of 101.27, a basis of about 5.53%. Dated Jan. 1 1932. Due in 10 years, optional after 3 years. Prin. and int. payable at the office of the City Treasurer.

**PORTSMOUTH, Rockingham County, N. H.—TEMPORARY LOAN.**—R. L. Day & Co., of Boston, was awarded the \$60,000 temporary loan offered on May 20, at a discount basis of 3.96%, plus a premium of \$1. The loan matures on Dec. 7 1932 and was bid at 4.98% by the Merchants National Bank, of Boston, the only other bidder.

**PORTSMOUTH, Scioto County, Ohio.—PRICE PAID.**—The city received a price of par for the issue of \$54,000 6% refunding bonds awarded on May 17 to the First National Bank, of Portsmouth—V. 134, p. 3861—whose bid was the only one received at the sale. Dated May 1 1932. Due \$3,000 on May and Nov. 1 from 1933 to 1941 incl.

**POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY (P. O. Shawnee), Okla.—BOND DETAILS.**—The \$35,000 issue of funding bonds that was reported to have been sold at par—V. 134, p. 3861—was purchased by the Taylor-White Co. of Oklahoma City as 5½%.

**PROVIDENCE, Providence County, R. I.—\$3,000,000 BOND ISSUE RECOMMENDED BY CITY TREASURER.**—Walter F. Fitzpatrick, City Treasurer, has recommended to the Finance Committee that a further amount of \$3,000,000 bonds be issued in order to reduce by that sum the present floating indebtedness of the city which is about \$7,000,000. Sale of the bonds, according to the plans of the Treasurer, would be made to the Sinking Fund Commissioners and to the Employees Retirement Fund. The commissions controlling these two departments are agreeable.

(The last previous bond sale held by the city was on April 5, when an award of \$3,000,000 4½% was made to a syndicate headed by Lehman Bros., of New York, at a price of 99.829, a basis of about 4.52%.—V. 134, p. 2771.)

**PROVO, Utah County, Utah.—NOTE SALE.**—A \$27,000 issue of 6% tax notes has recently been purchased at par by the First Securities Co. of Salt Lake City, according to Fred Evans, City Recorder. (This corrects the report given in V. 134, p. 3674.)

**QUINCY, Norfolk County, Mass.—BONDS NOT SOLD.**—Harold P. Newell, City Treasurer, reports that no bids were received at the offering on May 24 of \$75,000 not to exceed 4¼% coupon bonds. V. 134, p. 3861. The offering comprised \$60,000 sewer bonds, due \$10,000 on June 1 from 1933 to 1938 incl., and \$15,000 water mains bonds, due \$5,000 on June 1 from 1933 to 1935 inclusive.

**RACINE, Racine County, Wis.—NOTE SALE.**—A \$400,000 issue of 6% corporate purpose notes was jointly purchased recently at private sale by Phelps, Fenn & Co. of New York, and the Milwaukee Co. of Milwaukee. Denoms. \$1,000 and \$5,000. Dated May 18 1932. Due on March 15 1933. Prin. and int. payable at maturity without option of prior payment at the office of the City Treasurer. Legality to be approved by Chapman & Cutter of Chicago.

**Bankers Re-offer Notes.**—The above notes were offered by the purchasers for public subscription at prices to yield 4.00%. They are stated to be direct city obligations, legal for savings banks in New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut.

**RACINE, Racine County, Wis.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—At a meeting held on May 17 the Board of Aldermen passed a resolution providing for the issuance of \$7,000 in refunding bonds. Dated July 1 1932. Due on July 1 1945.

**RICHLAND COUNTY (P. O. Mansfield), Ohio.—BOND OFFERING.**—Ralph M. Hardy, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, will receive sealed bids until 10 a. m. (Eastern standard time) on June 3 for the purchase of the following issues of \$41,092.70 6% bonds: \$25,592.70 road improvement bonds. One bond for \$1,342.70, others for \$1,000 and \$1,250. Due as follows: \$4,342.70 April 1 and \$4,250 Oct. 1 1933, and \$4,250 on April and Oct. 1 in 1934 and 1935.

15,500.00 poor relief bonds. Two bonds for \$1,750 each, others for \$1,500. Due as follows: \$1,750 April and Oct. 1 1933, and \$1,500 April and Oct. 1 from 1934 to 1937 incl.

Each issue will be dated June 3 1932. Interest will be payable semi-annually in April and October. A certified check for 3% of the bonds bid for, payable to the order of the County Auditor, must accompany each proposal. Only unconditional bids will be received. (The above bonds are being offered for award on June 3, in addition to \$45,346.80 6% road impt. issue mentioned in—V. 134, p. 3861.)

**RIVERBEND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Gainesville), Hall County, Ga.—BOND SALE.**—The \$10,000 issue of school

bonds that was voted on Dec. 29—V. 134, p. 542—has since been sold to local purchasers.

**ROCK ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 41, Rock Island County, Ill.—BOND SALE.**—Lee L. Bradley, Manager Investment Department of the Modern Woodmen of America, of Rock Island, informs us that his organization was the successful bidder at an offering on May 20 of \$76,000 refunding bonds. Tenders were asked for bonds to mature in 2 1/2 years, at not to exceed 5% interest, and to mature in five years, with the rate of interest limited to 4 3/4%. Mr. Bradley states that the Board of Education accepted his offer of a price of par for the bonds at 4 3/4% interest, to mature in five years. A summary of the other offers received at the sale, in addition to that of the successful bidder, is as follows:

The second best bid was submitted by the First National Bank of Chicago, Chicago, Ill., being par and accrued interest plus a premium of \$112 for 4 3/4% 5-year bonds, figuring about a 4.70% basis. The third bid was submitted by White-Phillips Co., Davenport, being a discount of \$295 for 4 3/4% 5-year bonds, figuring about a 4.80% basis. The fourth bid was submitted by the Northern Trust Co., Chicago, being par and accrued interest plus a premium of \$325 for 5% 5-year bonds, figuring about a 4.90% basis. White-Phillips Co., Davenport, also submitted a bid of a discount of \$250 for 2 1/2-year 5% bonds.

**ROME, Oneida County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.**—Lynn C. Butts, City Treasurer, will receive sealed bids until 11 a. m. (daylight saving time) on June 3 for the purchase of \$74,000 not to exceed 6% interest coupon or registered assessment bonds. Dated April 1 1932. Denoms. \$1,000 and \$500. Due \$18,500 on April 1 from 1933 to 1936, incl. Rate of interest to be expressed in a multiple of 1/4 or 1-10th of 1% and must be the same for all of the bonds. Principal and annual interest (April 1) will be payable at the Chase National Bank, New York. A certified check for \$1,500, payable to the order of the City, must accompany each proposal. The approving opinion of Clay, Dillon & Vandewater, of New York, will be furnished the successful bidder.

*Financial Statement.*

The assessed valuation of the real estate of the City of Rome, subject to taxation as it appeared by the assessment rolls of said City on the last assessment for State or county taxes prior to the date of this certificate, namely, the assessment roll for the year 1932 is as follows:

Real estate.....	\$28,776,336
Special franchises.....	1,050,000
Total.....	\$29,826,336
The total existing indebtedness of said City including the proposed issue of \$74,000 assessment bonds is as follows:	
General city bonds.....	\$552,000
School bonds.....	843,500
Water bonds.....	188,000
Assessment bonds.....	214,628
Total bonded indebtedness.....	\$1,798,128
May 1 1932.....	
Temporary current loans.....	\$356.38
Temporary assessment loans.....	71,090.10
Temporary home relief loans.....	9,751.42
Temporary work relief loans.....	44,000.00
Total indebtedness.....	\$1,923,325.90
Statutory Debt Limit.....	\$2,982,633.60
Ten per centum of valuation.....	\$2,982,633.60
Total indebtedness.....	\$1,923,325.90
Less water bonds.....	188,000.00
Net debt.....	\$1,735,325.90
Net debt deducted from debt limit above.....	

**ROODHOUSE, Greene County, Ill.—BOND OFFERING.**—F. L. Thompson, City Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 7 p. m. on June 6 for the purchase of \$3,000 6% bonds, to mature on May 23 1933.

**ROSEVILLE, Muskingum County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.**—The issue of \$40,000 5% water works construction bonds unsuccessfully offered on May 16—V. 134, p. 3861—was purchased on the following day at a price of par by the First Trust & Savings Bank of Roseville. Dated April 1 1932. Due on Oct. 1 from 1933 to 1957 inclusive.

**ROUTT COUNTY (P. O. Steamboat Springs), Colo.—WARRANTS CALLED.**—It is reported that the County Treasurer is calling for payment certain warrants of the various funds of the county, interest to cease on June 10 1932.

**ROYAL OAK, Oakland County, Mich.—CITY SERVES NOTICE OF INTENTION TO PURCHASE BONDS IN DEFAULT AND OF ABILITY TO MAKE PAST-DUE INTEREST PAYMENTS.**—Notices appearing in the Detroit "Free Press" of May 26 state that the city will pay par and accrued interest for certain special assessment bonds in default, also that it has sufficient funds on hand to pay May 1 1931 interest on certain other issues. The text of the notices, dated May 24, is as follows:

The city will receive tenders of the following past-due special assessment 4 1/2% bonds dated May 1 1928, due May 1 1931, and will pay therefore par and interest to May 1 1932:

Bond Nos.	Project.	Bonds in Default.	Date.
9, 10, 11, 12	Webster Road Outlet Combination No. 4.....	\$4,000.00	May 1 1931
4 and 5	Oakwood Blvd. Sewer Outlet Combination No. 6.....	2,000.00	May 1 1931
75-111	S. Main Street Widening.....	37,000.00	May 1 1931
9, 10, 11, 12	Combined Sewer No. 2.....	4,000.00	May 1 1931
3	Combined Sewer No. 7.....	1,000.00	May 1 1931

Tender of said bonds may be made at the office of the City Treasurer paying agent, on and after date of this notice. The city expressly reserves the right to withdraw this offer at any time without further notice.

The city has sufficient funds on hand to pay the interest due May 1 1931 on the following named bonds, to wit:

Date of Issue.	Purpose.	Rate.	Amt. of Issue.	Due Date.
May 1 1923	Water extension.....	5%	\$50,000.00	May 1 1943
May 1 1923	Paving.....	5%	50,000.00	May 1 1933
May 1 1923	Storm sewer.....	5%	100,000.00	May 1 1953
May 1 1923	Sanitary sewer.....	5%	150,000.00	May 1 1953
May 1 1922	Sanitary sewer.....	4 1/2%	300,000.00	May 1 1952

Coupons dated May 1 1931 may be presented for payment at the office of the City Treasurer on and after date of this notice until June 15 1932. The city reserves the right to use any balance remaining after June 15 1932 on account of unresented May 1 1931 coupons for payment of coupons bearing later date.

**ST. JOSEPH COUNTY (P. O. Centreville), Mich.—BOND OFFERING.**—Clifford H. Harman, Clerk of the Board of County Supervisors, will receive sealed bids until 12 m. (Eastern standard time) on June 15 for the purchase of \$36,500 5% refunding bonds. Dated July 1 1932. Due on July 1 as follows: \$3,000 from 1935 to 1946 incl. and \$3,500 in 1947. A certified check for 2% of the bid must accompany each proposal. (The proposed offering of this issue was mentioned in V. 134, p. 3674.)

**SALEM, Essex County, Mass.—BIDS FOR BONDS REJECTED BECAUSE OF TECHNICALITY REGARDING PROCEEDINGS.**—Charles G. F. Coker, City Treasurer, reports that bids submitted at the offering on May 19 of \$100,000 not to exceed 4 1/2% interest coupon street paving bonds—V. 134, p. 3674—were rejected, for the reason that the issuing order was passed as an emergency measure and the purpose for which the bonds are intended was not construed by the legal attorneys, Storey, Thordike, Palmer & Dodge of Boston, as constituting an emergency. The measure has again been considered by the City Council and early re-offering of the issue is anticipated.

**SALINA, Saline County, Kan.—BOND OFFERING.**—Sealed bids will be received until 5 p. m. on June 6, by Chas. E. Banker, City Clerk, for the purchase of a \$99,598.60 issue of 4 1/4% public impt. bonds. Denom. \$1,000, one for \$98.60. Dated March 1 1932. Due in from 1 to 10 years. Bonds are offered subject to the refusal of the State School Fund Commission. A certified check for 2% must accompany the bid.

**SAN BUENAVENTURA (P. O. Ventura), Ventura County, Calif.—BONDS NOT SOLD.**—The \$100,000 issue of not to exceed 6% semi-ann. improvement bonds offered on May 16—V. 134, p. 3675—was not sold, as the only bid received, an offer of 100.60 for 6s, was rejected.

**BONDS RE-OFFERED.**—Sealed bids were again received for the above bonds by Ruth E. Melland, City Clerk, until 7:30 p. m. on May 23. Denom. \$1,000. Dated May 1 1932. Due \$5,000 from May 1 1933 to 1952 incl. Prin. and int. (M. & N.) payable in gold at the office of the City Treasurer.

**BOND SALE.**—The above bonds were purchased on May 23 by the First Detroit Co. and the Wm. R. Staats Co., both of San Francisco, jointly, as 5 1/2%, paying a premium of \$523, equal to 100.52, a basis of about 5 3/4%.

**SAULTE STE. MARIE, Chippewa County, Mich.—BOND SALE.**—The \$96,000 coupon refunding water department bonds offered on May 16—V. 134, p. 3322—were awarded as 6s to H. V. Sattley & Co., of Detroit, at par plus a premium of \$530, equal to a price of 100.55, a basis of about 5 8/4%. Dated July 1 1932. Due July 1 as follows: \$9,000 from 1933 to 1936 incl. and \$10,000 from 1937 to 1942, incl. An official list of the bids received, all of which were on the basis of the bidder furnishing blank bonds and paying the cost of the legal opinion, appears herewith:

H. V. Sattley & Co., Inc., \$530 premium for 6% bonds.  
Stranahan, Harris and Co., \$520 premium for 6% bonds.  
John Nuveen & Co., \$490 premium for 6% bonds.  
C. W. McNear & Co., \$297.60 premium for 6% bonds.  
C. W. McNear & Co., a discount of \$3,542.40 for 5% bonds.  
First Detroit Co., \$57, premium on 6% bonds.  
First Detroit Company, a discount of \$2,234 for 5 1/2% bonds.  
First Detroit Company, a discount of \$3,339 for 5 1/2% bonds.  
Note: It was decided by the City Commission, that only bids of par plus accrued interest would be considered.

**SEATTLE, King County, Wash.—BOND AND WARRANT CALL.**—It is reported that H. L. Collier, City Treasurer, has called for payment various local improvement district bonds and revolving fund warrants.

**SCOTT COUNTY (P. O. Scottsburg), Ind.—BOND OFFERING.**—Stacy F. Coleman, County Treasurer, will receive sealed bids until 10 a. m. on June 4 for the purchase of \$9,600 4 1/2% Lexington Township road improvement bonds. Dated June 1 1932. Denom. \$480. Due one bond each six months from July 15 1933 to Jan. 15 1943.

**SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP (P. O. Sellersburg), Clark County, Ind.—BOND SALE.**—The \$38,500 5% grade school building construction bonds offered on May 21—V. 134, p. 3322—were awarded to the Fletcher Trust Co. of Indianapolis, at par plus a premium of \$17, equal to a price of 100.04, a basis of about 4.99%. Dated May 1 1932. Due \$2,100 July 1 1933, and \$1,300 Jan. and July 1 from 1934 to 1947 incl.

**SOUTHAMPTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (P. O. Southampton), Suffolk County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.**—Ida P. Fordham, District Clerk, will receive sealed bids until 3:30 p. m. on June 7 for the purchase of \$410,000 5% coupon or registered school bonds. Dated June 15 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due June 15 as follows: \$5,000 in 1937; \$6,000, 1938; \$7,000, 1939; \$8,000, 1940; \$9,000, 1941; \$10,000, 1942; \$15,000, 1943; \$18,000, 1944; \$25,000 from 1945 to 1950 incl., and \$26,000 from 1951 to 1957 incl. Bids will also be considered for the issue to bear interest at a rate up to 6%. Principal and interest (June and Dec. 15) will be payable at a New York City bank satisfactory to the successful bidder. A certified check for 2% of the amount of the bonds, payable to the order of the district, must accompany each proposal. The approving opinion of Reed, Hoyt & Washburn of New York will be furnished the successful bidder. Following the opening of sealed tenders, the district will conduct sale of the issue at public auction. (This issue was previously offered on Feb. 29, at which time all bids submitted were rejected—V. 134, p. 1813.)

**SOUTH CAROLINA, State of (P. O. Columbia)—NOTE ISSUANCE.**—A total of \$3,394,000 teachers' salary notes is being issued by the State to the counties, according to new dispatches from Columbia. It is announced by Malcolm J. Miller, Secretary of the State Sinking Fund Commission, that school notes will be accepted at par from county authorities by the Commission provided the transaction releases a sum of money in pay to teachers equivalent to the amount of the notes. In this manner the notes would be taken by the Commission and the cash would be left in the counties for the teachers.

**SOUTH HADLEY, Hampshire County, Mass.—BOND SALE.**—The \$119,000 coupon bonds unsuccessfully offered on Oct. 24 1931—V. 133, p. 2962—have since been sold as 4 1/2s to F. S. Moseley & Co., of Boston, at a price of 101, a basis of about 4.33%. The sale comprised: \$90,000 school bonds. Due on Nov. 1 as follows: \$6,000 from 1932 to 1936 incl., and \$5,000 from 1937 to 1946 inclusive. \$9,000 school bonds. Due Nov. 1 as follows: \$3,000 from 1932 to 1940 incl., and \$2,000 from 1941 to 1946 inclusive. Each issue is dated Nov. 1 1931.

**STARK COUNTY (P. O. Canton), Ohio.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—The State Relief Commission on May 19 approved of the county's request for authority to issue \$334,977 poor relief bonds, under the provisions of the Espy-Roberts act passed at the recent special session of the State Legislature.—V. 134, p. 3502.

**STRUTHERS, Mahoning County, Ohio.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—The city council recently passed an ordinance providing for the issuance of \$3,639,176 6% special assessment improvement bonds, to be dated July 1 1932. One bond for \$727.85, others for \$727.83. Due Oct. 1 as follows: \$727.83 in 1933 and 1934; \$727.85 in 1935; and \$727.83 in 1936 and 1937. Principal and interest (April and Oct.) will be payable at the office of the Sinking Fund Trustees.

**STUART INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Stuart) Guthrie County, Iowa.—BONDS VOTED.**—At the election held on May 16—V. 134, p. 3323—the voters are reported to have approved the issuance of \$10,000 in school building bonds.

**TAUNTON, Bristol County, Mass.—BONDS NOT SOLD.**—The issue of \$30,000 coupon or registered sewer bonds offered on May 24—V. 134, p. 3861—was not sold, as no bids were received. Bidder was asked to name the rate of interest, expressed in a multiple of 1/4 of 1%. Bonds are dated Dec. 1 1931 and will mature \$2,000 on Dec. 1 from 1932 to 1946, incl.

**TAYLOR COUNTY (P. O. Medford), Wis.—BOND DETAILS.**—The \$40,000 issue of highway paving bonds that was recently authorized—V. 134, p. 3675—bears interest at 5%, payable semi-annually. Denom. \$1,000. Dated June 1 1932. Due in 1934. Prin. and int. payable at the office of the County Treasurer. Legality to be approved by the Attorney-General. It is stated that no date of sale has as yet been fixed for the bonds.

**TEXAS, State of (P. O. Austin)—BOND PAYMENTS.**—It was announced on May 26 that the Manufacturers Trust Co. of New York City has been appointed coupon paying agent for the following Texas bond issues: \$156,000 5% Falls County Road District No. 9, series B of 1932, and \$30,000 Liberty County court house equipment funding bonds.

The above named company has also been appointed agent for \$20,000 refunding bonds of Nueces County Navigation District No. 1, series A of 1932, and \$30,000 Navigation District No. 1 refunding bonds, series B of 1932.

**TITUSVILLE, Crawford County, Pa.—BOND OFFERING.**—Joseph W. Gray, City Comptroller, will receive sealed bids until 8 p. m. (Eastern standard time) on June 6 for the purchase of \$19,000 4 1/4% street improvement or assessment bonds. Dated July 1 1932. Denoms. \$1,000 and \$500. Due \$9,500 on July 1 in 1937 and 1942. Principal and interest (Jan. and July) will be payable at the office of the City Treasurer. A certified check for 2% of the amount bid, payable to the order of the City, must accompany each proposal.

**TREMPELEAU SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 (P. O. Trempeleau), Wis.—CORRECTION.**—We are informed that \$12,000 in 4% school bonds was not voted on April 7, as reported in V. 134, p. 2956. It is said that the money for the project is to be secured from the State Trust Funds and not from a bond issue.

**TONAWANDA (CITY OF), Erie County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.**—Christian W. Schulmeister, City Treasurer, will receive sealed bids until 8 p. m. on June 6 for the purchase of \$18,000 not to exceed 6% int. bridge bonds. Dated July 1 1932. Denom. \$1,000. Due \$1,000 on July 1 from 1938 to 1955 incl. Rate of int. to be expressed in a multiple of 1/4 of 1%. Prin. and semi-ann. int. will be payable at the Chase National Bank of New York. A certified check for \$1,000, payable to the order of the City Treasurer, must accompany each proposal. The opinion of Thomson, Wood & Hoffman of New York, as to the legality of the bonds, will be furnished the successful bidder.

**TONAWANDA, Erie County, N. Y.—BOND OFFERING.**—Roy R. Brockett, Town Supervisor, will receive sealed bids until 8 p. m. (daylight

saving time) on June 6 for the purchase of \$214,000 not to exceed 6% interest coupon or registered bonds, divided as follows: \$55,000 Sheridan Park impt. bonds. Dated April 1 1930. Due April 1 as follows: \$3,000 from 1933 to 1949 incl., and \$4,000 in 1950. 52,500 Sewer District No. 3 bonds. Dated Jan. 1 1932. Due Jan. 1 as follows: \$2,500 from 1933 to 1937 incl., and \$2,000 from 1938 to 1957 incl. 32,500 Water District No. 5 bonds. Dated Jan. 1 1932. Due Jan. 1 as follows: \$500 in 1933, and \$2,000 from 1934 to 1949 incl. 32,500 highway impt. bonds. Dated May 1 1932. Due May 1 as follows: \$5,000 from 1933 to 1937 incl.; \$1,000 from 1938 to 1940 incl.; \$2,000 in 1941, and \$2,500 in 1942. 10,000 Lateral Sewer District No. 3 bonds. Dated May 1 1932. Due \$1,000 on May 1 from 1933 to 1942 incl. 9,000 Water District No. 4 bonds. Dated Jan. 1 1932. Due \$1,000 on Jan. 1 from 1933 to 1941 incl. 8,500 Water District No. 7 bonds. Dated Jan. 1 1932. Due Jan. 1 as follows: \$500 in 1933, and \$1,000 from 1934 to 1941 incl. 8,300 Water District No. 2 bonds. Dated Jan. 1 1932. Due Jan. 1 as follows: \$300 in 1933, and \$1,000 from 1934 to 1941 incl. 5,800 Lateral Sewer District No. 2 bonds. Dated May 1 1932. Due May 1 as follows: \$800 in 1933, and \$1,000 from 1934 to 1938 incl. Rate of interest to be expressed in a multiple of  $\frac{1}{4}$  or 1-10 of 1% and must be the same for all of the bonds. Principal and semi-annual interest will be payable at the First National Bank, Kenmore, or at the Chase National Bank, of New York. A certified check for \$5,000, payable to the order of the above-mentioned Supervisor, must accompany each proposal. The approving opinion of Clay, Dillon & Vandewater, of New York, will be furnished the successful bidder.

**TULSA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 33 (P. O. Tulsa, R. 9, Box 228), Okla.—BONDS OFFERED.**—Sealed bids were received until 7:30 p. m. on May 27 by J. H. Yearout, District Clerk, for the purchase of \$16,700 school bonds. Interest rate to be named by bidder. Due \$1,000 from 1936 to 1951 and \$700 in 1952. (These are the bonds that were unsuccessfully offered on April 22—V. 134, p. 3508.)

**TURTLE LAKE, McLean County, N. Dak.—BONDS OFFERED.**—Bids were received by R. T. Lierboe, Village Clerk, at the office of the County Auditor, until 10 a. m. on May 25, for the purchase of a \$7,000 issue of improvement bonds. Denom. \$500. Due \$500 from June 1 1935 to 1948 incl.

**TYLER, Smith County, Tex.—BONDS VOTED.**—At the election held on May 16—V. 134, p. 3140—the voters approved the issuance of \$100,000 in 6% sewage disposal plant bonds by a count reported to have been 234 "for" to 197 "against." Term in from 1 to 15 years. It is stated that these bonds will soon be offered for sale.

**BOND OFFERING.**—It is stated that sealed bids will be received until May 31 by Lee H. Power, City Manager, for the purchase of the above issue of \$100,000 6% semi-ann. sewage disposal plant bonds.

**UTICA, Oneida County, N. Y.—BONDS PUBLICLY OFFERED.**—Batchelder & Co. and Rutter & Co., both of New York, jointly, made public offering on May 23 of \$740,000 4.40% coupon or registered bonds at prices yield 2.50% for the 1933 maturity; 1934, 3.50%; 1935, 4.00%; 1936, 4.10%; 1937 and 1938, 4.15%; 1939 to 1942 incl., 4.20%, and 4.25% for the maturities from 1943 to 1952 incl. Bonds are legal investment for savings banks and trust funds in the States of New York and Massachusetts. (Details of the public award of these bonds appeared in—V. 134, p. 3861.)

**VICKSBURG, Warren County, Miss.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—At a recent meeting the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen adopted an ordinance providing for the issuance of \$90,000 in refunding bonds.

**WARWICK, Kent County, R. I.—BOND SALE.**—A syndicate composed of Estabrook & Co., Lehman Bros. & Co., both of New York, jointly, made public offering on May 23 of \$300,000 6% coupon or registered bonds at prices yield 2.50% for the 1933 maturity; 1934, 3.50%; 1935, 4.00%; 1936, 4.10%; 1937 and 1938, 4.15%; 1939 to 1942 incl., 4.20%, and 4.25% for the maturities from 1943 to 1952 incl. Bonds are legal investment for savings banks and trust funds in the States of New York and Massachusetts. (Details of the public award of these bonds appeared in—V. 134, p. 3861.)

**BONDS PUBLICLY RE-OFFERED.**—The bonds are being re-advertised for general investment at a price of par and accrued interest, to yield 5.50%. According to the bankers, they are legal investments for savings banks in the States of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York. The bonds, it is said, are direct obligations of the city, payable from unlimited ad valorem taxes on all the taxable property therein.

*Financial Statement May 1 1932 (As Officially Reported).*

Assessed valuation, May 1 1932.....	\$38,388,000
Total bonded debt, including this issue.....	2,940,000
Less: Water debt and sinking fund.....	1,633,404
Net debt (3.40%).....	1,306,596
Population, 1930 United States Census, 23,196.	

**WASHINGTON, Daviess County, Ind.—BOND SALE.**—The \$650,000 6% bonds authorized at an election on Sept. 8 1931 for the purpose of acquiring the privately-owned resident water works plant—V. 133, p. 1737—have been purchased at a price of par by C. W. McNear & Co., of Chicago, according to Warren Van Trees, City Clerk. Due serially in from one to 32 years. At the time the issue was voted it was reported that the investment house would purchase the bonds. It was also said that payment of the same would be made entirely from revenues derived from the operation of the plant.

**WASHINGTON, Fayette County, Ohio.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—An ordinance recently adopted by the city council provides for an issue of \$24,959 6% refunding bonds, to be dated May 1 1932 and mature as follows: \$1,259 May 1 and \$1,200 Nov. 1 1933, \$1,200 on May 1 and \$1,300 Nov. 1 from 1934 to 1942 incl. Principal and interest (May and Nov.) payable at the Washington Savings Bank, Washington.

**WATERBURY, New Haven County, Conn.—BOND SALE.**—The \$1,000,000 5% coupon or registered funding bonds offered on May 25—V. 134, p. 3676—were awarded at a price of par to Darby & Co. of New York, the only bidders. Dated May 15 1932. Due \$100,000 on May 15 from 1934 to 1943, incl.

**BONDS PUBLICLY OFFERED.**—The bankers are making public re-offering of the issue at prices to yield 4% for the 1934 maturity; 1935, 4.25%; 1936 and 1937, 4.40%; 1938 and 1939, 4.50%; 1940, 4.60%, and 4.70% for the bonds due from 1941 to 1943, incl. Legal investment for savings banks and trust funds in New York, Connecticut and other States, it is said, in addition to being direct and general obligations of the city, payable from unlimited ad valorem taxes levied on all of the taxable property therein.

**WAUSHARA COUNTY (P. O. Wautoma), Wis.—BOND OFFERING.**—Sealed bids were received by J. J. Johnson, County Clerk, until 2 p. m. on May 28 for the purchase of a \$48,000 issue of 4½% semi-ann. highway bonds. Due on March 1 1941.

**WAVELAND, Hancock County, Miss.—BONDS NOT SOLD.**—The \$25,000 issue of 6% semi-ann. street impt. bonds offered on May 20—V. 134, p. 3676—was of sold, as the only bid received, an offer of par by the Merrill Engineering Co. of Jackson, was rejected.

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY (P. O. White Plains), N. Y.—CERTIFICATES OF INDEBTEDNESS SOLD.**—R. W. Pressprich & Co., of New York, purchased on May 23 an issue of \$2,543,950 certificates of indebtedness at 3% interest, plus a premium of \$1,705. Dated May 26 1932 and due on June 5 1933. Legality approved by Hawkins, Delafield & Longfellow, of New York. Public re-offering of the certificates was made at a price to yield 2.50%. Legal investment for savings banks and trust funds in New York State, according to the bankers. The county received the following tenders for the issue:

<i>Bidder—</i>		
R. W. Pressprich & Co. (Purchaser).....	3%	\$1,705
Dillon, Read & Co.....	3%	1,601
First National Bank of New York, Salomon Bros. & Hutzler, and the First National Bank of Mount Vernon, jointly.....	3.40%	155
Guaranty Company of New York.....	4.00%	Par
Chase Harris Forbes Corp.....	4.35%	101

**WEST JEFFERSON, Madison County, Ohio.—BOND SALE.**—W. E. Jackson, Village Clerk, reports that the Huntington National Bank of Columbus has purchased at a price of par an issue of \$66,500 special assessment improvement bonds.

**WEST MIDDLESEX, Mercer County, Pa.—BOND SALE.**—Ralph J. Fair, Borough Secretary, reports that the State Teachers' Retirement Fund has purchased an issue of \$9,000 5% funding bonds at a price of par. Due on Feb. 1 as follows: \$2,000 in 1937; \$3,000 in 1942, and \$4,000 in 1937.

**WEST PACIFIC SCHOOL DISTRICT (P. O. Waterloo), Douglas County, Neb.—BONDS VOTED.**—It is reported that at a recent election the voters approved the issuance of \$25,000 in school building and site purchase bonds.

**WEST VIRGINIA, State of (P. O. Charleston).—BOND SALE.**—An issue of \$1,250,000 coupon or registered road bonds was offered on May 25 and awarded to the Bankers Trust Co. and the Guaranty Co. of New York, jointly, paying a premium of \$117.90, equal to 100,009, a net interest cost of about 4.43% on the bonds, divided as follows: \$1,075,000 as 4½s, maturing on April 1 as follows: \$50,000 1933 to 1953 and \$25,000 in 1954, and \$175,000 as 4½s, due on April 1 as follows: \$25,000 1954 and \$50,000 1955 to 1957.

**BANKERS RE-OFFER BONDS.**—The successful bidders re-offered the above bonds for public subscription priced to yield from 3% to 4.35% according to maturity, on the 4½% bonds, and the 4½% bonds are priced at 100 and interest. Coupon bonds in \$1,000 denom., convertible into fully registered bonds of \$1,000 and \$5,000 denom., dated April 1 1932. Prin. and int. payable in gold at the office of the State Treasurer, or at the option of the holder in N. Y. City. Legality to be approved by Caldwell & Raymond of New York.

The other bids for the bonds were reported in newspaper dispatches as follows: The First National Bank of New York, together with Halsey, Stuart & Co., and Phelps, Fenn & Co., submitted the second highest tender. This group offered 100,004 for \$1,140,000 4½s and \$110,000 4½s, or a net interest cost of 4.458%.

This bid was followed by a figure of 100,008 for \$1,224,000 4½s and \$26,000 4½s, submitted by the Chase Harris Forbes Corp., R. L. Day & Co., the Mercantile Commerce Co. and the Charleston National Bank. Interest cost on this tender is 4.49%.

The final tender was 100,113 for all 4½s, or a net interest cost to the State of 4.496%. The First Detroit Co., Inc., submitted this bid, in association with the First National Old Colony Corp., the N. W. Harris Co., Inc., Hannahs, Ballin & Lee, and the First Securities Corp. of Minnesota.

*Financial Statement.*

Assessed valuation—1931.....	\$1,877,968,467
Bonded indebtedness—1919 Virginia debt bonds (original issue \$13,500,000).....	4,340,000
State road bonds, including this offer.....	81,385,000

Total bonded indebtedness, including this offer..... \$86,975,000 \$675,000 required to be retired annually, beginning in 1919. Issued pursuant to the good roads amendments to the Constitution and payable serially, last maturity April 1 1957.

The Constitution of West Virginia provides that the aggregate amount of bonds outstanding for roads shall at no time exceed \$85,000,000. The Constitution of West Virginia does not authorize the issuing of general obligation bonds for any other purpose. Population: 1920 Census, 1,463,701; 1930 Census, 1,728,510.

**WORCESTER, Worcester County, Mass.—LIST OF BIDS.**—The following is a list of the bids received for the \$200,000 revenue anticipation loan awarded on May 20 to the Merchants National Bank, of Boston, at 1.87% discount basis.—V. 134, p. 3862.

*Bidder—*

Merchants National Bank, of Boston (Purchaser).....	Discount Basis.
Rutter & Co.....	1.87%
Faxon, Gade & Co.....	1.95%
Shawmut Corp. (Plus \$3.33 premium).....	1.95%
Worcester County National Bank.....	1.97%
Second National Bank, of Boston (Plus \$1 premium).....	1.9725%
First National Old Colony Corp.....	2.00%
Salomon Bros. & Hutzler.....	2.13%
F. S. Moseley & Co.....	2.15%

**YOUNGSTOWN, Mahoning County, Ohio.—LEGAL OPINION.**—The legality of the \$525,000 6% bonds awarded at a price of par on May 14 by the Provident Savings Bank & Trust Co. of Cincinnati—V. 134, p. 3862—will be approved by Squire, Sanders & Dempsey of Cleveland.

CANADA, its Provinces and Municipalities

**BRITISH COLUMBIA (Province of).—STOCK ISSUE PLACED ON MARKET IN LONDON.**—A syndicate composed of the Dominion Securities Corp., J. & A. Scrimgeour and the Canadian Bank of Commerce offered for public subscription in London, England, on May 26 an issue of \$1,500,000 5% 35-year provincial stock. Reports from London indicated that the issue had been well received.

**CHATHAM, Ont.—BOND SALE.**—Local investors have purchased an issue of \$25,934 improvement bonds at a price of par. Due in from one to six years.

**KINGSTON, Ont.—BOND SALE.**—A. E. Ames & Co., of Toronto, have purchased an issue of \$150,000 6% bonds at a price of 98.93, a basis of about 6.10%. The issue matures on July 2 1951.

Award of the issue was made on May 19. Bonds will be issued in coupon form, with interest payments in January and July. A summary of the other bids received at the sale is as follows:

Ten bids were received by the city with Dominion Securities Corp. bidding 98.88 for the entire block or but 0.05 under the successful bid and 99.07 for \$50,000 with a 10-day option on the balance.
Griffis, Fairclough & Norsworthy bid 98.57.
Wood, Gundy & Co. bid 98.38 or 98.88 for \$50,000 with a 30-day option on balance.
McLeod, Young, Weir & Co. bid 98.31 or 98.79 for \$50,000 with 10-day option on balance.
Johnston & Ward, and W. C. Pitfield & Co. bid 98.17.
C. H. Burgess, and Gairdner & Co. bid 98 or 98.87 for \$50,000 with 30-day option on balance.
R. A. Daly & Co. bid 98.02 for \$50,000 with 10-day option on balance.
Harris, MacKeen & Co. bid 99.26 for \$50,000 with 10-day option on balance.
J. L. Graham & Co. bid 97.075 for \$50,000 with 10-day option on balance.

**MONTREAL METROPOLITAN COMMISSION, Que.—BONDS AUTHORIZED.**—The Commission will place on the market shortly an issue of \$1,800,000 bonds, to bear interest at a rate not to exceed 6%. Proceeds will be used to meet capital expenditures made on behalf of the unemployed.

**NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.—BOND SALE.**—Riddell & McIntosh, Ltd., recently purchased a total of \$89,177 5% bonds, paying a price of 92.25 for the five year maturities, 78.85 for the bonds due in 20 years, and 76.80 for the 30-year bonds.

**SHERBROOKE, Que.—BOND SALE.**—W. C. Pitfield & Co. and Ernest Savard, Ltd., both of Montreal, jointly, have purchased an issue of \$297,000 6% coupon (registerable as to principal) bonds at a price of 98.32, a basis of about 6.49%. Of the entire issue, \$92,000 bonds will mature on Sept. 1 during the period from 1932 to 1936 incl., while the remaining \$185,000 Principal and semi-annual interest payable at the Bank of Montreal, at Montreal, Quebec, Toronto or Sherbrooke. The bankers are re-offering the bonds for general investment at par and accrued interest. Bids received for the issue were reported as follows:

*Bidder—*

W. C. Pitfield & Co. and Ernest Savard, Ltd. (Successful bidders).....	Rate Bid.
Royal Securities Corp., Hanson Bros. and Nesbitt, Thomson & Co., jointly.....	98.32
Bank of Montreal, Royal Bank of Canada, Dominion Securities Corp., Wood, Gundy & Co., Hannaford, Birks & Co. and A. E. Ames & Co., jointly.....	98.17
SMITH'S FALLS, Ont.—PURCHASER.—The issue of \$30,884.45 6% unemployment relief work bonds sold recently at a price of 97.003, a basis of about 6.27%—V. 134, p. 3862—were purchased by H. R. Bain & Co. of Toronto.	98.02