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The Financial Situation

THE outcome of the Presidential election, in the decisive verdict of the electorate in favor of Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt, as against the present Chief Executive in the person of President Herbert Hoover, has long been a foregone conclusion, and does not come as a surprise to those who have been closely watching the course of affairs. It is a manifestation of popular discontent, and signifies dissatisfaction with the unfortunate economic upheaval which has marked almost the whole of the period during which Mr. Hoover has been at the helm in Washington. As a result of this economic upheaval the country has had to contend with an era of depression in the industrial, agricultural and financial world, steadily growing in intensity and without a parallel in its widespread and all-pervading character in the history of the world, foreign countries falling within its embrace the same as the United States, and gloom and desolation following in its wake everywhere.

In the estimation of immense masses of the population, Mr. Hoover is responsible for this distressing state of things, and these masses have visited their displeasure upon him by denying to him what he so earnestly craved, namely, the privilege and responsibility of continuing in the Presidential office for another term of four years. It cannot be denied that this was the governing consideration which influenced so many in turning down Mr. Hoover's appeal for a second term. Nothing else can explain the fact that Mr. Roosevelt obtained a majority of the votes in 42 of the 48 States of the Union, that as a consequence he will have 472 votes in the electoral college, Mr. Hoover getting only the remaining 59 votes, comprising merely the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Delaware and Pennsylvania. The new Congress will have an enormous Democratic majority, the latest returns showing that they will have 314 members in the House of Representatives against 110 by the Republicans and four Farmer-Laborites, and 59 members in the United States Senate. Only a common emotion, holding in its sway the bulk of the population, could have produced such overwhelming results.

In that sense the outcome must be regarded as disapproval of Mr. Hoover and his Administration, rather than of approval of Mr. Roosevelt, though the latter's utterances may have drawn support from the discontented. Mr. Roosevelt was simply the instrument through which popular dissatisfaction with the Republican Administration and its course was expressed. As a matter of fact, public behavior in this instance has been no different from what it has always been in periods of bad times. On such occasions the party in power is almost invariably held responsible for the distressing state of things, and a desire for a change, no matter what the consequences, rules uppermost, this being based on the notion that a change, even though it may not bring actual improvement, is worth trying with the view to seeing whether the hoped for result will accrue.

There is of course something unreasoning in the mere desire for a change, and it often results in injustice to those who become the victims of the emotional impulse. That would certainly appear to be true, in some measure at least, with reference to Mr. Hoover. Most assuredly he cannot be charged with having caused the speculative collapse which occurred in October 1929 and the antecedent debauch responsible for it. It would just as surely have come had Calvin Coolidge remained in office. The speculation (which, be it remembered, was not confined to the stock market, but extended to everything else) had become top-heavy and was bound to collapse of its own weight sooner or later. Had Governor Alfred E. Smith gained the Presidency the collapse would perhaps have come sooner, owing to the distrust felt in financial circles regarding the Democratic party, and having come sooner, before the inflationary movement had proceeded so far, the collapse would probably have been less severe; but, nevertheless, the Democratic party and its head would have been blamed for it, and the cry that "Al Smith had done it" would have become a common refrain.

But if Mr. Hoover cannot be charged with having brought on the panic and subsequent depression, it still remains an open question whether his course in

Report of I. B. A. Convention

We devote twenty-nine pages to-day to an account of the proceedings of the annual Convention of the Investment Bankers' Association, held at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., on October 22-26.

This great investment organization is growing in importance and in influence with each succeeding year. The feature of the annual gatherings is always the Committee reports, which will be found spread out at length on subsequent pages. The Committees are composed of men thoroughly conversant with their subjects, and they devote themselves to their respective tasks with a thoroughness that has never been surpassed anywhere in the same line of work—in fact, has never before been equalled. Their studies, therefore, are of high value.

dealing with it did not serve to aggravate and prolong it until finally it assumed dimensions where it became so overwhelming that it got entirely beyond human control and swept everything before it. For nearly two years after the panic broke in the autumn of 1929, when business was getting steadily worse, with the volume of trade constantly shrinking and income fading away, Mr. Hoover kept insisting that nothing was wrong in the business world and that it was a mistake to proceed as if there were. How different the later situation might have been if the President had shown an appreciation of the fact that the speculative era, which, as already stated, had taken within its embrace not only the stock market but the entire business structure, had definitely terminated and had at the same time endeavored to persuade the community that the period of wild speculation was a thing of the past and that now there must be an adjustment to the normal and a complete abandonment of the process of chasing rainbows. In that event the long period of suffering and distress, with steadily growing idleness and unemployment, which the country has had to endure since then, might have been greatly relieved if not actually spared.

But if in its earlier stages the President failed to grapple with it in the way he should have done, on the other hand, when the stage was reached where an actual crisis developed, he proved himself a man of heroic mold. Mr. Hoover always appeared to greatest advantage in the carrying out of relief measures in periods of great and grave emergencies. His greatest achievement of that kind was in marshalling relief in Belgium after the signing of the Armistice. Here he acted with consummate skill and rendered succor that will stand everlastingly to his credit. Having done that job so well, he was ever thereafter called upon whenever grave situations of one kind or another would arise. One of the more recent instances of the kind was at the time of the Mississippi floods, when Calvin Coolidge, as President, selected him as the man best qualified not only to devise measures of immediate relief, but also to prepare a comprehensive plan of structures to guard against recurrence of similar disasters in the future and to mitigate the serious ill effects that usually attend such havoc-dealing forces of nature when free from the retarding influences which man often can impose.

When, therefore, the commercial and financial upheaval in the United States reached the acute stage and it seemed as if the whole country might become engulfed in ruin and go down to destruction, he was pre-eminently the man for the task. Here was the greatest opportunity of his entire life, and candor compels the statement that he proved equal to the occasion. A man was required bold in conception of plans and resolute and unbending in the execution of them. Then followed a series of relief measures staggering by reason of their magnitude and immensity, as well as their multifarious character. Mr. Hoover never faltered or hesitated. One situation after another was met with a boldness never before dreamed of. We know of no one in public life who could have conceived in rapid succession relief measures of the gigantic nature required. It would take too much space to enumerate all these, but the moratorium on German reparations and allied debt payments may be mentioned as one of the most noteworthy and most daring of these. So beset with dif-

iculties was this that the ordinary man would have shrunk from even giving consideration to it.

The relief measures which followed for dealing with the various phases of the economic depression in this country are still within the memory of every one. We will mention just one, namely, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, at first with capital and loaning powers of \$2,000,000,000, and later increased to \$3,500,000,000. The magnitude of the amounts involved would have proved so deterrent to most officials that the thought of even entertaining a proposition of such vast extent would have been unceremoniously dismissed. But Mr. Hoover, accustomed now to dealing with great and grave problems, the immensity of the sums involved was of no consequence so long as it furnished a sure means to the end sought.

Another distinctive characteristic of Mr. Hoover's has been that having acquired the necessary authority he was never slow in exercising it, and if the agencies charged with extending aid and relief hesitated for any reason to avail of the authority granted, because of some inherent difficulty or the drastic nature of the relief required, he was ever prompt to spring to the rescue and to add his own powerful influence to make the means of relief available and effective. One instance of the kind, highly creditable to Mr. Hoover, deserves to be placed on record here because it illustrates so strikingly the preparedness and the facility with which Mr. Hoover always acted when confronted with the imminence of a serious disaster. In saying this we have in mind chiefly the adroitness and speed with which the President acted at the time of the Chicago bank troubles last June. These Chicago bank troubles were of a most serious nature and were of such a threatening character that only immediate and quick action on the part of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation could avert disaster to the entire banking world, not alone in Chicago, but over the greater part of the rest of the country. The menacing Chicago situation grew out of the closing of some 40 banks in that city, all except one or two of them in the outlying districts of Chicago. This led eventually to runs on the big banks in the Loop district, the Central Republic Bank & Trust Co., with which General Charles G. Dawes was connected, being the worst sufferer, but some of the other large banks also becoming the subject of runs, especially the First National Bank of Chicago, with its affiliate the First Union Trust & Savings Bank, and the Continental-Illinois Bank & Trust Co.

The nature of these Chicago bank involvements and the sums needed for dealing with them will appear when we say that the crisis on that occasion was surmounted by the extension of financial assistance in amount of \$95,000,000 to the Central Republic Bank & Trust Co., \$80,000,000 of this being obtained from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (as the head of which General Dawes had resigned the early part of the month), and \$10,000,000 more being supplied by a group of Chicago banks and \$5,000,000 by a group of New York banks through Mortimer N. Buckner, President of the New York Clearing House Association. The facilities of the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank had to be freely availed of in the carrying out of the plan of assistance. In their condition statement for the week ended Wednesday night, June 29, the 12 Federal Reserve banks combined showed an increase in the amount of Federal Reserve

notes outstanding of \$139,932,000, and on examination it appeared that \$117,025,000 of the whole increase had occurred at Chicago. The Chicago Reserve Bank showed an increase in that week in its holdings of United States Government securities from \$210,845,000 to \$287,380,000, and an increase of from \$7,843,000 to \$20,258,000 in its holdings of acceptances purchased in the open market.

The point we want to stress is the part played by President Hoover in the matter because it is so highly creditable to him and furnishes a striking illustration of the speed with which he has acted throughout his whole career whenever a threatening situation confronted the country and quick action was imperative. In his speech at St. Louis on Friday of last week Mr. Hoover went quite at length into the details of these Chicago banking troubles, now for several months a thing of the past, but we prefer the description of what took place given by William Allen White in an article entitled "The Men and the Issues," published in the "Herald Tribune" magazine for Sunday, Oct. 23. Mr. White does not mention the Chicago banks by name, but it is easy to identify them from his remarks. Here is what he says on the subject:

"I have a letter from a friend who was at Rapidan camp some time in 1932 when, all unknown to the American people, danger tapped at the door of the White House and catastrophe stood waiting for the American people. Let my friend tell the story, in his own language, of that night at Rapidan:

"At 8 o'clock on a Saturday night at the worst of the depression, the President was called by phone at his Rapidan camp. The head of the largest bank in a certain midland city told him that not a city bank would dare open its doors the following Monday unless given financial help. Had those banks failed at that critical time it would have been only a question of days before the other banks of the country would have gone down like a row of falling bricks. Efforts of bankers in that midland city to obtain necessary help from banking circles in other cities had failed. Eighty million dollars was the amount needed. Only the Hoover relief measures were available.

"The President, undaunted, received the startling news, requested that representatives from the other banks there be immediately called together and await word from him. Then, obtaining a wire to Washington, he asked that members of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation be summoned. Next a wire was opened to New York and representative bankers and members of the Federal Reserve Board were hurriedly called into conference.

"With an open circuit from the midland city to New York passing through Washington and the Rapidan, the President sat at the telephone throughout the night, directing the mobilization of banking credit and currency sufficient to prevent the impending catastrophe.

"At 8 o'clock the following night he hung up the phone knowing that the situation had been saved. Thirty million dollars of currency was delivered to the tottering bank before opening hour Monday morning. Five million dollars more soon followed. The greatest crisis of the depression had been successfully met. The recognized leaders of finance did not initiate and direct this stupendous achievement. In its entirety it was the accomplishment of a weary man who had gone to a mountain retreat for a brief, uninterrupted rest."

"The bank in question was one of the four great banks in one of our major cities. It so happened that I had been in that major city for a week before that night which my friend describes at Rapidan. I am familiar with that city. I have been there at times

of fiesta, on gala days, on days of great stress. But down there in the financial district I never saw such crowds. Policemen were lined up to keep them moving around the banks, the four great banks which commanded the financial resources of an empire larger than the German Empire at its peak and prime, with France and Belgium added—a great American territory where 40,000,000 persons live.

"Thousands of depositors were milling around those banks that summer day this year and were allowed through the doors only in such small relays as could be guided peaceably about the counters. Inside the banks policemen shepherded the fear-stricken people. Counters were marked: 'For depositors withdrawing checks of a thousand and under.' Again: 'Here for checks of \$10,000 and under.' Again: 'Here for checks of \$25,000 and under'; 'Here for checks of \$50,000 and under'; 'Here for checks of \$100,000 and over'—and these signs appeared over different tellers' windows.

"Millions were coming out of these banks daily. If Monday morning one bank had failed to open all would have closed by Tuesday night. The banking reserves of this vast region are kept in these banks. By Wednesday night the banks in the smaller cities, towns of two, three, four hundred thousand, would have closed, and country banks that kept their reserves in these banks in the smaller inland cities would have found their reserves gone, and by Saturday not a bank would have been open in this inland empire."

The above deals with things that are now a matter of history, but as Mr. Hoover is shortly to retire, they deserve to be set down in the record to his lasting credit.

AS FOR Mr. Roosevelt, the successful Presidential candidate, the question is as to how he and the Democratic party will conduct themselves in the seat of power to which they have been raised. Mr. Roosevelt during his canvass gave utterance to some remarks of a disquieting character, because of their radical nature and tendencies. Not only that, but in one of his campaign addresses, to which reference was made in this article, he took pains to say that he wanted himself to be considered, and likewise the Democratic party, as progressive, as distinguished from conservative, and he went further and declared that there was no room in this country for two parties of a conservative type, the Republican party being in this hailed as the distinctive conservative party. As the campaign progressed the leaders of the Republican party, given this cue, conducted what became known as a "campaign of fear," in which it was urged that Mr. Roosevelt and the Democratic party could not be trusted and that they would involve the country in disaster and destruction.

This was a type of campaign which it seemed to us was most reprehensible. Nevertheless it was continued right up to the day of election, and the strongest of efforts were made to win support for Mr. Hoover and the Republican party on the ground that the country must prepare for a new setback in business if the Democrats gained control. Mr. Hoover himself indulged in accusations of this kind, saying in the address which he delivered at St. Paul, Minn., on Nov. 5, that a spirit akin to Sovietism dominated the Democratic party, and charging it "was tainted with a philosophy that poisoned all Europe." For ourselves we cannot believe that any menace of that kind confronts the country or is likely to develop. It would be a sad state of things if all the wisdom and all the sound common sense

and all the morality were the exclusive possession of one of the great political parties. Admitting that the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives at the last session of Congress did not act with any great degree of good sense, it yet remains true, as we have said on previous occasions, that responsibility sobers and that full responsibility is a different thing from the divided control between the two parties which has been the ruling condition in the old Congress, the life of which will expire the coming 4th of March. In the new Congress the Democrats will have such an overwhelming control that the conservative element will be able, aided by Mr. Roosevelt, to suppress any tendency on the part of some small clique or group to engage in overturning things.

Furthermore, we refuse to believe that Mr. Roosevelt himself will encourage any moves except such as are calculated to promote the best interests of the country and the welfare of the entire community. As the best evidence of the high aims and purposes of the President-elect we quote here the following excerpts from the final appeal made by Mr. Roosevelt last Saturday night at Madison Square Garden:

"The next Administration must represent not a fraction of the United States, but all of the United States. No resource of mind or heart or organization can be excluded in the fight against what is, after all, our real enemy. Our real enemies are hunger, want, insecurity, poverty and fear. Against these there is no glory in a victory only partisan.

"The genius of America is stronger than any candidate or any party. This campaign, hard as it has been, has not shattered my sense of humor or my sense of proportion—I still know that the fate of America cannot depend on any one man. The greatness of America is grounded in principles and not on any single personality. I, for one, shall remember that even as President. Unless by victory, we can accomplish a greater unity toward liberal effort, we shall have done little indeed.

"Let us turn from consideration of leadership and think of the loyal voters who constitute the great army that has brought us to the gate of victory. Let us give thought to the men and women in the ranks. There are many millions of them. What have they in mind? Why have they enlisted?

"There is among you the man who is not bound by party lines. You vote according to your common sense and your calm judgment after hearing each party set forth its program. To you I say that the strength of this independent thought is the great contribution of the American political system. You, and millions like you, have appraised the Democratic program, and have rallied to its standard. Your thought makes wider our vision in handling our national policies.

"There is among you the woman. Women's traditional interests—welfare, children and the home—rest on the broader basis of an economic system which assures her or her husband of a job. The old expression that 'a woman's place is in the home' has a wider meaning to-day."

Here there is a display of lofty sentiment which would appear to give a clear insight into the spirit of the President-elect and the aims and purposes to which he means to dedicate himself in the administration of the Presidential office. Moreover, the brief additional remarks that he has made since the election results showed that he had gained the Presidency, give further evidence of the same spirit. President Hoover, in a congratulatory telegram sent to Mr. Roosevelt on Tuesday night showed a fine sense of sportsmanship when he wished him a most

successful administration and referred to the opportunity that had come to him "to be of service to the country," and added that "in the common purpose of all of us" he (President Hoover) dedicated himself "to every possible helpful effort." Mr. Roosevelt responded by saying that he joined with the President in his "gracious expression of a common purpose in helpful effort for our country."

At the same time, in a radio speech on Wednesday, Governor Roosevelt, after expressing his deep appreciation to the electorate of the country which had given him what he called such a great vote of confidence, he went on to say that it was a vote that had more than mere party significance. "It transcends party lines." It meant, he was sure, "that the masses of the people of this nation firmly believe that there is great and actual possibility in an orderly recovery, through a well-conceived and actively directed plan of action." It also appears probable that Mr. Roosevelt will co-operate with President Hoover to arrange for some common course of action with respect to pending domestic and foreign affairs during the short remaining session of the old Congress, whose tenure will expire on the 4th of next March. It is to be hoped that this will include some action for the modification of the Volstead Act, with a view to obtaining for the Government a large amount of revenue, which now goes to swell the coffers of the bootleggers. That would be a quick and easy way of balancing the budget, and, that done, the country would be on the sure road to recovery in business.

THE Federal Reserve returns this week are without special feature except that they show another increase in the volume of Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation. The further increase the present week has been \$14,481,000, raising the total of notes in circulation to \$2,715,299,000 from \$2,700,818,000 last week and \$2,688,871,000 the week before. This increase was presumably in addition to a further expansion in National Bank circulation and we notice that the total increase in money of all kinds in circulation during the week is reported at \$35,000,000. The expansion in Federal Reserve note circulation the present week has not been attended by any increase in the volume of Reserve credit outstanding as measured by the bill and security holdings, but rather by some decrease, the aggregate of these bill and security holdings having been reduced during the week from \$2,216,305,000 to \$2,201,079,000. The reduction has been entirely in the discount holdings, the other items such as the holdings of acceptances and the holdings of U. S. Government securities showing no changes of consequence. The discount holdings, reflecting member bank borrowing, have fallen from \$326,044,000 Nov. 2 to \$310,953,000 Nov. 9. Gold holdings of the Reserve banks have further risen from \$3,003,647,000 to \$3,009,645,000 and the ratio of total reserves to deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined has further advanced during the week from 62.1% to 62.4%. This further gain in ratio has occurred notwithstanding the expansion in Federal Reserve notes outstanding, but on the other hand, the deposit liabilities were diminished, mainly as a result of a drop in member bank reserves with the Federal Reserve institutions from \$2,384,097,000 Nov. 2 to \$2,343,333,000 Nov. 9.

The amount of U. S. Government securities held as part collateral for Federal Reserve notes outstand-

ing has the present week decreased from \$439,100,000 to \$424,900,000. Holdings of acceptances in this market for account of foreign central banks have dwindled again, dropping from \$38,847,000 to \$37,916,000; a year ago, on Nov. 11 1931, these holdings of bills for foreign banks still amounted to \$108,862,000. On the other hand foreign bank deposits with the Federal Reserve institutions are slightly higher the present week at \$10,717,000 as against \$9,888,000; but a year ago, on Nov. 11 1931, these foreign bank deposits stood at \$133,008,000.

CORPORATE dividend announcements the present week have embraced some favorable features as well as those of the opposite character. Thus, considerable satisfaction was derived from the action of the Union Pacific R.R. in continuing the dividend rate on the common stock unchanged at \$1.50 for the quarter. The action had been awaited with considerable interest. The dividend on National Dairy Products common was also continued unchanged at the rate of 50c. for the quarter. At the same time there was less scaling down of dividend payments than usual, there having been only about three dividend reductions of any great consequence during the week. One of these was the action of the Ohio Oil Company in declaring a dividend of 10c. a share as against distributions of 20c. a share at the two previous quarterly dividend dates, namely Sept. 15 and June 15. The second reduction occurred in Ward Baking Corp. where the directors declared a dividend of only 50c. a share for the quarter on the 7% cum. pref. stock against \$1 a share paid on Oct. 1 and on July 1, prior to which the preferred stock was on the regular basis of \$7 a share payable \$1.75 each quarter. Congoleum-Nairn, Inc., reduced the quarterly dividend on its no par common stock from 25c. a share to 15c. a share.

FOR the third successive month the Government at Washington has raised its estimate of the probable yield of the growing cotton crop, and the addition for this month is in excess of those previously made. At its best, the production this year will be only moderately large compared with the crops of the past six or eight years, although there is a possibility that the final figures for this year may be above those now given. A yield of 11,947,000 bales is indicated. A month ago production was estimated at 11,425,000 bales, while last year's growth was given as 17,096,000 bales. The latest report is based on conditions of Nov. 1. The yield per acre is now placed at 156.2 pounds, which is an increase of 6.9 pounds per acre over the estimate of Oct. 1. Last year's production was 201.2 pounds per acre picked, an unusually high yield.

Not since 1923 has the cotton crop been under that now promised for this year. The present forecast for cotton shows an increase over a month ago in all the major States excepting Mississippi, the higher production being especially notable in the Southwest, in Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. This is the section in which picking may continue until a very late date, even well into the spring months of 1933, and where much the largest part of the late crop may be obtained. There was some increase also in the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama, as well as in Missouri and Tennessee. Ginning to Nov. 1 amounted to 9,245,534 bales, which was 77.4% of the November estimate of yield for this year. Last year, to the

same date, ginnings were 12,124,295 bales, which was 70.9% of the final estimate of yield. Last year's production, however, was 193,000 bales in excess of the November estimate.

MERCANTILE insolvencies in the United States last month were again very much fewer in number than in the first eight months of the year—as they were in September; furthermore, the liabilities were also much lower. The number in the United States, as reported to R. G. Dun & Co., was 2,273 for October, against 2,362 for that month a year ago, a decline of 88, or 3.7%. For the 10 months of this year there have been 27,280 commercial failures in the United States, compared with 23,332 in the same period of 1931, an increase of 3,948 for 1932 to date, or 16.9%. October this year was the first month since September 1931 to show fewer defaults than in the preceding year, while the improvement as to liabilities was even more marked. The total indebtedness recorded for the failures that occurred last month was \$52,869,974. This is also below any preceding month since September of last year. In October 1931 liabilities reported were \$70,660,436, the reduction this year amounting to \$17,790,462, or 25%. For the 10 months of 1932 the indebtedness shown has been \$810,502,747 compared with \$602,436,440, an increase this year of \$208,066,307, or 34.5%. Losses this year on account of business failures have been far in excess of any preceding record.

Quite a reduction appears for October in the number of failures in manufacturing lines; also, in the amount of liabilities. Trading failures were fewer in number, but for the brokerage class there was an increase—the indebtedness reported for the latter was practically one-half of the amount recorded in October 1931. In the iron and steel division defaults were again more numerous last month; also in the lumber and building lines. An increase appears for manufacturers of furs, hats and gloves; for the chemical division, and clay, earthenware and glass. On the other hand, there were fewer insolvencies last month than a year ago for the divisions embracing machinery and tools; the large clothing manufacturing section, and milling and baking.

In trading lines, defaults among grocers continue heavy; also, for chemicals and drugs. The large clothing class shows a reduction, as well as the division for hotels and restaurants. There were fewer defaults also among general stores; dealers in furniture and crockery, but for dry goods, shoes and leather lines, hardware and tools, jewelry, and books and stationery, the number was slightly larger.

THE outlook for the grain crops continues very good. Changes during the past month were in the direction of improvement. Production of corn was increased somewhat in the November crop report of the Department of Agriculture, issued at Washington on Thursday, to 2,920,689,000 bushels, the highest yield since the corn crop of 1923, the latter being one of the few 3,000,000,000-bushel crops raised in this country. In the leading corn States the crop matured under favorable conditions, and husking returns were somewhat in excess of expectations. In some of the States of smaller production there was some recession in yield from the earlier returns, among them being the two Dakotas and Texas. The yield per acre is now indicated at 26.9 bushels against 26.6 bushels a month earlier, and 24.4 bushels

the final estimate for the corn crop of 1931, when the total was 2,563,271,000 bushels. Old corn remaining on farms in the United States on Nov. 1 this year was estimated by the Department at 154,974,000 bushels compared with 78,951,000 bushels a year ago.

Other crops mentioned in the November report of the Department of Agriculture as showing slight improvement during the past month included potatoes, tobacco, beans and some fruits. For potatoes a yield of 359,000,000 bushels is now indicated for this year against a production last year of 376,000,000 bushels. The yield per acre this year is placed at 105.4 bushels compared with 111.4 bushels in 1931. Tobacco production is estimated at 1,024,000,000 lbs., 708 lbs. per acre, against an average of 1,299,000,000 lbs. for the past five years, or 769 lbs. per acre. There was some reduction in the estimate for flaxseed, owing chiefly to the abandonment of acreage in North and South Dakota, but a yield of 12,770,000 bushels is indicated for this year, against last year's production of 11,100,000 bushels.

THE New York stock market has displayed considerable strength the present week, with prices moving briskly upward both before and after Election Day, on Tuesday. The market last week, it may be recalled, turned upward on Friday, and this rise was continued on Saturday and extended into Monday of the present week. It was generally recognized that this reflected an oversold condition of the market, and signified a covering of outstanding short commitments by those who were unwilling to take chances as to what might happen after the election. On Wednesday, with the election results definitely known, stock prices, after evincing a rising tendency during the early hours, took somewhat of a plunge downward in the afternoon under the leadership of the railroad shares, and it was then remarked that the market was on this occasion acting differently from the way in which it had acted in previous Presidential years, when almost invariably prices showed an advancing tendency as soon as the election uncertainty was over. But the market was to redeem itself and act true to tradition on Thursday, and again on Friday. Prices then moved up with considerable vigor and displayed a steadily rising tendency.

The railroad list was especially weak on Wednesday, and it later appeared that a reason for this existed in the publication of a statement in the daily papers that morning saying that there was a possibility that the Coolidge Committee, which is engaged in examining the status of the railroads for their security holders, would make its conclusions available within 10 days. The statement also carried the covert suggestion, evidently designed to affect the market, that the committee might recommend the writing down of capital structures. The statement was unfounded, but evidently accomplished its purpose of unsettling the market on Wednesday. A prompt denial came in the morning papers on Thursday, and then the railroad stocks bounded upward, carrying the whole market upward with them, permitting it to act in its normal fashion and express by a rise in prices relief that the election uncertainty was over. The denial showed that there was not the slightest basis for the report; that no conclusions whatever had been reached or even discussed by the Coolidge Committee, and that the committee would not have any report to submit for at least two months

to come, and small progress had been made as yet in even collecting the necessary data.

A number of other circumstances and developments served to stimulate the rising tendency. The unfilled tonnage report of the United States Steel Corporation showed an increase of 11,950 tons in the Corporation's back-log during October, and announcement came that the Union Pacific RR. had left the dividend on the common shares unchanged on the basis of 6% per annum, while the National Dairy Products Co. also continued its dividend rate unchanged on the common stock. Then the cotton market developed strength, notwithstanding that the Agricultural Bureau in its monthly statement further increased its estimate of the size of the growing cotton crop, raising it from 11,425,000 bales to 11,947,000 bales, though this still left the crop far below that of the previous season, when the actual harvest proved to be 17,096,000 bales. The price of spot cotton in New York on Thursday, after having dropped from 6.45c., Saturday, Nov. 5 (to which it had advanced from 6.20c. the day before), to 6.15c. on Wednesday, owing to the higher estimate of the crop recovered to 6.45c. again on Thursday, and to 6.70c. on Friday, as against 6.20c. on Friday of last week. Wheat prices moved up and down irregularly during the course of the week, but on Thursday (the Chicago Board of Trade was closed on Friday, Nov. 11, it being Armistice Day) showed some recovery when the December option for wheat in Chicago closed at 43 $\frac{7}{8}$ c. as against 43 $\frac{5}{8}$ c. on Friday of last week. Production of steel again fell back from 20% of capacity to 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ %, but trade papers took a favorable view of the outlook for the immediate future, and the Steel Corporation showed a slight increase for the month of October, as already noted, in the unfilled orders on the books of the subsidiary corporations.

The bond market developed greater firmness as the week moved along, and this helped the rising tendency in the stock market. The so-called "beer" stocks and other stocks which appear likely to benefit by an early modification of the Volstead Act were strong features all through the week. General American Tank Car closed yesterday at 18 $\frac{3}{8}$ as against 16 on Friday of last week; Crown Cork & Seal recorded a new high for the year at 23 on Nov. 10, and closed yesterday at 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ against 18 $\frac{1}{8}$ the previous Friday; Canada Dry Ginger Ale closed on Friday at 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ against 9 $\frac{5}{8}$ the previous Friday; Liquid Carbonic at 18 $\frac{7}{8}$ against 16 $\frac{7}{8}$, while Owens Ill. Glass, after reaching a new high for the year at 42 $\frac{1}{4}$ on Nov. 10, closed yesterday at 39 $\frac{1}{4}$ against 34 $\frac{3}{4}$ on Friday of last week. The gold stocks also were strong features, and indeed have been manifesting a rising tendency for many weeks past. Homestake Mining, for instance, sold up to 159 as the high for the year on Nov. 10 against a low of 110 on Feb. 15. On the New York Stock Exchange 11 stocks established new high records for the year the present week, while only nine stocks fell to new low records. The call loan rate on the Stock Exchange again continued unaltered at 1%.

Trading has been somewhat more active, and on Friday exceeded 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ million shares. At the half-day session on Saturday last the sales on the New York Stock Exchange were 463,010 shares; on Monday they were 1,609,950 shares; Tuesday was Election Day and a holiday; on Wednesday they were 1,268,260 shares; on Thursday, 1,566,910 shares, and on Friday, 2,631,780 shares. On the New York Curb

Exchange the sales last Saturday were 71,100 shares; on Monday, 198,920 shares; on Wednesday, 176,080 shares; on Thursday, 189,415 shares, and on Friday, 268,015 shares.

As compared with Friday of last week, prices are higher all around. General Electric closed yesterday at $18\frac{1}{8}$ against 16 on Friday of last week; Brooklyn Union Gas at $80\frac{1}{8}$ against 76 bid; North American at $31\frac{3}{4}$ against $27\frac{1}{2}$; Standard Gas & Elec. at $18\frac{1}{2}$ against $15\frac{1}{2}$; Consolidated Gas of N. Y. at $61\frac{1}{8}$ against $56\frac{1}{4}$; Pacific Gas & Electric at $28\frac{1}{4}$ against $27\frac{3}{8}$; Columbia Gas & Elec. at $14\frac{3}{4}$ against $12\frac{5}{8}$; Electric Power & Light at $9\frac{5}{8}$ against $7\frac{1}{4}$; Public Service of N. J. at $50\frac{3}{4}$ against $47\frac{7}{8}$; International Harvester at $24\frac{1}{4}$ against $20\frac{3}{4}$; J. I. Case Threshing Machine at 44 against $36\frac{1}{8}$; Sears, Roebuck & Co. at $21\frac{1}{2}$ against $17\frac{3}{4}$; Montgomery Ward & Co. at $14\frac{1}{4}$ against $11\frac{1}{8}$; Woolworth at $39\frac{1}{8}$ against $36\frac{7}{8}$; Safeway Stores at $52\frac{1}{8}$ against 49; Western Union Telegraph at $35\frac{3}{8}$ against $28\frac{3}{8}$; American Tel. & Tel. at $112\frac{1}{4}$ against $103\frac{3}{4}$; Int. Tel. & Tel. at $11\frac{3}{8}$ against $8\frac{3}{8}$; American Can at $56\frac{1}{2}$ against $51\frac{1}{8}$; United States Industrial Alcohol at $31\frac{5}{8}$ against $25\frac{1}{4}$; Commercial Solvents at $11\frac{1}{4}$ against 9; Shattuck & Co. at 9 against $7\frac{3}{4}$, and Corn Products at $54\frac{3}{4}$ against $50\frac{1}{4}$.

Allied Chemical & Dye closed yesterday at 81 against $72\frac{1}{2}$ on Friday of last week; Associated Dry Goods at $6\frac{7}{8}$ against $5\frac{3}{4}$ bid; E. I. du Pont de Nemours at $39\frac{1}{8}$ against $33\frac{1}{2}$; National Cash Register "A" at $11\frac{1}{4}$ against $9\frac{3}{4}$; International Nickel at $9\frac{1}{8}$ against 8; Timken Roller Bearing at 16 against $14\frac{1}{2}$; Johns-Manville at $25\frac{3}{4}$ against $21\frac{1}{8}$; Gillette Safety Razor at $18\frac{3}{4}$ against 17; National Dairy Products at $19\frac{7}{8}$ against $17\frac{3}{8}$; Texas Gulf Sulphur at $24\frac{5}{8}$ against $21\frac{5}{8}$; Freeport Texas at $27\frac{1}{4}$ against $23\frac{7}{8}$; American & Foreign Power at $9\frac{7}{8}$ against $7\frac{1}{4}$; United Gas Improvement at $19\frac{1}{8}$ against $17\frac{7}{8}$; National Biscuit at $41\frac{1}{4}$ against $37\frac{1}{2}$; Coca-Cola at 91 against 91; Continental Can at $35\frac{3}{8}$ against $32\frac{5}{8}$; Eastman Kodak at $55\frac{3}{8}$ against 51; Gold Dust Corp. at $17\frac{7}{8}$ against $15\frac{3}{4}$; Standard Brands at $16\frac{7}{8}$ against $14\frac{7}{8}$; Paramount Publix Corp. at $3\frac{3}{4}$ against $2\frac{7}{8}$; Kreuger & Toll at $\frac{1}{8}$ against $\frac{1}{4}$; Westinghouse Elec. & Mfg. at $31\frac{1}{8}$ against 25; Drug, Inc., at $38\frac{3}{8}$ against $34\frac{5}{8}$; Columbian Carbon at $32\frac{1}{4}$ against 24 $\frac{7}{8}$; Reynolds Tobacco class B at $30\frac{3}{8}$ against $29\frac{1}{8}$; Liggett & Myers class B at $62\frac{3}{8}$ against 56; Lorillard at $14\frac{1}{4}$ against 13; American Tobacco at $68\frac{1}{4}$ against $62\frac{1}{2}$, and Yellow Truck & Coach at $4\frac{1}{2}$ against $4\frac{1}{4}$.

The steel shares have been strong in common with the rest of the list. United States Steel closed yesterday at $39\frac{3}{8}$ against $34\frac{3}{4}$ on Friday of last week; Bethlehem Steel at $20\frac{7}{8}$ against $17\frac{3}{4}$, and Vanadium at $15\frac{1}{4}$ against $12\frac{1}{2}$. In the auto group Auburn Auto closed yesterday at 49 against $40\frac{3}{4}$ on Friday of last week; General Motors at $15\frac{1}{8}$ ex-div. against $13\frac{1}{4}$; Chrysler at 17 against $13\frac{7}{8}$; Nash Motors at $14\frac{7}{8}$ against $13\frac{1}{2}$; Packard Motors at 3 against $2\frac{7}{8}$; Hudson Motor Car at $5\frac{7}{8}$ against $4\frac{3}{8}$, and Hupp Motors at 3 against $2\frac{1}{2}$. In the rubber group Good-year Tire & Rubber closed yesterday at $19\frac{3}{8}$ against $16\frac{1}{4}$ on Friday of last week; B. F. Goodrich at 7 against $5\frac{1}{4}$; United States Rubber at 6 against 5, and the preferred at $11\frac{3}{4}$ against $9\frac{1}{2}$.

The railroad shares have also ruled higher. Pennsylvania RR. closed yesterday at $16\frac{1}{8}$ against $13\frac{3}{4}$ on Friday of last week; Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe at $46\frac{5}{8}$ against 40; Atlantic Coast Line at $25\frac{1}{2}$

against 21; Chicago Rock Island & Pacific at 7 against $5\frac{3}{8}$; New York Central at $26\frac{3}{4}$ against 22; Baltimore & Ohio at $13\frac{3}{4}$ against $12\frac{1}{2}$; New Haven at $17\frac{1}{2}$ against $14\frac{7}{8}$; Union Pacific at $74\frac{7}{8}$ against $63\frac{1}{4}$; Missouri Pacific at $5\frac{5}{8}$ against 5; Southern Pacific at 22 against $17\frac{1}{2}$; Missouri-Kansas-Texas at $7\frac{3}{8}$ against $6\frac{1}{2}$; Southern Railway at 9 against 8; Chesapeake & Ohio at $25\frac{1}{2}$ against 22; Northern Pacific at $16\frac{3}{4}$ against $16\frac{1}{2}$, and Great Northern at $13\frac{1}{8}$ against 12.

The oil shares have followed the entire market in moving upward. Standard Oil of N. J. closed yesterday at $32\frac{1}{2}$ against $29\frac{7}{8}$ on Friday of last week; Standard Oil of Calif. at $27\frac{1}{8}$ against $25\frac{1}{4}$; Atlantic Refining at $17\frac{7}{8}$ against $15\frac{7}{8}$, and Texas Corp. at $15\frac{1}{2}$ against 14. The copper group has ruled quite strong in face of the weakening of the price of the metal. Anaconda Copper closed yesterday at $11\frac{3}{8}$ against 9 on Friday of last week; Kennecott Copper at 13 against $10\frac{3}{4}$; American Smelting & Refining at $17\frac{1}{4}$ against $14\frac{3}{8}$; Phelps Dodge at $6\frac{1}{2}$ against $5\frac{3}{4}$; Cerro de Pasco Copper at 9 against $7\frac{3}{4}$, and Calumet & Hecla at $3\frac{3}{4}$ against $3\frac{1}{4}$.

STOCK prices moved irregularly this week on stock exchanges in all the important European financial centers. The trend was generally favorable early in the week at London, Paris and Berlin, and the movement was stimulated in the mid-week session by favorable impressions gained from the results of the national election in the United States. The European markets declined Thursday, however, when reports from New York indicated that no similar upswing had developed here the day before. A hopeful attitude continued to prevail, however, as it is assumed in all markets that the end of the election campaign in the United States will make possible a resumption of negotiations on such outstanding questions as the inter-governmental debts. Political leaders in Europe added somewhat to the prevailing optimism early in the week. Neville Chamberlain, Chancellor of the British Exchequer, predicted during a debate in the House of Commons, Tuesday, a decided upswing in business and an increase in employment. Premier Edouard Herriot, of France, declared in an address before the National Economic Council in Paris, Wednesday, that signs of approaching economic recovery already are appearing.

The German market was aided by termination of the campaign for Parliamentary elections, which were held in that country last Sunday. Business indices show only moderate change in European industrial countries, with the trend apparently favorable. The purely financial aspect of affairs remains satisfactory. New capital issues floated in the London market during October amounted to £19,735,507, which is the largest figure for any month since November 1930. The Amsterdam market also is active, an aggregate of 126,900,000 florins being invested in new issues last month, while refunding also was heavy.

The London Stock Exchange was very cheerful at the start of business Monday. Business was on a broad scale and prices moved upward in all departments of the market with the exception of British funds. Unsettlement in the Government issues was ascribed to profit-taking after the long advance. Industrial, shipping and mining stocks moved ahead easily on good buying, and international issues also

gained. The opening Tuesday was again quite cheerful, but the tone became more subdued later in the day. Industrial and mining shares resumed their improvement, but British funds receded further. International trading favorites were marked up, but little business was done owing to the closed market at New York. When trading was resumed, early Wednesday, interest centered on the transatlantic issues, which advanced sharply on a general buying movement fostered by the hopeful impressions created in Europe by the election results here. The gains in this section were maintained until the last hour, when some profit-taking appeared. British industrial shares showed some good features, but the Government bond list again declined. There was a general reaction on the London exchange, Thursday, largely due to the unfavorable overnight reports from New York. International stocks were marked down to conform to New York quotations. Home industrial stocks suffered from profit-taking, while British funds showed further severe losses. The trend yesterday was upward in all departments of the market. British funds were in good demand, and industrial stocks also improved.

Prices on the Paris Bourse rallied vigorously as trading was started last Monday. The firm tendency was accompanied by increased turnover, which was due in part to professional activities. Improvement was general in French and international issues, and prices closed at the best levels of the day. After a firm opening, Tuesday, irregularity developed on the Bourse and the initial gains were wiped out. Fluctuations were on a small scale, however, and net changes for the session were unimportant. The trend Wednesday was uncertain, with turnover light. Prices were marked down slightly in most sections of the market, as French budgetary developments are not occasioning any enthusiasm. The start of budget discussions in the French Parliament, Thursday, weighed heavily on the Bourse and prices dropped substantially in this session. Declines in commodity prices added to the unsettlement during most of the day. A small rally near the close moderated the losses, which remained large despite the small recovery. The Paris Bourse was closed yesterday in observance of Armistice Day.

The Berlin Boerse was firm in the initial session of the week, with business brisk. The Parliamentary elections in the Reich accorded with general expectations, but they were nevertheless regarded with favor in German financial circles. Both stocks and bonds were in demand, and gains were substantial. Tuesday's session also was favorable, partly as a result of the collapse of a traffic strike in the capital. It was also assumed that the election in the United States would remove a disquieting element and permit new developments in international economics. Active stocks gained as much as six and eight points, while bonds also were in excellent demand. A further advance occurred Wednesday, but interest was concentrated largely on brewery shares, which registered gains of four to five points. This movement was due directly to the Democratic victory in the American election, which also brought some buying in other sections of the market. The trend was reversed Thursday, owing to unfavorable reports from the New York and London markets. Active stocks declined one to three points, and bonds sold off as well. Prices at the close were the lowest of the day. After a favorable start prices receded on the Boerse,

yesterday, and changes at the close were unimportant.

REOPENING of the question of intergovernmental debts was undertaken with remarkable promptness, this week, after the election in this country was out of the way. It has long been known that the British, French, Italian and other European debtor governments would make representations at a suitable time after the election here, as no provision was made in their respective budgets for the payments due Dec. 15. Any steps taken before the election might prove embarrassing to the Administration, it was thought, and might influence the campaign. On the day following the plebiscite, machinery was set in motion which may well result in postponement of the payments aggregating \$123,641,698 due next month and possibly reopen the entire problem of these war obligations. It is probably indicative that Greece failed to make a payment of \$444,920 due on her debt Nov. 10, while Hungary served notice on the same day that she will be unable to meet a payment of \$40,729 due Dec. 15.

Great Britain is the principal debtor under the funding agreements, and the initial step was taken by the British Government. Sir Ronald Lindsay, British Ambassador to Washington, delivered a note on the subject at the State Department, Thursday. Similar action was taken in behalf of the French and Italian Governments, later the same day, by Ambassadors Paul Claudel and Giacomo di Martino. Contents of these communications have not been divulged, and probably will not be until after they have been considered by President Hoover, who is expected to return to Washington from the Pacific Coast early next week. The British action was heralded in a London report of Wednesday to the New York "Times," based upon accounts in all the London newspapers. The problem was discussed at great length thereafter in the press, but officials everywhere have maintained complete reticence, save for the admission that diplomatic negotiations are in progress. London reports stated yesterday that the British Government has advised the French and Italian regimes of the steps taken. This measure was based, it is believed, on the Lausanne agreement for consultation on important European questions. In all European dispatches it is insisted that there is no agreement among the debtor nations for common or united action on the debts.

Announcement was made in London by Foreign Secretary Sir John Simon, late Thursday, that a note had been delivered at the State Department concerning the \$95,550,000 payment due from Great Britain Dec. 15. Neither the Foreign Office nor the British Treasury would reveal the nature of the communication, a London dispatch to the New York "Times" said. A desire to give publicity to the whole situation was admitted, however, on the assumption that it would prove a useful factor in reviving world confidence. "The British Government is not asking for cancellation and certainly is not intimating default or repudiation," the dispatch added. "If the negotiations just begun fail, the British will pay the sum promptly on Dec. 15." The report stated on "excellent authority" that Great Britain already has on deposit in New York sufficient funds to make the payment in full. "But the Government is confident," the dispatch said, "that the United States will not demand payment, and that it will not be made." The

French Finance Minister, Louis Germain-Martin, admitted in Paris, yesterday, that negotiations had been initiated, but he declined to indicate their trend. Washington reports of Thursday and yesterday confirmed the delivery of notes by the British and French diplomatic representatives and added that a communication likewise had been received from Signor di Giacomo of Italy.

A brief statement was issued Thursday, by Secretary of the Treasury Ogden L. Mills, to the effect that Greek and Hungarian payments would be postponed. Regarding the Greek payment Mr. Mills said: "There was due and payable to-day under the terms of the debt-funding agreement with the Government of Greece on account of the 4% 20-year loan made on May 10 1920, the sum of \$444,920, of which \$227,000 represents an installment due on account of principal and \$217,920 represents semi-annual interest. The payment has not been received." The Hungarian Government, Mr. Mills stated, "has officially notified the United States Government that it does not have the necessary foreign exchange with which to make the payment due the United States on Dec. 15 1932, under the debt-funding agreement. The amount due on Dec. 15 is \$40,729.35, of which \$12,285 represents principal and \$28,444.35 represents semi-annual interest."

UNDER the stimulus of German absence from the General Disarmament Conference at Geneva, Europe is rapidly moving toward an "organization of peace" which may well include a substantial measure of general disarmament. The naval aspect of such an accord, in which the United States is especially interested, also appears to be under close consideration. The new French disarmament plan, of which details were to be made available this week, is to be rewritten with a view to its simplification, Paris dispatches state. An outline of the plan was presented at Geneva last week by Joseph Paul-Boncour, French Minister of War. Premier Herriot discussed the project at a Radical-Socialist party congress in Toulouse, last Saturday, and it is understood that he secured warm support from this group, which he heads. After further consideration of the plan in a Paris Cabinet meeting, Monday, it was indicated that the proposals will be revised in some degree. As outlined at Geneva, the plan goes far toward meeting the German demand for equality in armaments status. The aim was declared to be progressive reduction of armaments until the point is reached where danger of aggression is ended. Chief reliance would be placed, it is pointed out, on regional, Continental and world compacts against war.

Great Britain took a step in this direction, Thursday, when Foreign Secretary Sir John Simon proposed in the House of Commons that coincident with conceding Germany's claim to arms equality the European Powers "solemnly affirm that they will not in any circumstances attempt to resolve any present or future difficulties between them by resort to force." The Minister asserted that several fundamental principles must be applied in the solution of the disarmament problem. He proposed, firstly, that the limitations imposed upon German armaments by the treaty of Versailles be lifted, and that there be substituted a limitation expressed in a document which would apply also to the arms of other nations. The duration of such a disarmament convention, Sir John Simon continued, should be the same for

all countries, including Germany. The British Government, he added, is willing to co-operate with other members of the Disarmament Conference to see that the principle of equality in the curtailed classes of armaments is embodied in the new document.

Negotiations on the naval phase of the disarmament question were continued, in the meantime, by Norman H. Davis, United States delegate to the Geneva conference. Mr. Davis discussed the naval problem in London and Paris, recently, and he arrived in Rome, Monday, to continue the exchanges with the leading naval Powers. He expressed the hope, an Associated Press dispatch said, that a disarmament compromise reconciling the French and Italian positions might be reached. The American representative conferred at length with Premier Mussolini, with the Franco-Italian naval rivalry the main subject of discussion. It was indicated in Rome, late Monday, that Italy is eager to resume negotiations for settlement of this problem, but feels that the next move is up to France. Authorities in Germany apparently are following with warm interest all developments in connection with the French plan and the naval disarmament problem. Chancellor Franz von Papen declared last Sunday that the new French proposals seem to afford a basis for discussion. The Chancellor warned, however, that the German claim for general disarmament still stands unshakable.

ECONOMIC experts who gathered at Geneva several weeks ago to formulate an agenda for the proposed World Economic Conference adjourned last Monday to continue their studies in their own countries. It is unlikely that they will resume discussions before next January, and the conference itself probably will not start until well into next year. When the experts adjourned a brief letter was made public from Dr. L. J. A. Trip, President of the Preparatory Commission, to Sir John Simon, as Chairman of the League of Nations Council's committee charged with organization of the economic conference. The exchange of views so far effected has done much toward reaching an understanding and agreement with regard to "defining the problems with which the conference should deal and analyzing the best means of solving them internationally," this letter stated. The preparatory group decided to adjourn, it was explained, in order to "give its members an opportunity to continue in their own countries the studies and consultations which are essential to the progress of the Commission's work." The Council Committee was asked to fix a date for resumption of negotiations by the experts. The letter expressed the hope that in the meantime "certain matters outside the purview of the Preparatory Commission will develop in ways that will facilitate its task." In League circles at Geneva the belief prevailed, a dispatch to the New York "Times" said, that the experts will not reconvene before next January, and that the conference itself is further off than ever. The sub-committees formed to consider monetary and general economic problems drew up memoranda summarizing their work, the report added, but these documents were kept secret.

BRITISH unemployment was the subject of a debate in the House of Commons for a three-day period which ended Tuesday night. Party lines were almost forgotten in this discussion, which was ex-

tremely quiet and serious, but no great progress was made toward a solution. While the debate was in progress a voluminous report of the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance was issued, and suggestions contained in this document were made the basis for Government measures designed to alleviate the troublesome "means test" and effect other adjustments. The gloom occasioned in the House of Commons by the fruitless debate on England's unemployed was lightened to a degree, Monday, when it was disclosed that the unemployment total for October had declined 147,067 to an aggregate of 2,710,944, from the September figure of 2,858,011. As the debate started, a dispatch to the New York "Herald Tribune" said, the remarkable spectacle was provided of members of all the officially recognized parties discussing the problem in accents almost indistinguishable from each other. Only the vaguest suggestions were made, however, for terminating involuntary idleness, the report added.

Prime Minister MacDonald took up the debate Monday, and he admitted frankly that failure had attended the policy pursued by the last Labor Government of starting public works for the sake of making employment. He repeated the familiar statement that unemployment is due to world conditions, and that the chief remedy lies in restoration of normal economic relations between countries. Little hope for great improvement in the immediate future was held out by the Prime Minister, who indicated that he is pinning his faith on the forthcoming world economic conference. Neville Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, closed the debate, Tuesday, with assurances that a revival of industry and an increase of work are impending.

The report submitted by the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance made a number of specific suggestions for changes in the administration of the British plan. The age of eligibility for unemployment insurance should be lowered from 16 to 14, the Commission held. Instead of the present uniform limit of 26 weeks for full unemployment pay, the report urged that the period of benefit vary from a minimum of 13 weeks to a maximum of 39 weeks, depending on the length of time the unemployed person previously contributed to the insurance fund. Assistance granted by the Government after the regular insurance payments cease should be less than the wages which might be earned in employment, but enough to relieve need, the Commission stated. The present debt of the insurance fund to the British Exchequer is £115,000,000, which the Commission would transfer to a separate account, to be amortized in 65 years. Various economies were suggested, and it was also urged that a permanent statutory commission be set up to guide the Government on the flexible administration of insurance in accordance with conditions prevailing at any given period. The "means test" was upheld by the Commission, which maintained that the Government, before giving relief, must have guarantees that it is needed and will not result in the personal deterioration of the recipient.

VOTERS in Germany went to the polls last Sunday and elected a Reichstag which does not differ sufficiently from its short-lived predecessor to effect any material change in the somewhat strained political situation within the Reich. The Government of Chancellor Franz von Papen and his powerful colleague, Defense Minister Kurt von

Schleicher, is expected to remain in office with the approval of President Paul von Hindenburg, even if it becomes necessary again to dissolve the Parliament, when it assembles next month. The intention of the von Papen Cabinet to remain in control was announced in Berlin, Monday, in a statement which declared that "no new position" had been created by the election. Although the political situation thus remains cloudy, a distinct gain was seen by all observers in a loss of National-Socialist, or Fascist, strength. The Fascist followers of Adolph Hitler secured approximately 2,000,000 fewer votes than in the Parliamentary election of July 31, when they reached their high point. The Socialist and Catholic Centrist parties also lost ground, while gains were registered by the Nationalist followers of Dr. Alfred Hugenberg and the Communists.

This election of the sixth Parliament of the German Republic was the quietest held in the Reich in recent years. There were ample indications throughout the flagging campaign that the German people were weary of the succession of national plebiscites. The voting was preceded this year by two Presidential elections, nation-wide State Parliamentary elections, and the Reichstag balloting of last July. As the fifth general plebiscite approached, it was apparent that the number of voters would decline substantially. The popular vote actually dropped about 1,500,000 to 35,379,011 from the record figure of 36,845,279 recorded on July 31. The National-Socialists remain the largest single political group, with 11,705,265 supporters, but this figure represents a decline of 2,040,524 from their strength in the last election. The Socialists secured 7,231,404 votes, or about 700,000 less than last July. Communist strength increased by 692,000 votes to 5,970,833. The Catholic Centrist party, led by former Chancellor Heinrich Brüning, secured 4,228,322 ballots, a loss of 360,000. Nationalist followers of Dr. Hugenberg, who constitute the only group definitely committed to support of the von Papen regime, polled 3,061,626 votes, a gain of nearly 900,000.

Changes in the popular vote were reflected directly in the number of Reichstag seats held by the various factions, as the German voting system allots one seat for every 60,000 supporters of a party. The heavy decline in the Nazi vote thus showed a recession of 35 seats in the Reichstag representation of this group, while the Socialists lost 12 and the Catholic Centrists 6. Largest gains were made by the Nationalists, who increased their seats by 14, and the Communists, who added 11 seats to their representation. The number of Deputies fluctuates with the popular vote, under the German system, and the newly-elected Reichstag will consist of only 582 members as against 608 in the last Reichstag. The standing of the parties in the new and old Reichstags, with their gain or loss of seats, is shown in the following table, based on the final returns:

Party—	Seats.		Gain (+) or Loss (—).
	New.	Old.	
National Socialists.....	195	230	—35
Socialists.....	121	133	—12
Communists.....	100	89	+11
Catholic Centrists.....	70	75	—5
Nationalists.....	51	37	+14
Bavarian Peoples'.....	18	22	—4
People's.....	11	7	+4
Christian Social.....	5	4	+1
State.....	2	4	—2
Farmers.....	3	2	+1
Economic.....	2	2	—
Wuerttemberg Wine Gardeners.....	2	—	+2
Hanoverians.....	1	—	+1
Agarians.....	1	1	—
Country Bund.....	—	2	—2
Totals.....	582	608	

The loss of Hitlerite votes makes the position of the von Papen regime more secure, provided always that Field Marshal von Hindenburg continues to give the Cabinet his Presidential support and affords it the means of governing by signing emergency decrees under Article 48 of the Weimar Constitution. In the last Reichstag, which was dissolved after only two days, a coalition of the Nazis and the Centrists, with the latter's allies, the Bavarian People's party, could have secured the necessary parliamentary majority and demanded a chance to govern. The attempt to arrange such a coalition was made, but did not succeed. In the newly-elected Reichstag, this combination no longer would afford a voting majority. On the other hand, these groups, which are actively opposed to Chancellor von Papen, have sufficient strength, together with the inevitably antagonistic Communists, to force a vote of non-confidence and thus bring about a further Reichstag crisis.

It is believed, for this reason, that the von Papen Government will make every effort to secure the support of the Nazis, despite a declaration by Herr Hitler, Monday, that the election outcome "has cleared the way for continuance of the battle against this regime until its final elimination." The test of strength probably will come, it is thought, on the Government's proposals for Constitutional reforms, which are intended to alter the relations between the States and the Federal Government, change the electoral laws and limit the right of Parliament to overthrow the Ministry. Chancellor von Papen has announced his determination to force such changes, but virtually all parties are opposed to them, and a further national election early next year would appear to be indicated.

When the complete election returns were available, Monday, President von Hindenburg received Chancellor von Papen and discussed the situation with him, a Berlin dispatch to the New York "Times" stated. An official announcement was issued soon thereafter, asserting that the election left the situation virtually unchanged, and that the Government saw no reason for altering its course. It is now for the parties, the statement continued, to determine whether the Reichstag can function. In an interview granted by the Chancellor and reported by the Associated Press, Colonel von Papen expressed the hope that the election will be the last in some years. "I cherish the confident expectation that when the Reichstag assembles it will develop a working majority capable of constructive work," the Chancellor said.

The President, he added, will do "everything humanly possible to give the Reichstag majority an opportunity to co-operate actively." German foreign policy was not an issue in the campaign, the Chancellor pointed out, and he promised that there will be no change in this respect. Gains made by the German Communist party should not cause alarm abroad, he asserted, as increases in extremist party strength are occurring everywhere, with the new adherents likely to leave the Communist banner when normal conditions have been restored. "The Chancellor gave the impression," the Associated Press dispatch said, "of a man who regards it within the range of possibility to come to terms with the Nazi and Centrist adversaries of yesterday, but who prefers to have the other fellow in the political chess game make the next move."

TERMS of an amnesty decree, granted by Premier Benito Mussolini in connection with the tenth anniversary of the establishment of Fascist rule in Italy, were published in Rome last Sunday, and approximately 15,000 to 20,000 prisoners have since been liberated. The decree was promised by Signor Mussolini five years ago, and again heralded when the series of celebrations commemorating the 10 years of successful Fascist rule began two weeks ago. No distinction was made in the decree between political prisoners and those held for common crimes, but the decree was so worded that it will benefit only a portion of the political offenders. All prisoners serving terms of five years and less will be freed, with certain exceptions, this document states. Habitual offenders and fugitives from justice are not included, while the amnesty also will not apply in cases under the military law, such as high treason, cowardice, espionage and desertions. Offenders against taxation laws will be pardoned, if they pay the amounts due before the end of next January. Persons serving sentences ranging from five to 10 years will have three years remitted, while persons serving sentences of 10 years or more will have five years remitted. The rights of freed prisoners to hold office are restored, and fines are lifted simultaneously with prison sentences. As most of the principal political offenders in recent years have received sentences of more than five years, the chief benefit in many cases of this nature will be a diminution of the terms of imprisonment. Official figures, issued Monday, indicate that 595 political prisoners will be released, out of the 1,086 banished to the Lipari Islands or destined for such detention, for crimes of "anti-Fascism."

ONE of the most destructive storms of recent years struck the southern coast of Cuba, Thursday, laying waste the entire Province of Camaguey and almost obliterating the town of Santa Cruz del Sur. Enormous damage was caused by the storm, which reached hurricane proportions. The wind drove a wall of water in upon the coast and in some places it was reported that the force of the wave drove it five leagues inland. Not a house was left standing in Santa Cruz, where the number of deaths was variously estimated at 300 to 1,000. The death toll throughout Cuba may mount to 1,800, dispatches said yesterday. Vast cane fields in Camaguey were laid flat as though brushed by a giant hand, the Associated Press reported. Banana trees were laid down in geometrical rows, while forests of royal palms were torn up by the roots. Oriente Province also suffered from floods. No estimate of the property damage is available as yet, but the disaster is described as the worst in Cuban history. Secretary of the Interior Zubizarreta stated Thursday that the Government is taking all necessary measures to assist the hurricane victims. Relief was ordered from all points near the hurricane zone.

THE Bank of England statement for the week ended Nov. 9 shows a loss of £16,965 in bullion, but as this was attended by a contraction of £262,000 in circulation, reserves rose £245,000. The Bank's bullion holdings now aggregate £140,443,458, as compared with £121,836,587 a year ago. Public deposits increased £13,409,000 and other deposits fell off £23,854,010. Of the latter amount £22,813,620 was from bankers' accounts and £1,040,390

of the metal held earmarked for foreign account. There were no exports.

DEALING in detail with call loan rates on the Stock Exchange from day to day, 1% was the ruling quotation all through the week both for new loans and renewals. The time money market has shown slight improvement this week, though there is as yet, very little call for this type of accommodation. Rates are quoted nominally at 1/2% for 30 to 90 days and 3/4% for four to six months' maturity. Prime commercial paper continues very slow, mainly on account of the shortage of paper. Quotations for choice names of four to six months' maturity are 1 3/4@2%. Names less well known are 2 1/4%. On some very high-class paper occasional transactions at 1 1/2% are noted.

THE market for prime bankers' acceptances has been extremely quiet this week. The demand has shown considerable improvement, but there is a dearth of first class paper and only a part of the requirements can be supplied. Rates are unchanged. The quotations of the American Acceptance Council for bills up to and including three months are 5/8% bid, 1/2% asked; for four months, 3/4% bid and 5/8% asked; for five and six months, 1% bid and 7/8% asked. The bill buying rate of the New York Reserve Bank is 1% for 1-90 days; 1 1/8% for 91-120 days, and 1 1/2% for maturities from 121-180 days. The Federal Reserve banks show a trifling decrease in their holdings of acceptances, the total having fallen from \$34,053,000 last week to \$34,002,000 this week. Their holdings of acceptances for foreign correspondents decreased during the week from \$38,847,000 to \$37,916,000. 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	3/4	3/4
	90 Days		60 Days		30 Days	
	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.
Prime eligible bills	3/4	3/4	3/4	3/4	3/4	3/4
FOR DELIVERY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS.						
Eligible member banks						1% bid
Eligible non-member banks						1% 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 Nov. 11.	Date Established.	Previous Rate.
Boston	3 1/2	Oct. 17 1931	2 1/2
New York	2 1/2	June 24 1932	3
Philadelphia	3 1/2	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	2 1/2	June 25 1932	3 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 continued to display considerable ease during the current week but with a sharp recovery on Friday. On numerous occasions during the week the market had evidence that the British Treasury was operating on both sides of the market. Whenever a low quotation was reached a rally would set in which was met by scale selling of an official nature. It is believed that on balance the British Treasury was a seller until yesterday.

The range this week has been between 3.27 7/8 and 3.32 7/8 for bankers' sight bills, compared with a range of between 3.28@3.32 5/8 last week. The range for cable transfers has been between 3.28 1/4 and 3.33, compared with a range of between 3.28 1/8 and 3.32 3/4 a week ago. An outstanding event which might have an important bearing on the future of sterling was the news published to the effect that the British Government was drafting a note to the Washington Government seeking a respite on the Dec. 15th debt installment of \$95,500,000. This matter is discussed in greater detail in the earlier portion of this article. It will be recalled that during the last week Sir Arthur Salter, former Director of Economy and Finance of the League of Nations, said on his arrival in New York that the December debt payment due from the British Treasury to the United States would be met by Great Britain on the due date, but added that she will not pay in the future because payment is a physical impossibility.

Another factor of great importance affecting the future of sterling has been the opening of the lists in London on Monday for the final conversion loan totaling about £1,028,000,000, which the Government is floating to pay off the remainder of the unconverted war loans and 5% Treasury bonds. This loan completes the conversion of the British long-term credit to practically a 3% basis and is the fourth Government operation of the kind since spring. Now that the Government financing is out of the way and embargoes have been lifted on new flotations, the London money market is expected to take a more active interest in new financing. The month of October witnessed a decided revival in this respect, with new security offerings aggregating approximately £19,750,000, as against practically nothing in the two preceding months when the official embargo was in complete operation. Even in October 1931 such new issues amounted to only £2,500,000, but the financial market was then unsettled by England's departure from the gold standard the month before.

Money is again in great abundance in Lombard Street and despite the low rates quoted for sterling and the firmness in the French franc and the American dollar, there is again a steady flow of funds to London from many parts of the world. Call money against bills in London was in large supply during the greater part of the week at 1/2%. Two-months' bills are quoted 5/8% to 11-16%, three-months' bills 11-16% to 3/4%, four-months' bills 13-16% to 7/8%, and six-months' bills 11-16%. Gold sold in the London open market this week at from 124s. 8 1/2d. to 125s. 4d. an ounce. All the gold sold was generally for European account, though it is thought that a small amount was taken for New York bankers, who are, however, now dealing directly with Bombay for the Indian gold being released from hoarding. This week the Bank of England shows a decrease in gold holdings of £16,965, the total standing on Nov. 9 at £140,443,458, which compares with £121,836,587 a year ago. The bank's ratio of reserves to liabilities shows considerable improvement, standing at 40.42% on Nov. 9 compared with 37.33% on Nov. 2, and with 33.60% a year ago.

At the port of New York the gold movement for the week ended Nov. 9, as reported by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, consisted of imports of \$4,344,000, of which \$3,207,000 came from India, \$691,000 from Canada, \$233,000 from England, and

\$213,000 chiefly from Latin American countries. There were no gold exports. The Reserve Bank reported an increase of \$103,000 in gold earmarked for foreign account. In tabular form the gold movement at the Port of New York for the week ended Nov. 9, as reported by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, was as follows:

GOLD MOVEMENT AT NEW YORK, NOV. 3-NOV. 9, INCLUSIVE

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Imports.</i></p> <p>\$3,207,000 from India 691,000 from Canada 233,000 from England 213,000 chiefly from Latin-American countries</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Exports.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">None</p>
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\$4,344,000 total

Net Change in Gold Earmarked for Foreign Account.

Increase: \$103,000

The above figures are for the week ended Wednesday evening. On Thursday there were no imports or exports of the metal nor was there any change in gold held earmarked for longer account. Yesterday \$23,100 was imported from Mexico. There were no exports of the metal on that day, but gold held earmarked for foreign account decreased \$2,294,500. For the week ended Wednesday evening approximately \$793,000 was reported as having been received at San Francisco from China. On Friday \$213,000 more of gold was received at San Francisco from China.

Canadian exchange is at a wide discount this week, having broken to 13% discount, a new low on the present movement. On Saturday last, Montreal funds were at a discount of 11 $\frac{3}{8}$ %, on Monday at 13%. On Tuesday, Election Day, there was no market in New York. On Wednesday, Montreal funds were quoted at 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ % discount, on Thursday at 11 $\frac{3}{8}$ %, and on Friday at 10 $\frac{7}{8}$ %. The market was at a loss to understand the sharp break in Canadian funds on Monday. Canadian circles expressed little surprise that the rate should sag, although the precipitous drop was a matter of some comment. Rumors from Montreal and other Canadian points suggested that Canada might be contemplating abandonment of the gold standard. In well-informed quarters this view is not entertained, as by a special order in council, issued Oct. 19 1931, the Canadian Government prohibited the export of gold except under license. It was rumored in the market that the Canadian Government was itself depressing the rate, but denial was promptly made by Mr. E. N. Rhodes, Canadian Minister of Finance, who asserted that the finance department was doing nothing either to raise or lower the value of the dollar. There has been much discussion of currency inflation during the last few weeks in the House of Commons at Ottawa. This talk, together with seasonal factors, might be regarded as a sufficient explanation for the present wide discount on Canadian dollars. The downward movement was probably given impetus by baseless rumors which have a bearing on the rate in view of the fact that gold exports are prohibited.

Referring to day-to-day rates, sterling exchange on Saturday last was steady. Bankers' sight was 3.29 $\frac{3}{4}$ @3.30 $\frac{1}{4}$; cable transfers 3.29 $\frac{7}{8}$ @3.30 $\frac{3}{8}$. On Monday trading was light and sterling firmer. The range was 3.30 $\frac{3}{8}$ @3.31 $\frac{1}{4}$ for bankers' sight and 3.30 $\frac{5}{8}$ @3.31 $\frac{3}{8}$ for cable transfers. On Tuesday, election day, there was no market in New York. On Wednesday sterling was easier in light trading. The range was 3.28 $\frac{7}{8}$ @3.30 $\frac{7}{8}$ for bankers' sight and 3.29@3.31 for cable transfers. On Thursday, sterling was under pressure. Bankers' sight was 3.27 $\frac{7}{8}$ @

3.28 $\frac{5}{8}$; cable transfers 3.28 $\frac{1}{4}$ @3.28 13-16. On Friday sterling took a sharp upward turn; the range was 3.29 $\frac{1}{4}$ @3.32 $\frac{7}{8}$ for bankers' sight and 3.29 $\frac{3}{8}$ @3.33 for cable transfers. Closing quotations on Friday were 3.31 15-16 for demand and 3.32 for cable transfers. Commercial sight bills finished at 3.31; 60-day bills at 3.30 $\frac{1}{4}$; 90-day bills at 3.30; documents for payment (60 days) at 3.30 $\frac{1}{4}$ and seven-day grain bills at 3.31 7-16. Cotton and grain for payment closed at 3.31.

EXCHANGE on the Continental countries presents no new aspects of importance. From dispatches published in other columns it would seem that France is also planning to appeal to the United States Government for a reconsideration of the war debts. French francs are on average fractionally easier than last week, but the franc is now the only currency ruling above par with respect to the dollar. The French position is exceptionally strong because of the large accumulation of funds in Paris and the constant accession of gold by the Bank of France. For the week ending November 4 the Bank of France statement shows an increase in gold holdings of fr. 126,809,757, the total standing at a new high for all time of fr. 83,035,819,743, as compared with fr. 67,580,593,727 a year ago and with fr. 28,935,000,000 in June 1928 when the unit was stabilized. Money in Paris is in extreme abundance at very low rates. The Bank's ratio stands at 77.38%, compared with 76.78% on Oct. 28; with 59.82% on Nov. 6 1931, and with legal requirement of 35%.

German marks are largely nominal as the rate is under the strict control of the Reichsbank. A recent Berlin dispatch to the "Wall Street Journal" stated that payment by foreign purchasers of German goods with German securities instead of cash has been banned by decree. Exports may be made, however, to a country having exchange restrictions provided that the consent of the German exchange office is secured. The decree has been issued because of extensive trading in German securities for foreign account during recent months despite the fact that such transactions are mostly forbidden. There is renewed discussion in Berlin of the possibility of a further reduction in the Reichsbank rate of discount from the present 4% level. The Reichsbank's decision on its rate is delayed largely because of fear of the effect of expanded credit on prices. It is also understood that the Bank hesitates to make a reduction because it wishes to prevent the repayment of old sterling credits and, as stated here last week, some German bankers feel that reduction in the rate at this time might render the next "standstill" discussions more difficult.

Italian lire are exceptionally steady. The firmness in lire is due largely to great improvement effected in the trade balance of the country within the last few years. Money rates are gradually declining on the Italian markets. The excess of imports over exports during the first seven months of 1932 amounted to 1,319,000,000 lire, against 1,580,000,000 lire in the same period last year and 3,651,000,000 lire in 1930.

The London check rate on Paris closed at 84.68 on Friday of this week, against 83.81 on Friday of last week. In New York, sight bills on the French centre finished on Friday at 3.92 against 3.93 on Friday of last week; cable transfers at 3.92 $\frac{1}{8}$ against 3.93 $\frac{1}{8}$, and commercial sight bills at 3.91 $\frac{7}{8}$ against

3.92³/₄. Antwerp belgas finished at 13.88 for bankers' sight bills and at 13.88¹/₂ for cable transfers, against 13.93 and 13.93¹/₂. Final quotations for Berlin marks were 23.77 for bankers' sight bills and 23.77¹/₂ for cable transfers, in comparison with 23.75 and 23.75¹/₂. Italian lire closed at 5.11⁵/₈ for bankers' sight bills and 5.12¹/₈ for cable transfers, against 5.11³/₄ and 5.12¹/₄. Austrian schillings closed at 14.10¹/₂ against 14.10¹/₂; exchange on Czechoslovakia at 2.96³/₈, against 2.96¹/₂; on Bucharest at 0.60¹/₄, against 0.60¹/₄; on Poland at 11.24¹/₂, against 11.24¹/₂, and on Finland at 1.45¹/₂, against 1.45¹/₂. Greek exchange closed at 0.58 for bankers' sight bills and at 0.58¹/₂ for cable transfers, against 0.56 and 0.56¹/₂.

EXCHANGE on the countries neutral during the war continue to follow trends recently developed. The Scandinavian currencies are irregularly easy, following more or less closely the swings in sterling, to which these currencies are closely related. As noted in another column here last week Sweden has extended the period of gold suspension to March 1 1933. Norway and Denmark are expected to follow this lead at once. The Scandinavians went off gold in Sept. 1931 following the pound. Holland guilders and Swiss francs are easy, ruling generally under dollar par. The softness in these currencies is largely seasonal, but is due also to a movement of Swiss and Dutch funds to other centres for more profitable employment. London, Paris and to some extent, New York are attracting these funds. Any revival of business here, particularly in the security markets, should result in a heavy movement of Swiss and Dutch funds to this side. Spanish pesetas are exceptionally steady and are apparently unrelated to the main currents affecting the European exchanges. The Bank of Spain shows a steadily improving position. The Bank's statement for the week ended Nov. 5 shows gold holdings of 2,558,000,000 pesetas which compares with 2,246,700,000 pesetas a year ago, meanwhile circulation has dropped from 5,123,700,000 to 4,941,700,000 pesetas.

Bankers' sight on Amsterdam finished on Friday at 40.15¹/₂, against 40.24¹/₂ on Friday of last week; cable transfers at 40.16, against 40.25, and commercial sight bills at 40.12, against 40.20. Swiss francs closed at 19.25 for checks and at 19.25¹/₂ for cable transfers, against 19.28³/₄ and 19.29. Copenhagen checks finished at 17.29¹/₂ and cable transfers at 17.30, against 17.18¹/₂ and 17.19. Checks on Sweden closed at 17.59¹/₂ and cable transfers at 17.60, against 17.39¹/₂ and 17.40; while checks on Norway finished at 16.91¹/₂ and cable transfers at 16.92, against 16.81¹/₂ and 16.82. Spanish pesetas closed at 8.18 for bankers' sight bills and at 8.18¹/₂ for cable transfers, against 8.20 and 8.20¹/₂.

EXCHANGE on the South American countries presents no new features of importance. Quotations are, of course, largely nominal, as all these countries are conducting their foreign exchange and foreign trade operations through officially appointed boards of control. As frequently pointed out here several of these countries are further hampered through moratoria. An improvement in the foreign exchange situation in these countries cannot be expected for a long time to come. It seems almost necessary that the British pound be stabilized and that world-wide business conditions improve

before there can be any recovery in the foreign exchange situation in the South American countries.

Argentine paper pesos closed on Friday nominally at 25³/₄, against 25³/₄ on Friday of last week; cable transfers at 25.80, against 25.80. Brazilian milreis are nominally quoted 7.45 for bankers' sight bills and 7.50 for cable transfers, against 7.45 and 7.50. Chilean exchange is nominally quoted 6¹/₈, against 6¹/₈. Peru is nominal at 17.00, against 17.00.

EXCHANGE on the Far Eastern countries displays wide fluctuations. The Indian rupee is easy and swings around with the fluctuations in sterling exchange to which the rupee is attached at the rate of one schilling six pence per rupee. Japanese yen are exceptionally easy and on Saturday last broke to a new low of 21.00. This was followed by another break on Monday when in light trading the unit dropped to 20³/₈. There was a partial recovery on yesterday to 21 1-16. Par of the yen is 49.85. The quotations this week represent a decline in value of the yen of around 59% from gold parity. At current rates the pound is about 32% under par. Japan is supposed to derive a great advantage in Far Eastern trade, especially in India as a result of the larger drop in yen with respect to the decline in sterling from gold parity. Hence, there is constant agitation in India for import restrictions on Japanese goods. The Chinese units, of course, fluctuate more or less closely with the changes in silver quotations in London and New York. Silver in New York ranged during the week from 27 to 27³/₈c. an ounce. China has been the most important buyer in the silver market for nearly two months past.

Closing quotations for yen checks yesterday were 21 1-16 against 21¹/₄ on Friday of last week. Hong Kong closed at 22⁷/₈@22 15-16, against 22³/₄@22 15-16; Shanghai at 29⁷/₈, against 29³/₄@29 15-16; Manila at 49³/₄, against 49⁵/₈; Singapore at 38⁵/₈, against 38⁵/₈; Bombay at 25 1-16, against 25¹/₈, and Calcutta at 25 1-16, against 25¹/₈.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES CERTIFIED BY FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS TO TREASURY UNDER TARIFF ACT OF 1922. NOV. 5 1932 TO NOV. 11 1932, INCLUSIVE.

Country and Monetary Unit.	Noon Buying Rate for Cable Transfers in New York, Value in United States Money.					
	Nov. 5.	Nov. 7.	Nov. 8.	Nov. 9.	Nov. 10.	Nov. 11.
EUROPE—						
Austria, schilling	139437	139437		139437	139437	139437
Belgium, belga	139176	139076		138807	138745	138684
Bulgaria, lev	007200	007200		007200	007200	007200
Czechoslovakia, krone	029626	029620		029621	029612	029611
Denmark, krone	171807	172146		172138	171307	171476
England, pound sterling	3.300375	3.306166		3.300000	3.284666	3.299041
Finland, marka	014500	014533		014433	014483	014433
France, franc	039290	039251		039214	039220	039199
Germany, reichsmark	237382	237235		237275	237496	237539
Greece, drachma	005823	005770		005809	005784	005784
Holland, guilder	402232	402021		401717	401632	401600
Hungary, pengo	174500	174250		174250	174250	174250
Italy, lira	051200	051195		051193	051192	051183
Norway, krone	168138	168461		168361	167684	167792
Poland, zloty	111710	111710		111710	111710	111710
Portugal, escudo	030280	030400		030525	030400	030420
Rumania, leu	005979	005987		005991	005991	005991
Spain, peseta	081910	081807		081732	081803	081700
Sweden, krona	174023	174892	HOLIDAY	174607	174050	174484
Switzerland, franc	192805	192705		192614	192553	192517
Yugoslavia, dinar	013525	013650		013625	013550	013500
ASIA—						
China—						
Chefoo tael	307500	309791		312083	308541	307916
Hankow tael	302500	303958		306250	303541	302916
Shanghai tael	295937	297968		299375	296093	295781
Tientsin tael	312500	314791		317916	317708	313750
Hong Kong dollar	226250	227187		228125	225625	225468
Mexican dollar	207812	210000		210937	209062	207812
Tientsin or Pelyang dollar	207083	209583		210833	208750	207083
Yuan dollar	207083	209583		210833	208750	207083
India, rupee	249150	249750		249625	248580	249325
Japan, yen	209500	205840		205250	206000	209000
Singapore (S.S.) dollar	382500	382812		383125	380625	382125
NORTH AMER.—						
Canada, dollar	889427	866770		879947	872447	889270
Cuba, peso	999100	999100		999100	999100	999100
Mexico, peso (silver)	318833	318166		324500	324400	324000
Newfoundland, dollar	887000	864750		867750	870250	886500
SOUTH AMER.—						
Argentina, peso (gold)	585835	585835		585835	585835	585835
Brazil, milreis	076300	076300		076300	076300	076300
Chile, peso	060250	060250		060250	060250	060250
Uruguay, peso	473333	473333		473333	473333	473333
Colombia, peso	952400	952400		952400	952400	952400

THE following table indicates the amount of gold bullion in the principal European banks as of Nov. 10 1932, together with comparisons as of the corresponding dates in the four previous years:

Banks of—	1932.	1931.	1930.	1929.	1928.
	£	£	£	£	£
England...	140,443,458	121,836,587	160,080,546	132,771,032	162,467,073
France a...	664,286,558	540,644,749	408,772,228	322,384,878	246,641,115
Germany b	37,696,600	50,052,200	101,511,050	103,861,100	122,714,850
Spain.....	90,315,000	89,867,000	99,068,000	102,593,000	104,367,000
Italy.....	62,687,000	58,918,000	57,222,000	56,017,000	54,527,000
Neth'lands.	86,240,000	71,340,000	35,459,000	36,894,000	36,231,000
Nat. Belg.	74,594,000	73,355,000	37,006,000	29,358,000	23,217,000
Switz'land.	89,165,000	51,303,000	25,624,000	21,348,000	18,781,000
Sweden...	11,443,000	11,860,000	13,433,000	13,420,000	13,180,000
Denmark...	7,400,000	9,121,000	9,561,000	9,582,000	9,602,000
Norway....	8,014,000	6,560,000	8,134,000	8,152,000	8,168,000
Total week	1,272,284,616	1,084,847,536	955,870,824	836,381,010	799,896,038
Prev. week	1,271,181,652	1,060,364,316	954,974,672	833,975,249	801,286,207

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 £3,167,650.

The Political Outlook in Germany—Revision of the British Dole.

The indecisive outcome of the Reichstag election on Sunday is in striking contrast to the emphatic verdict rendered by the American electorate in the presidential election on Tuesday. Where the American election overwhelmingly repudiated Republican control of both the Executive and Congress and established Democratic control firmly in its place, the German election not only gave no party in the Reichstag the predominance, but made it even less likely than before that a coalition can be formed that will support either the von Papen Government or any other. It would be rash to predict that the parliamentary system in Germany, as a consequence of the election, is likely to be abolished and some other system substituted, but it is clear that the parliamentary system, as a device for securing Government by party, has again broken down, and that an ad interim administration, certainly not in the usual sense parliamentary, whatever it may be called, will have to function until the present party situation is radically transformed or a new system set up through a revision of the Reich's Constitution.

The new Reichstag, thanks to a decline in the total vote cast, will number 582 members against a previous 608. The most striking change is in the relative strength of the National Socialists, followers of Adolph Hitler. Although the Hitlerites are still the largest party in the Reichstag, their popular vote fell more than 2,000,000 behind that polled in the election of last July, and the party representation in the Reichstag drops from 230 to 195. Three other major parties also show substantial losses, the Socialists winning only 121 seats against a previous 133, the Centrists 70 against 75, and the Bavarian People's party 18 against 22. The Hugenberg Nationalists, on the other hand, increased their representation from 37 to 51, while the Communists secured 100 seats where before they had 89. The Populists, the party formerly led by Gustav Stresemann, offered a surprise by increasing their vote from 7 to 11, thereby averting the complete disappearance as a party with which the July election seemed to threaten them.

No searching of this aggregation of parties, however, seems to disclose any probable combination upon which a Government could rely. The Nationalists, who support Chancellor von Papen, are a hopeless minority, the Socialists give no intimation of changing their policy of holding aloof from a Government which they cannot control, and the Communists are to be classed as irreconcilables wherever political co-operation is concerned. The only combination

that could muster a numerical majority is that of Hitlerites and Communists, and while both of these parties agree in hating the von Papen Government, there is no likelihood of joint action save, perhaps, on some special and temporary matter involving no question of general policy.

When, accordingly, the new Reichstag meets early in December (Dec. 6 has been tentatively announced as the date), a repetition of the prompt dissolution which met the former Reichstag is apparently foreshadowed, with continuance of government by decree until such time as President von Hindenburg sees fit to call a new election. Political gossip is busy with rumors of the early dismissal of Chancellor von Papen and the designation of a Chancellor who can bring the discordant elements of the Reichstag into line, but there are several reasons for doubting such reports. There is no evidence as yet that President von Hindenburg is dissatisfied with his Chancellor; on the contrary, the Chancellor was personally asked on Thursday to form a Government of "national concentration" or party union. There is also no evidence that if the attempt fails, any other Chancellor who might be selected would be acceptable to the Reichstag. Chancellor von Papen himself would doubtless be glad to have a Reichstag majority, and both he and President von Hindenburg may be expected to go a long way in efforts to conciliate the rival parties and their leaders, but not only has the rift with the Hitlerites been widened by Sunday's election, but the loss of more than 2,000,000 Hitler votes indicates a decline in popular strength that makes it less necessary than before to compromise with the Hitlerite demands. Perhaps a party coalition may be patched up, but only unexpected and radical concessions could give it the assured strength which President von Hindenburg has demanded as a condition of abandoning government by decree.

The attitude of the President, indeed, is obviously the controlling factor in the situation. President von Hindenburg has not failed to let the German people know that he intends to rule as a constitutional President, but the anomalous parliamentary situation which the last two elections have produced has shown the need of revising the Weimar Constitution, and plans for revision are likely now to be pushed as one of the ways out of present difficulties. Precisely what form revision may take is still a matter of discussion, but the willingness of President von Hindenburg, during the administrations of both Bruening and von Papen, to resort to government by decree when Reichstag co-operation failed, confirms the impression that the President favors a much more highly centralized executive system than the Weimar Constitution provides, and that government by a Ministry without the possibility of obstruction from a national legislature is not at all opposed to his views. The fear which was expressed some months ago lest the national government should be turned into an "autarchy," a form of Ministerial control in which the Reichstag would be virtually dispensed with, is little in evidence now, and Chancellor von Papen has declared that a return to monarchy is not a practical issue, but the parliamentary system of the Weimar Constitution seems destined in the near future for some radical alteration.

Given the probable continuance of the von Papen regime for a time at least, what policies are to be

looked for? The emphasis which has been put upon equality of armaments, and the Chancellor's refusal to participate further in the Disarmament Conference until the principle of equality is conceded, have given color to the charge that the Government was really encouraging a revival of militarism, and that a well-armed Germany was regarded as a preliminary to a general repudiation of the restrictions of the Versailles Treaty. The Chancellor's own statements afford little support for this allegation, and his remarks on Tuesday, at a luncheon of the foreign press correspondents, regarding the French arms proposal, certainly suggest that discussion may be revived. "The French plan," he is quoted as saying, "apparently assumes that all European Continental States will receive equal armies. That appears thoroughly worthy of discussion from the German standpoint." "The French Government," he said later, "apparently goes on the assumption that only similar military systems and similar weapons will make the armies of different nations actually comparable. I deem this standpoint a great step forward." As the arms question is at the moment the only issue of foreign policy that causes foreign chancelleries to look upon the Reich with apprehension, a clear intimation that it has not passed beyond the limits of friendly debate is welcome.

As a matter of fact, it is the domestic rather than the foreign situation that may properly give the von Papen Government most concern. A recent decision of the Supreme Court at Leipzig, declaring that the Prussian Ministry which was suspended by decree last July still has legal existence, with the sole right to represent Prussia in the Reichsrat or Upper House, blocks what appears to have been the plan of the von Papen Government to submit proposed constitutional amendments to the Reichsrat instead of to a popular vote—a course which would now be precarious because Prussia has 26 of the 66 members of the Reichsrat. Recent tax exemptions granted to industries bid fair to work a serious diminution of revenue, and a budget deficit of some 750,000,000 marks for the next fiscal year is predicted. The Communists are still a menace, chiefly because of their appeal to the unemployed, and the burden of unemployment relief, while varying somewhat from week to week, continues to weigh dispairingly upon the National Treasury.

Some clarification of the principles involved in unemployment relief, applicable in general to all countries in which the dole system has been established, is afforded by the report of the British Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance made public on Monday. The Commission, which has been studying the question for two years, finds that the Government has underestimated the number of unemployed, and that under a hand-to-mouth policy the "interests both of employers and employed have been sacrificed to political expediency." The dole system, however, is upheld as the "first line of defense over a large part of the field of employment for a great majority of the unemployed," and an extension of the system to include domestic servants is recommended, together with separate provision for agricultural workers. In place of the present fixed period of twenty-six weeks in any one year for which relief may be given, minimum and maximum periods of thirteen to thirty-nine weeks are proposed, with assistance available for all industrial workers under 63 years who are involuntarily unemployed and are

not on strike, the cost to be borne chiefly by the national Treasury with supplementary aid from local authorities. The administration of the dole, however, the Commission recommends, should be taken out of politics and intrusted to an advisory commission, and the complicated body of laws and regulations reduced to a single workable act. With a reorganized system of administration, and on the assumed basis of 3,000,000 unemployed (the number reported on Nov. 2 was 2,710,944), the Commission is able to point to a possible saving of about £13,000,000 annually. The present debt on the dole account, amounting to £115,000,000, it is recommended should be transferred to a separate account and paid off over sixty-five years, the amortization being included in the annual cost of £81,670,000 which it is estimated the system should cost.

Both Prime Minister MacDonald and Chancellor von Papen are quoted as looking to the World Economic Conference to point the way out of economic chaos. The hope would have had a more encouraging basis if the program committee of the Conference, unable to agree upon the items of an agenda at Geneva, had not adjourned until January. We have not been in accord with those who have expected great things of the Conference, especially since Great Britain, by putting into effect the Ottawa agreements, has rendered itself unable to do much in aid of tariff reductions in other countries. It is more than ever apparent, we think, that national rather than international effort offers the surest way out of the present depression. The test of the "authoritarian" regime to which Germany is apparently to be subjected, now that another election has failed to resolve the Reichstag muddle, will be found in the ability of the Government to accomplish, without the aid of the Reichstag, the things that Germany needs for its national well being, and to persevere whether the Economic Conference meets or not.

The Race Against Time.

Some pessimists say that a railway company gains nothing by exceptional swift service, and that passengers, as a rule, do not wish to travel faster than 45 miles an hour, inclusive of stops. If their assertions are well founded, and the same amount of traffic could be secured with slower trains, a considerable economy might be effected. The prevailing opinion among railway experts, however, appears to be that quick service, provided that it is also safe, attracts traffic, and that the reputation which a railway company acquires benefits even the slowest accommodation trains.

For various economic reasons the speeds of some of the fastest passenger trains in this country to-day do not compare with the speeds maintained before the war, nor even 12 years ago; nevertheless, during the past year or so many of the slower trains have been accelerated and the number of fast trains increased. On the whole, therefore, there has been considerable progress made recently in furnishing quick transportation by rail, even without the whirlwind performances of some of the "midnight flyers" in days gone by.

For a number of years the 18-hour trains of the New York Central and the Pennsylvania railroads, the most notable trains in the world, have maintained their remarkable schedules between New York and Chicago. The Empire State Express of the New York Central, which runs 439 miles at an average rate of

51.7 miles an hour, has been running for 39 years, and is universally regarded as one of the safest long-distance trains in the world. During the past five or six years all of these trains have been made heavier by putting on additional cars, and yet the speeds have been maintained or slightly improved.

The fastest trains in this country are in the short-distance class and operated between Camden, N. J., and Atlantic City, N. J. On this run the Philadelphia & Reading Railway has trains of 10 to 12 all-steel cars running at the rate of 62½ miles an hour; the Pennsylvania average over a slightly longer route is 60.7 miles per hour. These runs, while slower than formerly, are still the fastest in the country.

It is quite true that there were more fast trains running over long distances 30 years ago than there are to-day, and the managements only "put the soft pedal" on such performances because they did not pay. In spite of the huge decline in passenger traffic and revenues, the day has long since passed when it was considered good policy to run abnormally fast trains merely for advertising purposes. The ideal aimed at to-day is to make every train pay its own way and get over the journey with the least possible disturbance to the schedules of other trains. The American railways to-day are doing everything they can to give their patrons whatever they are willing to pay for by way of convenience and speed in passenger service, but it is not likely they will ever attempt to "lay out the whole road" for the benefit of some exceedingly fast train that the public will not support.

CRACK TRAINS ON BRITISH RAILWAYS.

For a really magnificent exhibit of regularly maintained high-speed service—one which provides a decided public benefit—England without a doubt stands alone; for her populous cities afford a dense passenger traffic to support it. The Great Western Railway in that country recently regained the record for the fastest start-to-stop journey in the world, when the "Cheltenham Flyer" covered the 77¼ miles from Swindon to Paddington in 59½ minutes. This speed of 78 miles per hour compares with the 69.3 miles per hour allowed for the regular service. Generally speaking, the British passenger locomotives are capable of faster speeds than those for which they are scheduled, and considering this fact, it would seem highly desirable to shorten the time of travel in view of the competition of other forms of transport, but investigations carried on in that country have revealed that it would not be commercially justifiable.

In Canada, the actual time of the "International Limited" between Toronto and Montreal is exactly 360 minutes. From this, however, 40 minutes must be deducted on account of the necessary slowing down, starting and dead time at four scheduled stops, which leaves the actual running time 320 minutes for the 334 miles, or at the rate of 57½ miles per hour—the fastest time for any train in the world for a comparable distance.

The average speeds of French trains are very high; for instance, the Sub-Express from Paris to Bayonne easily holds the world's record for a run of that distance, 488 miles at an average speed of 53¼ miles an hour. The train from Quevy to Paris, 145 miles, with an average speed of 60½ miles an hour, holds the record for the average speed of a train on a complete journey in any one country. The characteristic of French trains is the same as that of English

—long distances at high speeds. France has 125 runs at an average hourly speed of 56¼ miles an hour or over, with a total length of 11,380 miles. The United States has more runs at these speeds, but their length is only two-thirds of that of the French. France has 27 runs at 59½ miles per hour and over, covering 3,131 miles, but, here again, although the United States has more runs, the French mileage is 40% above the American.

It is concluded that the greatest efforts to increase the speeds of passenger trains have been made in France and Great Britain. More startling results have been obtained in Canada and the United States—the former has four runs with a total length of 380 miles, and the latter seven runs totaling 260 miles, and the average speeds on all these is 62½ miles an hour.

These striking facts which have been shown relative to the speed and frequency of passenger trains in the United States and several other countries are not given with the intention of comparing train speeds in the several countries, but merely to show how the railroads here and abroad are striving daily to give their patrons whatever they are willing to pay for by way of convenience and speed in passenger service.

The speed question has its romantic side and its sporting side, but in the final analysis it comes to a business proposition. If it is bad business, naturally, the railroads want nothing of it. Sixty miles an hour is fast enough for any person to ride, fast enough, anyway, for all practical purposes. The day may come when trains will be run by electricity on a single rail at the rate of 100 miles an hour, or, in other words, will convey passengers from New York to San Francisco in about 30 hours. At that rate of speed, provided tunnels can be carried under the ocean, a train could go around the world at the equator, a distance of 24,000 miles, in 10 days. That, of course, shall never be.

States at Conflict Over Trucks.

The recent short but sharp controversy between two adjoining sovereign States, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, as to the right of a motor truck for hire, having a license in one State, to use the highways of another State, centres public attention upon a controversy which is of growing importance and is likely to be made a subject of legislation at the coming session of Congress. It will be proposed to give the Inter-State Commerce Commission authority to regulate the motor trucks and possibly motor buses engaged in inter-state business. As the Commission already has its hands full in the administration of affairs pertaining to the steam railroads, there is a possibility that truck and bus regulation may be referred to a newly constituted commission or provision will be made for a sub-commission of some sort to act in conjunction with the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

The Keystone State once created considerable excitement by the so-called "Whiskey Rebellion" and Pennsylvania's present militant Governor apparently likes nothing better than to participate in a fight.

The subject of truck and bus regulation came before the Pennsylvania Legislature at its last session early this year. Stringent bills were advocated by the railroads and backed by railroad labor organi-

zations, the argument being that it was entirely unfair to the rail-carriers, which are heavily taxed to construct and maintain public improved highways, to permit the use of these highways to competitors of the railroads for a nominal consideration. Bills to regulate the vehicle transportation were opposed not only by the companies owning trucks and buses but by manufacturers of such vehicles, farmers organizations, oil companies and truck operators.

After extended hearings the Legislature authorized the requirement of a Pennsylvania license for any motor truck licensed in another State which undertakes to operate for hire in Pennsylvania.

Governor Pinchot determined to enforce this new authority by using the State police to stop all motor trucks for hire licensed in New Jersey at the eastern boundary of Pennsylvania. The situation was easily controlled as the State of New Jersey is entirely separated from Pennsylvania by the Delaware River and all highway traffic from New Jersey has to pass either by way of bridges or ferries, and there are comparatively few links of either kind. The Delaware River bridge, extending from Philadelphia to Camden, was the chief scene of the trouble which followed. Pennsylvania State Police held up traffic at the western end of the big bridge and turned back to New Jersey all prospective violators of the Governor's edict. Promptly in retaliation New Jersey police stationed at the eastern end of the bridge turned back trucks from Pennsylvania attempting to enter New Jersey. This scene was enacted in lesser degree at each of the other points of entrance to New Jersey, utmost confusion and costly delay resulting.

As New Jersey lies between Philadelphia and other populous cities of Pennsylvania and New York City there is a very heavy daily traffic in either direction across New Jersey and consequently the situation was intolerable, causing loss of perishable goods by delay. Some of the other boundary States followed New Jersey's example of retaliation, but they had means of circumventing Pennsylvania by traveling through other States and the annoyance was not marked.

Pennsylvania is not alone in the construction of improved highways. New Jersey has expended millions upon her roads and for the removal of grade crossings, affording easy, rapid and comparatively safe access to the State's summer resorts not only on the Atlantic coast but in Northern New Jersey. Delaware has some splendid highways and so has Ohio. There must be reciprocity among all of the States as to common use of the highways, each State imposing an adequate license or other tax upon the vehicles of its respective territory. The Federal Constitution provided for the free exchange of commodities among the States by prohibiting local tariff laws and the document sets an example for this generation to follow.

There is no question that the railroads are very heavily taxed by the States which they traverse and it is therefore unfair not to afford them proper protection by putting other transportation companies upon a basis of cost so far as taxation is concerned equal to that exacted of the steam carriers. Each kind of common carrier has advantages for shippers which excell those of rivals. One form of traffic may be best handled by the railroads and another by the trucks and buses. Under proper regulation there should be a good and profitable field for each sort

of carrier, resulting in splendid service for the public.

This summer it was fully demonstrated that harm would follow the blockading of highways in the West so as to interfere with the transportation of farm products from one State to another. A serious misunderstanding of any kind among States will be contrary to the spirit of the Constitution. There must be proper ways to adjust the problems of transportation and no doubt they will be satisfactorily solved during the coming year.

The Official Returns of the British Railways

The official annual returns published by the Minister of Transport provide a valuable analysis of the position of the British railways in 1931, and doubtless will be of especial interest to those who are interested in the transportation industry. The gross revenues amounted to £170,158,536, compared with £184,836,382 in 1930, a decrease of £14,677,846, the principal reductions being in freight and mineral traffic and third-class passengers. Receipts from merchandise—excluding classes 1 to 6—declined by £3,835,248, from minerals and merchandise in classes 1 to 6 by £2,379,335, and from coal, coke and patent fuel by £2,531,910. The most significant fact revealed by these figures is that the greater proportion of loss in revenue occurred in the low-class traffic not particularly susceptible to road competition, a point which has recently caused much concern in connection with the possibility of readjusting the rate schedules.

On the other hand, operating expenses declined from £147,595,684 in 1930 to £136,858,604 in 1931, a saving of £10,737,080. The chief reductions were attributed to the operation of locomotives and traffic expenses, maintenance of way and structures and equipment. The economy effected in locomotive operation and traffic expenses was due to reductions of salaries and wages in connection with the award of the National Wages Board, which came into force at the end of March, and there was also a saving of £470,000 assigned to fuel for the operation of steam trains. The operating ratio increased from 79.85% in 1930 to 80.43% in 1931; in 1929 the ratio stood at 77.43%, and in 1928 at 79.12%. The total net revenue derived from the railway and ancillary businesses in 1931 was £33,632,047, compared with £38,044,598 in 1930, a decrease of £4,412,551. This decrease occurred mainly in the net receipts from railway operation which, at £33,299,932, showed a reduction of £3,940,766. The net revenue for last year amounted to £37,561,745, which compared with £42,007,256 in 1930; and the amount assigned to the payment of interest and dividends was £38,350,533, as against £43,749,671 in 1930, representing 3.23%, and 3.68% upon the total capitalization.

With regard to the investments of the four large railway companies in highway transportation, it is stated that at the end of 1931 the amount expended in that direction totaled £9,451,232, compared with £7,940,371 at the end of 1930. Profitable returns were secured from these investments: in the case of the London Midland & Scottish, the net revenue for 1931 was £214,271; for the London & North Eastern, £160,657; for the Great Western, £70,053, and for the Southern, £2,930.

An analysis of the operating statistics reveals a decrease in locomotive-miles of 23,813,862 or 3.96%. Passenger train-miles decreased by 1.44%, freight

train-miles by 6.07%, switching miles by 6.88%; these figures reflecting the results of the depression. Another point of interest is that while steam locomotive-miles decreased by 25,194,006 miles, or 4.62%, the mileage run by electric locomotives increased by 1,444,843, or 2.57%. The hours during which locomotives were in service were reduced by 5.78%.

Despite the adverse conditions, however, the companies succeeded in establishing a new record for operating efficiency. Passenger train-miles per train-hour increased from 14.59% in 1930 to 14.72% in 1931, and per locomotive-hour from 11.55 to 11.66. Freight train-miles per train-hour increased from 8.83 to 9.11 and per locomotive-hour 3.53 to 3.61.

A study of the traffic statistics reveals that the total number of passengers carried decreased by 4.66% compared with 1930, and revenues from that source were lower by 7.39%, the higher ratio of decrease being attributable to the extended use of cheap fares. An interesting comparison is made of the

percentage of receipts derived from reduced and from ordinary fares: in 1924 the percentages stood at 34.41 from reduced fares (excluding workmen's and season tickets) and 65.59 from ordinary fares. In 1931 these figures stood at 61.79 and 38.21 respectively, the distribution having practically been reversed within the past seven years.

The incidence of motor truck competition over short distances is again reflected in the average length of haul. For all descriptions of traffic the London, Midland & Scottish figure increased from 47.89 miles in 1930 to 49.10 last year; the London & North Eastern from 41.94 to 43.34; the Great Western from 41.22 to 42.61; while the Southern unit fell slightly from 41.62 to 41.39.

It is pointed out that the impression to be drawn from the returns is that, while the railway position is bad, it might be infinitely worse. But, so far as operation is concerned the statistics disclose an eminently efficient railway system.

Gross and Net Earnings of United States Railroads for the Month of September

There are at last indications of a change for the better in the returns of earnings of the railroads of the United States. No evidence of this change is as yet discernible in the case of the gross revenues, which still run heavily behind those of the previous year, following very severe shrinkage in the two years preceding, but very drastic reductions appear in the expense accounts, with the result that the greater part of the further falling off in the gross revenues is now being offset by curtailment of expenses, speaking of the roads collectively, while for many separate roads this saving in expenses has been of such magnitude as to work an actual gain in the net results in face of continued contraction in the gross revenues. In saying this our remarks are predicated on the character of the comparisons for the month of September which form the basis of the tabulations in the present article. Presumably the curtailment of expense outlays will continue in succeeding months and before long a point ought to be reached where new losses in gross revenues will terminate (and perhaps be replaced by gains in gross under an improvement in trade and business and concurrently larger tonnage) and then the reduction in expenses will count for its full amount as a gain in the net earnings. That time may be nearer than is generally supposed and when it actually arrives there will be occasion for real rejoicing for the first time in a period of unparalleled depression in trade continued for nearly three years, or since the stock market crash in October 1929.

The further prodigious loss in the gross revenues in September was of large proportions and in that respect no improvement has yet occurred. Stated in brief, our tabulations for September register a decrease in the gross revenues from operations the present year in the sum of no less than \$77,612,781 or 22.19%, and this comes after a decrease of no less than \$117,073,774 or 25.07%, in September 1931, compared with the year preceding, and in turn follows a loss in September 1930 as compared with September 1929, of \$99,634,540 or 18.64%. But whereas the net earnings last year recorded a contraction of \$55,161,214 or 37.41%, after a contraction in September 1930 of \$36,255,079 or 19.75%, the

further contraction in the net in September the present year amounts to no more than \$9,060,608 or 9.83%. Even as it is the showing is a decidedly poor one, both in the net earnings and in the gross earnings, after three successive years of decline, but nevertheless at least this slight change is welcome. That some such qualifying remark is called for will appear when we say that for September 1932 the gross is now down to \$272,049,868, as against \$566,461,331 in September 1929, the total having thus been cut in two, and that the net earnings for September 1932 are no more than \$83,092,939, as against \$183,486,079 in September 1929, there having accordingly been a clean cut of over \$100,000,000 in the net for this one month alone.

Month of September—	1932.	1931.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—).	
Miles of road (166 roads).....	242,292	242,143	+ 149	0.01%
Gross earnings.....	\$272,049,868	\$349,662,649	—\$77,612,781	22.19%
Operating expenses.....	188,956,929	257,509,102	—68,552,173	25.93%
Ratio of expenses to earnings..	69.46%	73.65%	—4.19%	-----
Net earnings.....	\$83,092,939	\$92,153,547	—\$9,060,608	9.83%

The further prodigious loss in the gross earnings in the month the present year, we need hardly say, followed from intensification of the business depression, which was necessarily attended by additional losses of traffic. Evidence of this further dwindling in traffic is to be found on every side, the same as in previous months. The automobile industry has of course suffered most and while the output of automobiles in September last year had been deemed very small when the record showed the number of motor vehicles turned out during the month as having been only 140,566 cars as against 220,649 in September 1930 and 415,912 in September 1929, the September total the present year was to witness a still smaller figure at 84,141, or only a little more than one-fifth that of three years ago. For the nine months ending September 30 the present year the automobile production has been only 1,157,029 vehicles, against 2,119,188 in the nine months of 1931; 2,909,130 in the nine months of 1930, and 4,640,823 in the corresponding period of 1929. In other words, nearly 3,000,000 less cars were turned out in the nine-month period the present year than in the corresponding period in 1929. And this affords an idea of the way business depression has

been proceeding with the toll in diminished output all the time growing larger.

The collapse of the iron and steel trades has been no less pronounced and of course the setback encountered in the automobile industry has been a strong contributing factor to the depression in iron and steel. In September 1932 the steel ingot production in the United States reached only 975,061 tons, as against 1,545,411 tons in September 1931; 2,840,379 tons in September 1930, and no less than 4,527,887 tons in September 1929. In September 1932 the daily product was only 37,502 tons, as against 59,439 tons the daily product in September 1931; 109,245 tons per day in September 1930 and 181,115 tons per day in September 1929. The make of iron in the United States in September 1932 aggregated only 592,589 tons, against 1,168,915 tons in September 1931; 2,276,770 tons in September 1930, and 3,497,564 tons in September 1929, the product the present year having been only a little more than one-sixth that of three years ago.

The shrinkage in the quantity of coal mined has also been extremely heavy, though less proportionately than in the case of iron and steel. Only 26,314,000 tons of bituminous coal were mined in this country in September 1932, as against 31,919,000 tons in September 1931; 38,632,000 tons in September 1930 and 45,334,000 tons in September 1929. The production of Pennsylvania Anthracite was 4,108,000 tons in September 1932 compared with 4,362,000 tons in September 1931; 5,293,000 tons in September 1930 and 6,543,000 tons in September 1929.

Building operations were of course on a greatly reduced scale, having suffered severe restriction during the whole of the period of trade depression and keeping all the time dwindling to smaller and still smaller figures. Building permits in 576 cities and towns of the United States during September 1932 represented a contemplated outlay in the sum of only \$36,036,718 against \$94,843,079 in September 1931; \$168,680,637 in September 1930 and \$218,009,891 in September 1929, according to the compilations prepared by S. W. Straus & Co. The compilations of the F. W. Dodge Corp. tell a similar story. From these it appears that the construction contracts awarded in September 1932 in the 37 States East of the Rocky Mountains involved an outlay of no more than \$127,526,700 as compared with \$251,109,700 in September 1931; \$331,863,500 in September 1930, and \$445,402,300 in September 1929. Lumber production suffered correspondingly. In the five weeks ended Oct. 1 1932, the cut of lumber in the case of 592 mills reporting to the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association was 540,050,000 feet against 839,275,000 feet in the same period of 1931. This was a reduction of 36% and if the comparison were extended back to 1930 it would be found that the reduction for the two years combined had been 55%. As it happens, the Western grain movement was somewhat larger the present year than it was last year, though it still failed to come up to that of two years ago. We give the details of the Western grain movement in a separate paragraph further along in this article and will only say here that for the five weeks ended Oct. 1 1932 the receipts at the Western primary markets aggregated 86,484,000 bushels as compared with 70,211,000 bushels in the corresponding five weeks of 1931 and 124,545,000 bushels in the same five weeks of 1930.

The loading of railroad revenue freight furnishes a composite of these various items of freight as well as of all other items of freight, and from statistics compiled by the Car-Service Division of the American Railway Association, it appears that for the four weeks ended Sept. 24 the loading of revenue freight on all the railroads of the United States comprised only 2,244,599 cars, as against 2,908,271 cars in the same four weeks of 1931; 3,725,686 cars in 1930 and 4,542,289 cars in the corresponding weeks of 1929.

In the case of the separate roads and systems, the exhibits are in consonance with the showing for the railroads as a whole in recording heavy losses in gross earnings on top of the huge losses in the two preceding years, but differ as far as the net earnings are concerned in revealing, as already indicated in the earlier portions of this article, numerous instances where the 1932 losses in the gross revenues were converted into gains in net earnings through curtailment of operating expenses. Among the roads so distinguished may be mentioned the New York Central, the Illinois Central, the Louisville & Nashville, the Wabash, the Atlantic Coast Line, the Erie, the Western Pacific, the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley, the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific, the New York Chicago & St. Louis, the Chicago St. Paul Minneapolis & Omaha and the Alton Railroad, this covering all instances where the improvement in the net has reached \$100,000 or over. In the case of the New York Central, the increase amounts to \$1,235,965 and this is in face of a shrinkage in the gross of \$7,270,805. If we were to include the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie and the Indiana Harbor Belt, the result would be a decrease of \$7,720,129 in gross with an increase of \$1,249,099 in the net. This follows a loss of \$10,667,464 in gross and of \$4,076,327 in net in September 1931 and \$11,468,783 loss in gross and \$4,761,499 loss in net in September 1930. The Pennsylvania Railroad reports no less than \$9,996,130 decrease in gross, with only \$776,807 decrease in net in September the present year, after \$11,532,845 decrease in gross and \$4,071,327 decrease in net in September 1931 and \$13,395,843 decrease in gross and \$5,300,699 decrease in September 1930. In other sections of the country, the comparisons are much the same a heavy shrinkage in gross the present year following severe shrinkage likewise in each of the two preceding years, but with quite a number of instances of improved net (sometimes for only insignificant amounts) as already mentioned. In the following we show all changes for the separate roads and systems for amounts in excess of \$100,000, whether increases or decreases, and in both gross and net. As a matter of fact, however, no increase for that amount appears in the gross.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN GROSS EARNINGS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1932.

	Decrease.		Decrease.
Pennsylvania RR.....	\$9,996,130	Wabash.....	\$722,099
New York Central.....	7,270,805	Northern Pacific.....	715,931
Baltimore & Ohio.....	4,816,035	Missouri-Kansas-Texas ..	634,580
Southern Pacific (2 rds.) ..	4,106,011	Lehigh Valley.....	631,861
Atch Top & S Fe (3 rds.) ..	3,809,551	Delaware & Hudson.....	613,727
Union Pacific (4 roads) ..	2,883,092	Seaboard Air Lake Erie ..	613,623
N Y N H & Hartford.....	2,205,666	Bessemer & Lake Erie.....	582,416
Chicago & North West.....	2,103,795	N Y Chicago & St Louis ..	563,577
Chicago Burl & Quincy.....	2,101,781	Central RR of New Jer.....	561,439
Chesapeake & Ohio Lines ..	1,725,607	Denver & Rio Gr West.....	476,914
Chicago R I & Pac (2 rds) ..	1,663,240	Chicago Great Western ..	441,009
Reading Company.....	1,657,078	Pere Marquette.....	413,763
Great Northern.....	1,511,684	Grand Trunk Western.....	403,273
Norfolk & Western.....	1,507,740	Texas & Pacific.....	380,812
Duluth Missabe & Nor.....	1,430,381	Central of Georgia.....	364,346
Southern Ry.....	1,418,131	Colorado & Sou (2 roads) ..	362,579
Missouri Pacific.....	1,267,594	Virginian.....	356,020
Louisville & Nashville.....	1,153,452	Maine Central.....	348,718
Erie RR (3 roads).....	1,088,509	Los Angeles & Salt Lake ..	341,197
Chic Milw St P & Pac.....	1,045,492	Pittsburgh & Lake Erie ..	332,125
Boston & Maine.....	1,030,921	Yazoo & Miss Valley.....	310,244
St Louis-San Fran (3 rls) ..	934,961	Internat Gr at Northern ..	298,439
Illinois Central.....	900,895	Elgin Joliet & Eastern.....	293,129
Del Lack & Western.....	843,645	Kansas City Southern.....	288,079
Long Island.....	759,348	Alton RR.....	274,112
Atlantic Coast Line.....	737,240	St Louis Southwestern ..	252,844

The New Capital Flotations During the Month of October and for the Ten Months Since the First of January

The new financing done during October was again of meagre proportions, the total falling even below that of the preceding month, and it is necessary to again repeat what we have said in previous reviews, namely that ordinary financing now holds a decidedly subordinate place to the financing done by the U. S. Government. Accordingly, in any analysis and review of the demands made upon the money and investment markets consideration must first be given to the new issues brought out by the U. S. Government. Then also much of the financing formerly done in the ordinary way through corporate undertakings and by States and municipalities is now being done by the United States through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and other Government agencies. It should not be forgotten, either, that the United States presents its offerings in very tempting form, stripping them of all requirements to pay income taxes, not merely the normal income taxes, but the surtaxes as well, an important consideration now that the income tax rates have been very greatly raised.

As a result of all this, new financing by the United States now represents larger new debt creation than all other sources of new capital issues combined. The shrinking in the volume of new capital issues brought out in the ordinary way is of course easily explained. It is due to the fact that general investment and market conditions have continued highly unfavorable, making it risky business to undertake the floating of new securities, even those of a very choice type. In a measure also, the Government has really been preempting the ground and certainly it has been occupying the investment field to the disadvantage of ordinary financing, a matter of no small consequence, especially in view of the fact that owing to the prevailing loss of confidence in security values generally, the demand on the part of the investing public has been almost entirely for the highest and best type of security investment—and obviously nothing could be higher or better than a United States obligation, though that does not mean that such an obligation may not suffer sharp depreciation on occasions, as the investor has learnt from sad experience.

In recent months certainly, U. S. Government financing has been of far larger magnitude than the ordinary financing as represented by the borrowings of corporations, municipalities, farm loan emissions and the like. Therefore we now pursue the practice of dealing with it before dealing with our compilations relating to ordinary financing. In any study of new financing the important point is to know how much of the financing represents distinctly new capital, as distinguished from issues made to provide for the taking up and retiring of issues already outstanding, and which are to be replaced by the new issues. And this is particularly true with reference to the placing of U. S. Government securities. Treasury bills are all the time maturing, having a life usually for only 90 to 93 days, and have to be replaced with other issues, while Treasury certificates of indebtedness are another form of short-term borrowing which has to be periodically renewed without swelling the outstanding aggregate of indebtedness. So long as the Government was showing huge budget surpluses and the Government indebtedness was as a result being steadily and largely reduced, the matter was of little consequence, but now that there is a budget deficit running into billions a year, it is important to know the extent to which the Government itself is obliged to have recourse to the investment and money markets. During October new obligations brought out by the U. S. Treasury were not of the magnitude of those offered in September, and yet they reached a total of \$739,697,600, of which \$231,359,000 consisted of sales of Treasury bills on a discount basis,

and \$450,000,000 comprised an offering of Treasury notes running for 4½ years and bearing 3% interest, and on which the allotments reached \$508,338,600, \$333,492,500 of which was to retire Treasury certificates of indebtedness maturing Oct. 15 1932, leaving \$174,846,100 as an addition to the public debt and representing strictly new capital in the investment market. As showing the popularity of these Government offerings running for a fairly long date, we may say that the total cash subscriptions for these 4½-year Treasury notes footed up no less than \$8,368,343,700.

New Treasury Offerings During the Month of October 1932.

On Oct. 3 Acting Secretary of the Treasury Ballantine announced an offering of \$75,000,000 or thereabouts of 92-day Treasury bills. The bills were dated Oct. 11 1932 and mature Jan. 11 1933. The total applied for was \$259,468,000. The amount accepted was \$75,954,000. The average price was 99.951, the average rate per annum on a bank discount basis being 0.19%. The financing provided for the retiring of \$50,278,000 of Treasury securities, the rest representing new money.

Mr. Ballantine on Oct. 5 announced, as already stated, an offering of \$450,000,000 or thereabouts of 3% Treasury notes (series B-1937) which were heavily oversubscribed. The notes were dated Oct. 15 1932 and mature April 15 1937. The total amount applied for was \$8,368,343,700. The amount accepted was \$508,338,600. Issued at par. The financing provided for the retiring of \$333,492,500 of Treasury obligations, the remainder constituting new debt.

An issue of \$75,000,000 or thereabouts of 91-day Treasury bills was announced by Mr. Ballantine on Oct. 12. The bills were dated Oct. 19 1932 and will mature Jan. 18 1933. The total amount applied for was \$252,465,000. The amount accepted was \$75,110,000. The average price was 99.965, the average rate on a bank discount basis being 0.14%. This marked a record low interest rate on Government borrowing of this description. Issued to replace maturing bills.

Secretary of the Treasury Mills on Oct. 19 announced a new offering of 91-day Treasury bills in the amount of \$80,000,000 or thereabouts. The bills were dated Oct. 26 1932 and mature Jan. 25 1933. The total amount applied for was \$227,202,000. The amount accepted was \$80,295,000. The average price was 99.951, the average rate on a bank discount basis being 0.20%. Issued to replace maturing bills.

In the following we show all the Treasury financing back to the first of January. The result is found to be that the Government disposed of \$7,187,724,600 during the 10 months to Oct. 31, of which \$4,128,205,500 went to take up existing issues, and \$3,059,519,100 constituted new debt.

UNITED STATES TREASURY FINANCING DURING FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1932.

Date Offered.	Dated.	Due.	Amount Applied for.	Amount Accepted.	Price.	Yield.
Jan. 7	Jan. 13	91 days	\$169,337,000	\$50,175,000	Average 99.272	*2.875%
Jan. 17	Jan. 25	93 days	191,581,000	50,937,000	Average 99.358	*2.40%
Jan. 25	Feb. 1	6 months	395,938,500	227,631,000	100	3.125%
Jan. 25	Feb. 1	1 year	250,148,000	144,372,000	100	3.75%
Jan. 31	Feb. 8	93 days	196,873,000	76,399,000	Average 99.314	*2.65%
Feb. 7	Feb. 15	93 days	211,872,000	75,689,000	Average 99.287	*2.73%
Feb. 10	Feb. 24	91 days	196,183,666	62,851,000	Average 99.315	*2.71%
Feb. 24	Mar. 2	91 days	292,984,000	101,412,000	Average 99.369	*2.50%
Mar. 5	Mar. 15	1 year	428,000,000	428,000,000	100	2.00%
Mar. 6	Mar. 15	7 months	932,619,500	333,492,500	100	3.125%
Mar. 6	Mar. 15	1 year	2,450,608,000	660,653,500	100	3.75%
Mar. 23	Mar. 30	91 days	360,198,000	102,169,000	Average 99.474	*2.08%
Apr. 7	Apr. 15	91 days	399,374,000	76,200,000	Average 99.735	*1.05%
Apr. 14	Apr. 20	91 days	289,740,000	75,000,000	Average 99.843	*0.62%
Apr. 21	Apr. 27	91 days	241,451,000	51,550,000	Average 99.841	*0.63%
Apr. 25	May 2	1 year	1,699,868,000	239,197,000	100	2.00%
Apr. 25	May 2	2 years	2,496,428,700	244,234,600	100	3.00%
May 4	May 11	91 days	351,661,000	76,744,000	Average 99.829	*0.68%
May 11	May 18	91 days	395,069,000	75,000,000	Average 99.893	*0.43%
May 18	May 25	91 days	334,818,000	60,050,000	Average 99.927	*0.29%
May 24	June 1	91 days	293,503,000	100,200,000	Average 99.910	*0.32%
June 5	June 15	1 year	1,653,814,000	373,856,500	100	1.50%
June 5	June 15	3 years	1,143,563,400	416,602,800	100	3.00%
June 22	June 29	91 days	292,881,000	100,466,000	Average 99.897	*0.41%
July 7	July 13	90 days	273,658,000	75,278,000	Average 99.904	*0.39%
July 14	July 20	91 days	241,256,000	75,923,000	Average 99.899	*0.40%
July 21	July 27	91 days	191,613,000	83,317,000	Average 99.882	*0.47%
July 24	Aug. 1	2 years	1,701,636,800	345,232,600	100	2.125%
July 24	Aug. 1	4 years	3,804,723,700	365,133,900	100	3.25%
Aug. 4	Aug. 10	91 days	333,468,000	75,217,000	Average 99.866	*0.53%
Aug. 11	Aug. 17	91 days	333,747,000	75,016,000	Average 99.878	*0.48%
Aug. 18	Aug. 24	91 days	347,816,000	62,350,000	Average 99.894	*0.42%
Aug. 25	Aug. 31	91 days	463,281,000	100,500,000	Average 99.918	*0.32%
Sept. 6	Sept. 15	5 years	4,351,749,900	834,401,500	100	3.25%
Sept. 6	Sept. 15	1 year	3,069,449,000	451,447,000	100	1.25%
Sept. 26	Sept. 28	91 days	412,500,000	100,665,000	Average 99.941	*0.23%
Oct. 3	Oct. 11	92 days	259,468,000	75,954,000	Average 99.951	*0.19%
Oct. 5	Oct. 15	4½ years	8,368,343,700	508,338,600	100	3.00%
Oct. 12	Oct. 19	91 days	252,465,000	75,110,000	Average 99.965	*0.14%
Oct. 19	Oct. 26	91 days	227,202,000	80,295,000	Average 99.951	*0.20%

* Approximate. * Average rate on a bank discount basis.

DETAILS OF NEW CAPITAL FLOTATIONS DURING OCTOBER 1932.

LONG TERM BONDS AND NOTES (ISSUES MATURING LATER THAN FIVE YEARS).

Amount.	Purpose of Issue.	Price.	To Yield About.	Company and Issue and by Whom Offered.
\$			%	
223,000	Public Utilities— Retire bank loans.....	Placed privately		American States Public Service Co. 1st Lien 5½s, 1948. Placed privately by company.
18,000,000	Acquisitions; construction, &c.....	94	5.50	Connecticut River Power Co. 1st M. 5s A, 1952. Offered by Chase Harris Forbes Corp.; the First of Boston Corp.; Bankers Trust Co.; Baker, Young & Co.; Lee Higginson Corp.; Palne, Webber & Co.; Bodell & Co.; Stone & Webster and Blodget, Inc.; Hornblower & Weeks; Otis & Co., Inc., and the N. W. Harris Co., Inc.
15,000,000	Improvements; addn's extens., &c	99½	5.00	The Detroit Edison Co. Gen. & Ref. M. 5s E, 1952. Offered by Coffin & Burr, Inc.; Chase Harris Forbes Corp.; Spencer Trask & Co.; Bankers Trust Co. and First Detroit Co., Inc.
300,000	Addn's; Improvements, extensions.....	83	6.40	Monmouth Consolidated Water Co. (N. J.) 1st 5s A, 1956. Offered by W. C. Langley & Co.
1,200,000	Extensions; Improvements.....	93½	4.95	Rockland Light & Power Co. 1st Ref. M. 4½s A, 1958. Offered by Estabrook & Co.; Edward M. Bradley & Co., Inc.; Tenney & Co.; H. P. Wood & Co. and Putnam & Co.
800,000	Capital expenditures.....	90	6.30	Sierra Pacific Power Co. 1st Ref. M. 5½s B, 1957. Offered by Stone & Webster and Blodget, Inc. and Pierce, Fair & Co., San Francisco.
7,500,000	Refunding; additions & extensions.....	99½	5.00	Union Electric Light & Power Co. (Missouri) Gen. M. 5s, 1957. Offered by Dillon, Read & Co.; Chase, Harris Forbes, Corp.; Bankers Trust Co.; Spencer Trask & Co.; Stone & Webster and Blodget, Inc.; the N. W. Harris Co., Inc. and Blyth & Co., Inc.
43,023,000				
275,000	Other Industrial & Mfg.— General corporate purposes.....	100	6.00	Battle Creek Food Co. (Battle Creek, Mich.) 1st M. 6s, 1945. Offered by company.

SHORT TERM BONDS AND NOTES (ISSUES MATURING UP TO AND INCLUDING FIVE YEARS).

Amount.	Purpose of Issue.	Price.	To Yield About.	Company and Issue and by Whom Offered.
\$			%	
6,000,000	Public Utilities— Refunding; other corp. purposes.....	98½	5.50	Eastern Utilities Associates Three Year 5% Notes Oct. 15 1935. Offered by Stone, & Webster and Blodget, Inc.; Estabrook & Co.; Kidder, Peabody & Co. and F. S. Moseley & Co.
9,000,000	Refunding; repay bank loans, &c.....	100	5.50	North Boston Lighting Properties 5½% Secured Notes, Oct. 15 1937. Offered by Chase Harris Forbes Corp.; the First of Boston Corp.; Bankers Trust Co.; Baker, Young & Co.; Lee, Higginson Corp.; F. S. Moseley & Co.; Palne, Webber & Co.; Bodell & Co.; Stone & Webster and Blodget, Inc.; Hornblower & Weeks; Otis & Co., Inc.; Tenney & Co.; Edward M. Bradley & Co., Inc.; H. P. Wood & Co. and the N. W. Harris Co., Inc.
2,500,000	Retire bank loans.....	99½	5.05	Western Massachusetts Companies Five Year 5% Notes, Oct. 15 1937. Offered by the First of Boston Corp.; White, Weld & Co.; F. S. Moseley & Co.; Kidder, Peabody & Co.; Tift Bros., and Arthur W. Wood Co.
17,500,000				
3,400,000	Other Industrial & Mfg.— Refunding.....	100	6.50	Davison Chemical Co. Five Year 6½% Notes, Oct. 1 1937. (Each new Davison note is to have attached to it a detachable warrant entitling the holder at any time up to Oct. 1 1937 to purchase at \$15 a share 40 shares of Davison common stock for each \$1,000 principal amount of the notes.) Offered to holders of Silica Gel Corp., 6½% notes maturing Oct. 1 1932 and to bank creditors of the company.

STOCKS.

Par or No. of Shares.	Purpose of Issue.	(a) Amount Involved.	Price per Share.	To Yield About.	Company and Issue, and by Whom Offered.
\$		\$		%	
*61,100 shs	Other Industrial & Mfg.— Retire notes; other corp. purposes.....	2,291,250	37½	---	American Home Products Corp. Common. Offered by company to stockholders underwritten by Hornblower & Weeks, New York.
1,000,000	Working capital.....	1,000,000	2 shs. pref. and 1 share B for \$200		Axon-Fisher Tobacco Co., Inc. 6% Cum. Pref. Offered by Henning Chambers & Co.; Almstedt Bros.; W. L. Lyon & Co.; J. J. B. Hilliard & Son; Dunlap Wakefield & Co.; James C. Willson & Co. and Stein Bros. & Boyce.
50,000	Working capital.....				Axon-Fisher Tobacco Co., Inc. Class B Common. Offered by Henning Chambers & Co.; Almstedt Bros.; W. L. Lyon & Co.; J. J. B. Hilliard & Son; Dunlap Wakefield & Co.; James C. Willson & Co. and Stein Bros. & Boyce.
		3,291,250			

FARM LOAN ISSUES.

Amount.	Issue and Purpose.	Price.	To Yield About.	Offered by
\$			%	
9,100,000	Federal Intermediate Credit Bank 2½% Coll. Trust Deb. dated Oct. 15 1932 and due in 12 months (provide funds for loan purposes).....			Price on applic. Charles R. Dunn, Fiscal Agent, New York.

ISSUES NOT REPRESENTING NEW FINANCING.

Par or No. of Shares.	(a) Amount Involved.	Price.	To Yield About.	Company and Issue and by Whom Offered.
\$	\$		%	
100,000 shs	600,000	6	---	Asbestos Manufacturing Co. (Ind.) Common stock. Offered by Ewart & Bond, Inc., N. Y. and Paul W. Cleveland & Co., Inc., Chicago.
350,000	350,000	90	5.70	Newport (R. I.) Gas Light Co. 1st 5s A, 1961. Offered by A. C. Allyn & Co., Inc. and F. L. Putnam & Co., Inc.

* Shares of no par value.

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

The Course of the Bond Market.

The general bond market during the current week failed to show any pronounced trend, with the possible exception of the United States Government obligations, which were slightly easier than last week. The election appeared to have influenced the market but little. The rapid changes in stock quotations made for similar movements in the speculative bonds. Thursday and Friday the bond market showed moderate strength. At the close on Friday prices were slightly higher than those that prevailed last week. Moody's computed price index of 120 domestic bonds was 79.91 on Friday, as compared with 79.11 the week previous and 80.49 two weeks ago.

The election week witnessed fractional declines in Government bonds of all classes, although the low coupon currency issues were relatively firm. The recently issued 1937 maturities declined a point with the yield approaching 3%. Treasury issues are now selling in a narrow range and appear to be waiting until the next Government financing or some important development, such as budget deliberations at the next session of Congress. The price index for eight long term Treasury bonds on Friday was 101.18, as compared with 101.31 a week ago and 101.36 two weeks ago.

Railroad bonds for the most part showed moderate strength, possibly a belated recognition of the relative improvement in earnings for September and in anticipation of further improvement in those for October, shortly to be

made public. Price changes were not large, high grade bonds holding firm or advancing fractionally, Atchison gen. mtge. 4s, 1995, from 90½ to 92; Union Pacific 1st mtge. 4s, 1947, from 96¼ to 97¼; Chesapeake & Ohio gen. mtge. 4½s, 1992, from 95¾ to 96½, and Pennsylvania RR. consl. mtge. 4½s, 1960, from 98½ to 99. Low priced speculative railroad bonds experienced larger gains, Illinois Central deb. 4¾s, 1960, from 35½ to 40; New York Central ref. & impt. mtge. 4½s, 2013, from 44 to 48; Missouri Pacific 1st & ref. mtge. 5s, 1977, from 26¾ to 29¾. The 40 railroad price index stood at 72.55 on Friday, 71.57 a week ago and 73.45 two weeks ago.

Utility bonds opened the current week in an encouraging manner, the majority of the listed issues moving upward. Following the election, no real trend was discernible. High grades held quite steady while speculative issues followed the course of the stock market. Strength was exhibited on Thursday and Friday and many bonds of all classes registered respectable gains. In the investment groups Delaware Power & Light 4½s, 1971, Jersey Power & Light 4½s, 1960, and Union Electric Light & Power 5½s, 1954, made the best showing, while in the lower classes American & Foreign Power 5s, 2030, Postal Telegraph & Cable 5s, 1953, New England Gas & Electric 5s, 1943, and United Light & Rys. 6s, 1973, showed the largest gains. The upward swing, however, was brought about by relatively small turnover and there were a number of outstanding exceptions to the major

movement such as Montana Power 5s, 1962, off 5; Minnesota Power & Light 4 1/2s, 1978, off 2 1/4, and Quebec Power 5s, 1968, off 4. Moody's price index for this group was 84.60 on Friday, as compared with 83.85 a week ago and 85.23 two weeks ago.

The industrial list was dull prior to election, losing ground fractionally. Greater strength which developed in other sections of the list on Thursday was not transmitted to the industrial bonds in any appreciable degree, though earlier losses were mainly recovered. On Friday, however, this group led the moderate advance in bond prices. Up to Friday, even speculative specialties were quiet during the week, in most cases firming slightly from lows established in the preceding decline from September highs. Silica Gel 6 1/2s were a Curb feature, advancing during the week about 17 points to 85 on light trading. Greater strength than was evident in the packing group as a whole characterized the Armour issues, in which trading was active. Steel bonds, continuing firm, reflected not only moderate gains in the industry but also maintenance of strong financial positions through the depression by the major companies. Moody's industrial bond price index was 83.48 at Friday's

close, as compared with 82.74 a week ago and 83.60 two weeks ago.

The foreign bond market failed to show any pronounced trend during the current week, most issues closed with but fractional changes, an exception being made by German governmental, municipal and corporate issues which developed noticeable strength. Austrian Government bonds also advanced somewhat. Japanese issues, on the other hand, showed fractional declines, somewhat more pronounced in the Government's direct obligations than in the guaranteed bonds and public utility credits. The foreign bond yield average on Friday stood at 10.10%, as compared with 10.30% a week ago and 10.20% two weeks ago.

In the municipal section of the bond market high grade issues proved steady with bids somewhat lower for a number of the issues selling to return a high yield. The elections brought gratification of new State issues totaling \$100,000,000, while North Dakota voters turned down the three-year debt moratorium, possibilities of which had been unsettling the market for the State bonds for some time.

Moody's computed bond prices and bond yield averages are shown in the tables below:

MOODY'S BOND PRICES.* (Based on Average Yields.)

Table with columns for dates (Nov. 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Weekly, Oct. 28, 21, 14, 7, Sept. 30, 23, 16, 9, Aug. 26, 19, 12, 5, July 29, 22, 15, 8, 1, June 24, 17, 10, 3, May 28, 21, 14, 7, Apr. 29, 22, 15, 8, 1, Mar. 24, 18, 11, 4, Feb. 26, 19, 11, 5, Jan. 29, 22, 15, High 1932, Low 1932, High 1931, Low 1931, Year Ago, Two Years Ago, Nov. 8 1930) and rows for bond ratings (All 120 Domestic, 120 Domestic by Ratings: Aaa, Aa, A, Baa, RR, P. U., Indus.)

MOODY'S BOND YIELD AVERAGES.† (Based on Individual Closing Prices.)

Table with columns for dates (Nov. 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Weekly, Oct. 28, 21, 14, 7, Sept. 30, 23, 16, 9, Aug. 26, 19, 12, 5, July 29, 22, 15, 8, 1, June 24, 17, 10, 3, May 28, 21, 14, 7, Apr. 29, 22, 15, 8, 1, Mar. 24, 18, 11, 4, Feb. 26, 19, 11, 5, Jan. 29, 22, 15, Low 1932, High 1932, Low 1931, High 1931, Yr. Ago, Nov. 17'31, 2 Yrs. Ago, Nov. 8'30) and rows for bond ratings (All 120 Domestic, 120 Domestic by Ratings: Aaa, Aa, A, Baa, RR, P. U., Indus., x 40 For-eytns.)

* Note.—These prices are computed from average yields on the basis of one "ideal" bond (4 1/2% coupon, maturing in 31 years) and do not purport to show either the average level or the average movement of actual price quotations. They merely serve to illustrate in a more comprehensive way the relative levels and the relative movement of yield averages, the latter being the truer picture of the bond market.

† The last complete list of bonds used in computing these indexes was published in the "Chronicle" on Oct. 1 1932, page 2228. For Moody's index of bond prices by months back to 1928, refer to the "Chronicle" of Feb. 6 1932, page 907.

x Revised back to Sept. 19. Other figures are as follows: Sept. 22, 10.24; Sept. 21, 10.31; Sept. 20, 10.39, and Sept. 19, 10.40.

Omission of a Word in Our Report of the Address of Paul Shoup, of Southern Pacific Co. Before the Bankers Convention.

We gladly make room for the following which calls attention to the omission of a word in one of the paragraphs in the address which was delivered before the annual convention in Los Angeles by Paul Shoup, Vice-Chairman of the Southern Pacific Co., and which was published in our special edition—the American Bankers Convention Section, issued Oct. 22:

New York, Nov. 7 1932.

To the Editor:

Dear Sir.—Mr. Shoup delivered an address to the members of the American Bankers' Association at their convention in Los Angeles on Oct. 6 on "Over-Taxation—A Business Viewpoint" which is included in the "Bankers' Convention Section" of the "Commercial & Financial Chronicle" in your issue of Oct. 22 1932.

In re-reading the copy of the speech sent to the American Bankers' Association we find that an error was made which we hope may be corrected in a subsequent issue of the "Chronicle." This appears in the second column of page 20. The paragraph reads:

"California has a magnificent highway system. It has added wonderfully to the attractiveness and to the wealth of the State. Yet it is well to note that the annual cost per family to maintain this system is \$1,100, which would buy two moderately priced automobiles. We cannot go much further lest we get the cart before the horse or more literally the highway before the auto."

It should read:

"California has a magnificent highway system. It had added wonderfully to the attractiveness and to the wealth of the State. Yet it is well to note that, capitalized, the annual cost per family to maintain this system is \$1,100, which would buy two moderately priced automobiles. We cannot go much further lest we get the cart before the horse or more literally the highway before the auto."

You will note that the word omitted is "capitalized" in the third line of the paragraph.

Yours truly,

J. W. FERGUSON, Secretary.

Indications of Business Activity

THE STATE OF TRADE—COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

Friday Night, Nov. 11 1932.

Business activity has remained on a very moderate seasonal level with but few changes in volume. Now that the election is out of the way and many of the issues raised by politicians of both parties laid to rest for some time to come, industry will undoubtedly resume its task of readjustment with new hope and vigor. The tone, at any rate, is unquestionably better. Retail trade has been steady, although somewhat below the level of last year. Textiles continue fairly strong, except in the case of cotton. Iron and steel are still quiet with a slow but steady increase in orders. Cleveland's steel plants are reported to be operating on the basis of 36% of capacity, with employment increased 11% in the last 40 days. In Philadelphia hosiery mills are working full time and have enough back orders on hand to keep them busy until the end of the year. Louisville reports that the tobacco manufacturers in that district are working overtime to supply the demand. Furniture manufacturers are doing a good volume of business, and are believed to have a backlog that will keep them busy for a month to come. Chicago reports an increase in the production of electrical appliances. There is some increase in activity in the automobile trade, but that industry is still merely feeling its way. The noticeable decrease in the number of commercial and bank failures is a cheerful and steadying factor. Some further increase in employment is noted, but that problem is still far from being solved. The sharp rise in the stock market, with the increasing activity of the past two days, is believed to portend a better feeling in financial circles toward the new political regime. Very little fear is being expressed in Wall Street of any radical legislation being adopted. The interim, or so-called "lame duck," session of Congress which begins on Dec. 5 is not expected to produce anything startling in the way of legislation, although some action may be taken toward the amendment of the Volstead Act, and by March 4 the new Cabinet will have been chosen and the new policies to be inaugurated will be better known.

Wheat has been stronger of late and appears to be stabilizing itself around present prices inordinately low though they may be. A fair export business has been done in Manitoba wheat, but American hard wheat has been 3c. above an export parity. Corn has continued its firm tone. Expectations of a fair export trade has kept the price up and been the main reason for a lessened selling pressure. Oats and rye have responded to the higher prices for the other grains. Cotton has been helped by a strong technical position after a decline of nearly \$20 a bale. There has been an increased trade demand for the staple and the South has been a reluctant seller at this level. Sugar has risen sharply owing to the great storm in Cuba, while coffee has continued the downward course which commenced with the opening of the port of Santos last month. Taking all factors into consideration, however, the fact remains that business news is being brought to the front again instead of politics, and although the problems confronting the country are as stupendous as ever sentiment appears to have become more hopeful recently.

It is pointed out that cotton mill activity in this country is on a much higher level than general manufacturing activity, as measured by average relationships in 1922 to 1927. On that basis, the index number for cotton goods production last month was approximately 95 while that for manufactures in general was only 68, a spread of 27. In October of last year, the index for cotton cloth output was 83 and that for general manufactures was 72, a spread of 11. Two years ago, cotton goods production was below production of general manufactures, the index numbers being respectively 79 and 88. In 1921, cotton spinning improved much earlier and more sharply than manufacturing in general; the cotton manufacturing curve rose sharply early in 1921, even while cotton prices were continuing to decline and general manufacturing activities were continuing to recede. Print cloths here have been more active and at times stronger.

Decreases in chain store sales compared with those of 1931 are becoming smaller.

The stock market on the 5th continued the strength of the previous day and closed higher with trading in only 463,000 shares. Bond sales were \$3,455,000 with advances and declines about evenly divided. The salient fact of the short day was the continued firmness on the eve of the election. Wheat advanced and cotton rose some 25 points. On the 7th stocks suddenly developed pronounced strength and advanced 1 to 5 points with sales of 1,610,000 shares, or 640,000 shares more than on the previous Friday, the last full day. Election hesitation was thrown off and there was unmistakable relief that the campaign was near an end. A moderate reaction from the early and highest prices took place before the close but the tone of the market was distinctly good. Bonds were also strong and advanced 3 to 6 points, led by the railroad issues.

On the 9th, stocks advanced 1 to 2 points, but reacted later and closed with net declines of 1 to 3½ points. Sales were 1,268,300 shares. Bonds fell off in some cases 2 to 3 points on sales of \$7,579,000 but in general the declines were fractional. Profit taking after the election together with lower grain and cotton markets were considered as logical explanations of the setback which in any case was not severe. On the 10th stocks advanced 2 to 5 points with Wall Street in a very hopeful frame of mind. There was also an advance in grain, cotton, rubber, silk and other commodities. The volume of trading was not large, i. e., 1,577,000 shares, but the feeling was more confident and closing prices were near the highest of the day. Domestic bonds were generally higher and foreign issues in some cases followed their lead. U. S. Governments, however, were fractionally lower. Today stocks advanced 1 to 6 points with transactions reaching 2,600,000 shares. It was the broadest and most active market in more than a month. Rails, industrial specialties and leading utility issues were in the van. Bonds were higher. Rail issues led the rise. U. S. Government shares were quiet.

Chicago reported that the electric output in that district for the week ended Nov. 5 totaled 92,997,000 kilowatt hours, a decline of 6,979 from the corresponding week of 1931. During the week ended Oct. 29 output aggregated 94,317,000 kilowatt hours, a decrease of 8.6% from the like 1931 week. At Selma, N. C., the Lizzie and Ethel mills of the Eastern Manufacturing Co., the Mobile Cotton Mills of Selma and the Smithfield Mills, Inc., all in Johnston County, are reported operating at full capacity day and night. They have a large number of operatives at work. London cabled that in view of the difficulties encountered in discussing details of the more-ooms-per-weaver system, employers and operatives representatives' have unanimously agreed to invite Chief Conciliation Officer Legett of the Ministry of Labor to act as chairman at future meetings beginning next Monday. At Nashville, Tenn., the Walter Fred Hosiery Mills, Inc., is operating at full capacity. This mill is sold up until Christmas. Its salesmen have been withdrawn from the road until the first of the year. This is the first time it has ever withdrawn salesmen at this date.

The unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation increased in October it was gratifying to notice 11,950 tons. This is an increase in three months of 30,738 tons against a decrease of 290,324 in the same time in 1931 and 540,292 in a like period in 1930.

Montreal advices say that in line with seasonal developments, cotton trade activity in Canada has slackened off perceptibly during the past fortnight. Cotton mill operations and the industry as a whole have been running at about 66% of capacity since mid-summer, with some mills operating near a capacity while others, notably in the commercial and style cottons divisions, have operated at only from 30 to 50% capacity.

Although considerable damage was reported on the 9th as a result of the tropical hurricane in Cuba, first advices did not reveal or even approximate the extent of the catastrophe. Reports received to-day indicate that the death-toll will be nearly 2,000 and that the entire province of Camaguey has been laid waste not to mention tremendous damage in other parts of the island. It is impossible at this

writing to estimate accurately just how much property has been destroyed but sugar mills in the devastated districts have suffered severely; 2,000,000 sacks of sugar owned by the National Sugar Export Corp., part of the sugar segregated under the Chadbourne plan has apparently been lost and many cane fields ruined. Jamaica also suffered heavy losses and all of the West Indian Islands in the path of the storm were damaged to a greater or less extent. Some of its effects were made manifest in contiguous parts of the mainland where a cloudburst flooded the Everglades of Florida. At about the same time a northeast gale with heavy rains and high winds described as the worst in years battered the North Atlantic coast of the United States. New England, New York and New Jersey bore the brunt of it and the property damage suffered will mount into millions of dollars.

The temperatures in N. Y. City on the 8th were 50 to 56 degrees. Boston had 46 to 48; Chicago, 52 to 62; Cincinnati, 56 to 74; Cleveland, 52 to 66; Denver, 22 to 50; Detroit 48 to 54; Kansas City, 32 to 36; Milwaukee, 50 to 54; Min.-St. Paul, 38 to 50; Montreal, 36 to 42; Omaha, 30 to 36; Philadelphia, 54 to 60; Phoenix, 46 to 80; Pittsburgh, 54 to 68; Portland, Ore., 48 to 52; Portland, Me., 46; San Francisco, 54 to 74; Seattle, 46 to 52; Spokane, 38 to 42; St. Louis, 48; Winnipeg, 30. On Friday the 11th temperatures in N. Y. City were 45 to 55 degrees; Boston, 44 to 62; Chicago, 26 to 34; Cincinnati, 32 to 54; Cleveland, 40 to 46; Denver, 10 to 28; Detroit, 30 to 40; Kansas City, 28 to 36; Milwaukee, 26 to 36; St. Paul, 24 to 32; Montreal, 34 to 38; Omaha, 24 to 28; Philadelphia, 46 to 60; Phoenix, 44 to 80; Pittsburgh, 40 to 52; Portland, Ore., 46 to 54; Portland, Me., 42 to 50; San Francisco, 58 to 76; Seattle, 44 to 50; Spokane, 28 to 40; St. Louis, 28 to 40; Winnipeg, 12 to 26.

National City Bank of New York Finds Evidence That Sentiment of Country Is for Economy in Government Expenditures — Sees Impressive Business Improvement Since July—Over-Subscription of Treasury Bills Reflects Undesirable Condition in Money Market.

Issued on Nov. 1 (prior to the elections on Nov. 8), the monthly letter of the National City Bank of New York stated that "the chief influence on business sentiment during the past month must be looked for in the political rather than the trade news, for undoubtedly the campaign has been the topic of absorbing interest." The bank observed that "what the country needs from both parties is determination to preserve sound principles in public finance. The central element in such a program must be the balancing of budgets through reduction of expenditure." In part the bank also said:

Since early July there has been a vigorous and impressive business improvement, and the country very well understands that this recovery followed upon the relief of fears concerning the dollar and the financial situation generally, just as the collapse of business in the Spring was a consequence of those fears. This demonstration of cause and effect has been a convincing one, and wins support for sound policies. Another reason why the demand for economy and sound public finance has continuously grown is the increase in the tax burden, now that taxes must be paid out of incomes cut in half.

Pertinent to the foregoing is the following extract from the bulletin on the agricultural situation published by the Corn Belt Farm Dailies, under date of Sept. 30

It would be a wonderful thing if both candidates could spend a little more time with practical farmers and a little less with political farm "leaders." They would discover, for one thing, that the most effective vote-getting talk at the present time would be along the line of curbing down bureaucratic activities of the Government and reducing costs and taxes, and not the promotion of schemes to involve the Government in nobody knows how many millions or hundreds of millions of new expenses, and business in costly uncertainties of world-wide influence.

This is not quoted as a criticism of the candidates, but as informed testimony to the state of mind which is entering into the elections this year in the farm country, and, it is safe to say, elsewhere also. The evidence is convincing that the sentiment of the country is for economy, and for a balance between receipts and expenditures that will keep the public credit above reproach. The political history of the country justifies the utmost confidence that any Congress elected will contain a majority supporting these principles.

The Treasury and the Money Market.

Of course some people still believe that the way out of the depression is through the expenditure of Government credit in gigantic sums. They interpret the subscription to the offering of \$450,000,000 Treasury notes on Oct. 15 which was oversubscribed 18 times as evidence of an almost unlimited ability of the Treasury to borrow. However, this is a serious misapprehension. Aside from the familiar "padding," due to institutions subscribing for more notes than they expected to get in order to get all they wanted, the oversubscription reflects an unnatural and undesirable condition in the money markets, growing out of the depression. Capital shuns investment in private enterprises of all but the highest credit, and indeed avoids commitment in long term obligations of any sort. Thus there is a great piling up of funds in the money centers seeking liquid short term investments of high standing, among which the Treasury notes and certificates are of course pre-eminent. These are funds normally needed by business, and they will be needed again as business recovers. Their diversion to Treasury uses is not a sign of the strength of the public credit, but of the weakness of business.

Moreover, the banks are in funds by reason of the large volume of Federal Reserve Bank credit outstanding, and short term Government securities provide the only important outlet for the investment of their excess reserves. This is the chief explanation for the oversubscription mentioned.

The questions involved in Government credit policies in the depression are complex ones, and people may sincerely differ upon them. However, two propositions seem indisputable. First, there are plainly limits beyond which the Government debt cannot be expanded without causing such alarm as to offset, and perhaps more than offset, the temporarily stimulating effect of the disbursements. There is no gain from employing the National credit to replace private capital in support of business if the policy drives as much or more private capital out of business, into Government obligations, into hiding, or even out of the country.

The second proposition is that the public credit cannot be employed continuously to support the economic organization unless it is preserved by a balanced budget. The Government, like an individual, must in the long run live within its income; otherwise its credit will decline. During the fiscal year to date, (October figures up to the 22d) the current operating deficit was \$601,000,000, and if the \$345,000,000 allotted to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation be added the total was \$946,000,000. For the same period of the preceding fiscal year the operating deficit was \$635,000,000.

Consideration of these figures must, of course, take account both of the fact that the new income rates do not become effective until after the first of the calendar year, and also the fact that internal revenue receipts in the early months of the fiscal year were undoubtedly diminished by the tendency of purchasers to anticipate their needs before the new taxes went into effect. The yield of these taxes has lately been increasing. Moreover, any improvement of business would further lessen the demands on the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, as well as speed up the repayment of its advances. All of which would tend to improve the Treasury position. However, none of this is certain. Since this is so the country cannot afford to ignore the import of the current figures, nor abate its determination to bring the budget to a balance. . . .

Commodity Prices Reactionary.

The truly disappointing feature of the business situation is the downward movement of commodity prices, which has continued since early September. Great importance was correctly attached to the summer rise, which not only added to purchasing power in the farm market, where it was badly needed, but gave a new incentive and stimulus to trade. However, the rise was too great to last. Wheat has lately sold 16 cents and corn 12 cents below the top, and both at new lows for the depression. Cotton has lost 3 cents of its 4-cent advance, and hogs the greater part of their early summer gain. Cattle and hides, wool and other farm products with some exceptions have reacted, and the non-ferrous metals also are lower. Among the imported products, representing purchasing power in other countries, cocoa, rubber, coffee and silk have dropped much of their advance.

In the security markets also the trend during October has been reactionary, and probably the influences at work are the same in all the markets. It would be interesting to know what those who were saying in August that the rise in stocks and commodities was engineered for political purposes are saying now. The outcome proves the truth of the statement made in this Letter two months ago, that the buying came from the plainest of motives, i. e., the buyers believed they would make money, and that no other explanation was correct or necessary.

It may be considered that the price reaction reflects in mercantile circles a disposition to estimate trade prospects conservatively, and in business sentiment generally a recognition of uncertainties and difficulties that hamper recovery. The disturbance of international trade and finance is a continuing factor, and there has been a fresh disturbance in the month in a further decline in the pound sterling, which affects other currencies, introduces new elements of competition and uncertainty, and is an unfavorable influence on prices everywhere. It is evident that a "managed" currency, cut loose from gold, may prove unmanageable, and of course the fluctuations are unsettling.

Loading of Railroad Revenue Freight Somewhat Smaller.

Loading of revenue freight for the week ended on Oct. 29 totaled 617,642 cars, according to reports filed on Nov. 5 by the railroads with the car service division of the American Railway Association. Due to the usual seasonal decline in freight traffic which generally sets in around this period of the year, this was a reduction of 24,531 cars under the preceding week. It also was a decrease of 122,721 cars under the same week in 1931 and 317,073 cars under the same week two years ago. Details follow:

Miscellaneous freight loading for the week of Oct. 29 totaled 226,149 cars, a decrease of 10,101 cars under the preceding week, 46,954 cars under the corresponding week in 1931 and 132,876 cars below the same week in 1930.

Loading of merchandise less than carload lot freight totaled 177,662 cars, a decrease of 1,082 cars below the preceding week, 36,677 cars below the corresponding week last year and 62,920 cars under the same week two years ago.

Coal loading totaled 128,869 cars, a decrease of 11,936 cars below the preceding week, 12,199 cars below the corresponding week last year and 47,388 cars below the same week in 1930.

Live stock loading amounted to 23,608 cars, a decrease of 88 cars below the preceding week, 5,382 cars below the same week last year and 8,851 cars below the same week two years ago. In the Western districts alone, loading of live stock for the week ended on Oct. 29 totaled 19,346 cars, a decrease of 4,565 cars compared with the same week last year.

Grain and grain products loading totaled 31,951 cars, 1,033 cars below the preceding week, 9,324 cars below the corresponding week last year and 12,396 cars under the same week in 1930. In the Western districts alone, grain and grain products loading for the week ended on Oct. 29 totaled 20,627 cars, a decrease of 5,858 cars below the same week in 1931.

Forest products loading totaled 18,856 cars, an increase of 283 cars above the preceding week, but 4,790 cars under the same week in 1931 and 19,278 cars below the corresponding week two years ago.

Ore loading amounted to 6,019 cars, a decrease of 264 cars below the week before, 6,637 cars under the corresponding week last year and 29,044 cars under the same week in 1930.

Coke loading amounted to 4,528 cars, a decrease of 310 cars under the preceding week, 758 cars below the same week last year and 4,320 cars below the same week two years ago.

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

from Federal funds and get them to work in industry have not been successful."

It pointed out that during the fall business revival bank loans declined by \$300,000,000 from Sept. 7 to Oct. 26, and contended that banks were hoarding their surplus credit, having since July 1 deposited \$406,000,000 with the Federal Reserve and invested more than \$1,000,000,000 in Government securities.

The Federation said that there had not been whole-hearted co-operation by business men with local committees to put credit to work, shorten hours and create jobs.

"The following records show," it said, "that this fall, when new orders made it possible to increase production, firms lengthened work hours instead of employing more men. Average hours worked per employee in manufacturing industries increased from 32.2 a week in August to 34.8 in September; in iron and steel, production increased 22%, employment only 1%; in food industries, production increased 19%, employment 1%; leather and shoes production gained 10%, employment 1%; tobacco production increased 3%, employment fell nearly 1%. If we are to pull together out of this depression, business men must stop losing opportunities to create jobs."

Declared World Problem.

The Federation said that the depression had not adjusted the balance between wage payments and dividend distribution, as since 1929 workers' incomes have fallen 23% below the 1922 level while dividends are still 32% above it.

The Federation added that many of the problems which "check our recovery are world wide and must be solved by international action." It expressed hope that the proposed world economic conference would accomplish constructive action, but added that added that "unless our representatives are backed by intelligent opinion at home they cannot make decisions which will contribute to recovery."

Smaller Decline Reported in Weekly Production of Electricity as Compared with Corresponding Period Last Year.

According to the National Electric Light Association, the production of electricity by the electric light and power industry of the United States for the week ended Nov. 5 1932 was 1,525,410,000 kwh., a decrease of 6.3% as compared with the same period in 1931, and compares with 1,533,028 kwh. for the preceding week, which was 7.2% below the figure for a year previous. The output for the week ended Nov. 5 for the Atlantic seaboard was down 2.6% from the same period last year and compares with a decrease of 3.1% for the week ended Oct. 29. New England, taken alone, was off 3.5%, against a decrease of 2.7% in the previous week. The Central industrial region, outlined by Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, St. Louis and Milwaukee, showed a decrease of 7.8%, compared with a decline of 9.2% the week before. The Pacific Coast was down 9.1%, against a decrease of 7.8% in the Oct. 29 week.

Arranged in tabular form, the output in kilowatt hours of the light and power companies for recent weeks and by months since the first of the year is as follows:

Table with columns: Weeks Ended., 1932., 1931., 1930., 1929., 1932 Under 1931. Rows include weekly data from Jan. 2 to Nov. 5 and monthly data from January to September.

x Including Memorial Day. y Change computed on basis of average daily reports. z Including July 4 holiday. Note.—The monthly figures shown above are based on reports covering approximately 92% of the electric light and power industry and the weekly figures are based on about 70%.

Dun's Report of Failures Improved for October.

Insolvencies during October were again reduced. The number in the United States for that month, according to the records of R. G. Dun & Co. was 2,273, and the liabilities \$52,869,974. These defaults for the month just closed were slightly more numerous than in September, but with that exception were considerably less than for any month back to November of last year, while the indebtedness shown was below any preceding month since September 1931. Only business concerns are included in these figures, banks and the bankruptcies of professional men and individuals being omitted.

The change for the better this year in the matter of insolvencies that made its appearance in September has been further developed in the October report. The number is

still quite large, but the reduction that appears in comparison with the earlier months of the year is notable. The October figures are also less than those of a year ago, comparing with 2,362 for October 1931, a decline of 3.8%. This showing is quite in contrast with that for the preceding nine months. The number for that period was 25,007 against 20,970 in 1931, an increase this year of 4,037 or 19.3%.

Liabilities are still further improved. For October the amount of \$52,869,974 compares with \$70,660,436 a year ago, a reduction this year of \$17,790,462 or 25.0%. On the other hand the total indebtedness involved in the business failures for the nine months of this year up to October, was \$757,632,773 against \$531,776,004 for the same period in 1931, an increase this year of \$225,856,769 or 42.5%. The change for the better in both directions has been very marked.

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

Table titled 'Number. Liabilities.' comparing monthly and quarterly figures for Number and Liabilities for 1932 and 1931.

FAILURES BY BRANCHES OF BUSINESS—OCTOBER 1932.

Table titled 'Number. Liabilities.' showing failures by branches of business for October 1932, comparing 1932 and 1931 figures.

Business Conditions in Kansas City Federal Reserve District—Display of Decidedly Mixed Tendencies Noted in September—Department Store Trade Shows More Than Usual Seasonal Increase.

"Business conditions in the Tenth (Kansas City) Federal Reserve District displayed decidedly mixed tendencies in September," according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. The Bank in its "Monthly Review" of Nov. 1 also states that "loans and discounts at member banks continued to decline and the member banks made additional reductions in their indebtedness to this Bank and branches." Continuing, the Bank further commented as to business conditions in its District:

Debts by banks to individual accounts were slightly larger for the month but displayed about the same decline from a year ago as reported in previous months. Commercial insolvencies declined markedly both as to number and to the amount of liabilities involved.

Department store trade, favored by weather conditions, showed more than the usual seasonal expansion and the 11.2% decrease in September dollar sales, as compared to a year ago, was the smallest decrease from the corresponding month of the preceding year reported since June 1931. Wholesale trade also made a good seasonal showing, but the dollar volume for all reporting lines was below that of a year ago. Inventories at both wholesale and retail, which have declined for several years, are low.

Higher ore prices stimulated shipments of zinc ore and lead ore, bituminous coal production expanded at a greater rate than usual, and

The value of building contracts awarded in this district in the third quarter was larger than in the second quarter, though usually there is a seasonal decline. The favorable trend also was apparent in the first part of October, though the value of awards is still very much below the average of past years.

Clothing production in early October was at the highest level in many months and shoe production in September was above the same month last year.

Despite the increases in the various lines, there were few indications in September of any expansion in inventories, other than seasonal. Department store stocks at the month-end were smaller than at the close of August and most orders, either from wholesalers, jobbers or retailers, are for immediate delivery and chiefly for current needs.

Reporting on the rubber and tire industry in its district, the bank said as follows:

Replacement tire sales in September, according to reports from principal manufacturers, were larger than expected, the gain from the preceding month being about 20%, whereas sales in September are usually smaller than in August.

The tire industry in the past few months has been very much affected by the price situation. August sales were 46% below the same month last year, based on shipments made by companies representing 80% of the industry. This reduction was larger than might have been expected because of the heavy replacement sales in June in anticipation of the price increase which actually did not materialize until Sept. 12. Dealers stocked very heavily at that time, replacement sales amounting to over 8,500,000 tires in June. This September price advance no doubt had some effect on sales during the month, particularly the early part, and stocks of dealers were enlarged to some extent. It is generally felt in the trade that the trend of tire prices is upward.

In the first part of October sales were showing a seasonal decline and demand for original equipment was very limited, as activity in the automobile industry dropped to the lowest level since the war.

Consumption of crude rubber by manufacturers in the United States amounted to 22,491 long tons in September. This was an increase of 0.5% from August, but was 5,000 tons below imports of 29,509 tons. Imports were 13.8% below August 1932 and down 27% from September a year ago. Domestic stocks on Sept. 30 were estimated to be 365,789 tons, an increase of 43.8% from the same date in 1931.

Employment at Ohio rubber concerns declined 6% from August, in contrast with a five-year average drop of 3%. Five companies showed an increase, but reductions were reported by the majority of organizations co-operating with the Ohio State Bureau of Business Research.

August production figures (the latest available) for 80% of the tire industry, as reported by the Rubber Manufacturers' Association, show that production was 21% below August 1931, and in the eight months was down 18%. Inventories of manufacturers on Aug. 31 were 25% smaller than a year previous. Stocks are lower for this time of year than since 1924.

Rubber prices have declined in recent weeks and in mid-October were barely one-half cent above the all-time low, touched in June. It is reported that the price advance in August and September caused an increase in native production. The fact that imports continue in excess of consumption is one of the chief causes of price weakness.

As to wholesale and retail trade conditions, the bank had the following to say:

Retail trade, as reflected by sales of 55 department stores in this district, increased considerably more than the usual seasonal amount and the adjusted index advanced from a record low of 51 in August to 57.2% of the 1923-1925 monthly average in the latest period. This was the first greater-than-seasonal increase since early spring and in all cities except Cleveland, where an unusual situation prevails, sales in September showed a smaller reduction from the same month of 1931 than the percentage loss for the year to date.

According to "Fairchild's" index, retail prices showed no change in September from the preceding month, the first halt in the downward trend of prices in this depression. Slight increases were even recorded for house furnishings, women's apparel and yarn goods. The generally recognized fact that prices were unusually low, and that, with wholesale prices advancing, they probably were at the bottom, the slight increase in employment and payrolls, the depleted condition of consumers' goods and favorable weather all contributed to the larger amount of retail purchases during the month.

Sales in September were 25% below the same month of 1931, but prices are reported to be down about 16% in the same period. The reduction in the first nine months was 27%.

Wholesale Trade.

Except in a few individual cases, there was no evidence of expanding department stores stocks. On Sept. 30 they were valued at 24.5% less than on the same date of 1931, the 7.8% increase from August being less than seasonal and the adjusted index dropped to 57.5% of the 1923-1925 monthly average, a new low point.

Charge sales increased slightly more than seasonally, but the ratio of credit to total sales was still smaller than a year ago, the reduction being more pronounced in the case of installment sales than in regular charge sales.

The percentage of all accounts receivable on Aug. 31 which were collected in September was about on a par with the preceding month and only slightly below last year. It amounted to only 26%, however, with the collection ratio on 30-day accounts being 29.6%.

Wholesale sales in the four reporting lines increased in September by slightly more than the average August-to-September change in past years. Despite the improvement, which was well distributed, dollar sales for all lines were only 56% of the 1923-1925 monthly average and were about 23% below the same month of 1931.

Seasonal Rise in Business During September Reported by Richmond Federal Reserve Bank in Its District—No Material Changes Noted in Employment.

According to the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, "Fall trade usually begins in earnest in September, and many lines of business take a seasonal upturn." The Bank, in its "Monthly Review" of Oct. 31, states that "this seasonal rise in business volume occurred in the Fifth (Richmond) Federal Reserve District last month, and in a few lines was in larger volume than seasonal influence alone would explain." The Bank also said:

In banking, the developments in September and early October were mostly of an unseasonal nature, among them being a decline in rediscounts for

member banks at the Federal Reserve Bank, a decline in outstanding loans in reporting member banks located in leading cities, a slight decrease in the circulation of Federal Reserve notes, and practically no net change in deposits in member banks in spite of a reduction in loans. Time deposits in both member banks and in mutual savings banks increased in September. Debits to individual accounts figures in 24 leading cities in the four weeks ended Oct. 12 1932, totaled 19.3% more than debits in the preceding four weeks, ended Sept. 14, an increase only partly due to seasonal influences. Every one of the 24 cities reported higher figures for the later period. Commercial failures in September in the Fifth District compared favorably in both number and in aggregate liabilities involved with the record of other recent months, and last month's liabilities were less than those of September 1931. Employment showed some seasonal changes last month, but there was no material net increase or decrease in the number of employed persons in the District. Textile payrolls were increased during September, chiefly by increase in the number of days per week the mills are now running. Practically all mills are on full daylight time in the latter part of October, and cotton consumption in September increased more than seasonally. Coal production increased in September, as usual, and by about the usual amount. Spot cotton prices declined further between the middle of September and the middle of October, influenced adversely by the Department of Agriculture's increase in its estimate of probable production, made on Oct. 8. Cotton consumption and cotton exports increased notably in September, and average hours of operation per spindle in the United States rose from 175 in August to 218 in September. Auction tobacco markets in the Carolinas sold much less tobacco than in September 1931, but the tobacco sold brought better prices than those of last year. Agricultural prospects on the whole declined considerably during September because of dry weather, some sections experiencing drought conditions almost as severe as those of 1930. The drought was not as extensive this year, however, and also developed later in the growing season, and therefore did much less damage than the record drought of 1930. Construction work provided for in building permits issued and contracts actually awarded last month was in very small volume, as in all other recent months. Retail trade as reflected in sales in 33 leading department stores in the Fifth District increased more than seasonally last month, and averaged only 10.8% less than sales in September 1931, while cumulative sales in the first nine months of this year averaged 18.8% below sales in the corresponding period last year. Wholesale trade reports in five leading lines also showed seasonally increased sales in September, and shoe sales were ahead of sales in September last year, this being the first line to report in ten months an increase in comparison with the corresponding month of the preceding year.

In its "Review" the Bank reported as follows regarding employment conditions:

There was no material changes in employment conditions in the Fifth District during the past month. Textile mills increased operations and either took on additional workers or gave longer working hours to persons already employed, and there was also some seasonal rise in employment in coal mining, but the approach of cold weather brought further unemployment, of a seasonal nature, in construction work as summer projects were completed. Fall trade during the next two months will require temporary help in many mercantile establishments, but on the other hand winter weather will increase the hardships of unemployment and will cause a rise in the assistance which charitable organizations and governmental agencies will be called upon to furnish.

St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank Reports Continued Improvement in Business in Eighth District During First Three Weeks of September.

"The improvement in general business in the Eighth (St. Louis) District, which became noticeable in late July and continued in increasing measure during August," according to the Oct. 31 "Monthly Review" of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, "was extended through the first three weeks of September." The "Review" also states:

Since that time the pace has slackened perceptibly, and while a considerable part of the gains in both trade and industry has been held and the general level is still well above the low point of the spring and early summer, some hesitancy has developed during the first half of October, with certain lines falling to show seasonal betterment. Taken as a whole, September proved to be the most satisfactory month experienced so far this year in distributive lines, both wholesale and retail. Increases in sales volume over August were larger than could be accounted for by seasonal influences, and for the first time since April 1931, combined sales of all wholesaling and jobbing lines investigated by this bank showed an increase in September over the corresponding period a year earlier. There were also moderate increases in production in a number of manufacturing lines, some of which had had a record of steady declines during the preceding 18 months.

Due to importance of agriculture in this district, the factor of dominating influence in the progress of business, both in point of morale and volume transacted, has been the price of farm products. The advance in hog values in late June, which was followed by a sharp rise in cotton, wheat and some other commodities in July and August, was reflected in a marked acceleration in buying of merchandise and restoration of confidence in the business community and the public generally. Failure of these advances to hold, coupled with declines in prices of corn, oats, potatoes and some less important products to new record lows for the season in many years had the effect of substantially reducing purchasing power in the agricultural areas, of reversing the feeling of optimism and of reinstating the policy of ultra conservatism in commitments for merchandise of all descriptions.

Warm weather during September and most of the first half of October tended to hold down distribution of seasonal goods, both at wholesale and retail. On the other hand these conditions were favorable for completing the harvest of late crops, which operations were in the main accomplished with a minimum loss of quality and quantity. According to the report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, based on Oct. 1 conditions, yields of the principal crops of the district fully carried out estimates made earlier in the season. The employment situation underwent slight improvement in September as contrasted with the two preceding months, with betterment most noticeable in the large industrial centers and the bituminous coal fields. The supply of farm labor continues considerably in excess of requirements, with wage scales on Oct. 1 the lowest since the beginning of the present century.

As reflected by sales of department stores in the principal cities of the district, the volume of retail trade during September was 49.1% greater than in August and 15.7% smaller than September 1931; for the first three quarters of this year cumulative sales were 22.7% smaller than for the comparable period in 1931. Combined sales of all wholesaling and jobbing interests reporting to this bank in August showed an increase of 8.5% over the preceding month, and of 1.1% over the September total last year; for

the year to Sept. 30, aggregate sales were 24.6% smaller than for the first nine months of 1931. The dollar value of permits issued for new construction in the five largest cities of the district in September was 32% larger than in August, but more than two-thirds less than in September 1931; for the first nine months the total was 23% smaller than for the corresponding period last year. Contracts let for construction in the Eighth Federal Reserve District in September were 7.7% larger than in August, and 14.6% less than the September total last year; for the first nine months this year the aggregate fell 55.4% below that for the same period in 1931. Debits to checking accounts increased 11% in September over the preceding month, but declined 24% under September 1931; the total for the first nine months this year was 26% smaller than for the like period last year.

While continuing much below the volume at the corresponding period during the past several years, freight traffic of railroads operating in this district has shown decided expansion during recent weeks. The showing made by miscellaneous freight, merchandise in less-than-car-lots and coal has been particularly favorable. The movement of livestock continued light. For the country as a whole, loadings of revenue freight for the first 39 weeks this year, or to Oct. 1, totaled 20,976,758 cars, against 28,721,707 cars for the comparable period in 1931, and 35,349,201 cars in 1930. The St. Louis Terminal Railway Association, which handles interchanges for 28 connecting lines, interchanged 120,261 loads in September, against 143,022 loads in August, and 144,843 loads in September 1931. During the first nine days of October the interchange amounted to 40,871 loads, which compares with 33,075 loads during the same period in September, and 46,993 loads during the first nine days of October last year. Passenger traffic of the reporting roads decreased 33% in September as compared with the same month in 1931. Estimated tonnage of the Federal Barge Line between St. Louis and New Orleans in September was 95,500 tons, against 99,822 tons in August, and 106,931 tons in September 1931.

Taken as a whole, collections during the past 30 days showed slight improvement over the similar period immediately preceding, and quite marked betterments as compared with the corresponding time last year. Generally through the south settlements with both merchants and banks were in increased volume, and resumption of operations at a number of mines was reflected in better payments in bituminous coal fields. In the northern tiers of the district, where wheat and corn are the chief crops, farmers are disposed to hold their stocks for higher prices, and backwardness in collections has resulted in many sections. Wholesalers in the chief distributing centers are for the most part getting in their money promptly. This is true particularly of boots and shoes, dry goods and other lines with which October is an important settlement month. Spottiness still characterizes collections of retailers in the large urban centers, with increasing complaints of backwardness by firms which do an extensive installment payment business.

Review of Southwest Business Conditions by Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce During October—Business at Materially Higher Level Than During Spring and Summer Months—Employment Lower As Compared with September.

In its "Southwest Business Review" the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce states that "October business, while not maintaining the rate of increase set by September, is, however, moving at a materially higher level than during the spring and summer months." The Chamber also said:

October business, while not maintaining the rate of increase set by September is, however, moving at a materially higher level than during the spring and summer months.

Employment for the month fell off about 10 points, due to small seasonal declines in most of the industrial groups. Postal receipts are not available for the month, due to a change in the Post Office Department method of giving out these figures. Stock Exchange transactions showed a sharp decline from those of September. Building permits dropped off slightly below the previous month's figures. Bank debits also fell off, probably due to the lack of activity in financial transactions.

Among the important industries, apparel and millinery are going through their normal dull season between fall and spring buying; furniture also is having a seasonal dull period. Motion pictures are progressing with large schedules that mean employment for large numbers of people. Control of daily production in the petroleum industry is keeping daily production down.

Agricultural conditions in California are about as satisfactory as can be expected, in view of reduced market prices of most commodity groups. Water commerce returned a total somewhat less than for the previous month.

Building Permits.

New construction during October showed a slight decline from the volume of September, but was still well ahead of that for the late spring and summer months. The 10 months of the year to date show a decline from a like period of 1931 of 56%.

The value per permit continues to lag below \$1,000, due in part to low material costs, but mainly to the fact that no large construction is in evidence.

Indications are that several architects have under preparation plans which, when completed, will brighten the construction horizon about the first of the year.

Comparative figures are as follows

	Number.	Value.
October 1932	1,507	\$1,253,450
October 1931	2,311	3,459,905
10 months, 1932	14,877	15,534,104
10 months, 1931	22,032	36,081,039

Employment.

Due to small declines in eight out of the 10 industrial groups during the month of October, the Chamber of Commerce Index of Industrial Employment dropped 10 points from the year's high level set last month. In spite of this decrease, however, the Index for October is still second high for the year and is on the average five points above levels of spring and summer months.

The only two industries to escape the decline in employment during the past month were clay products and petroleum. The largest declines took place in motion pictures and food products, in the latter case due to a normal seasonal dropping off in the food canning industries.

Compared with a year ago, nine out of the 10 groups are operating at lower levels, although the spread between the two years is much less than it was during May, June and July. The only industry which has not declined below last year is mill work, due probably to the fact that the decline in this line of business antedated the general depression.

The comparative figures are as follows: October 1932, 63.9; September 1932, 74.6; October 1931, 71.0.

Report of Business Conditions in Dallas Federal Reserve District During September by Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas—Stronger Demand for Merchandise at Both Wholesale and Retail and Increased Activity in Some Lines of Manufacturing Noted as Significant Developments.

In its district summary compiled Oct. 15, as given in its "Monthly Business Review" of Nov. 1, the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas stated that "a stronger demand for merchandise in both wholesale and retail channels and increased activity in some lines of manufacturing were significant developments in the Eleventh (Dallas) District during the past month." The Bank also said as follows:

Sales of department stores in larger cities reflected a gain of 55% over those of August, which was considerably more than seasonal, and were only 8% below sales in September 1931. Distribution at wholesale, likewise, showed a larger than usual seasonal expansion, and comparisons with the corresponding month of the previous year were the most favorable reported in many months. In fact, sales in some reporting lines closely approximated those in September last year. Although retailers are buying a wider assortment of goods, they are continuing the policy of holding commitments to well defined needs, and are making frequent reorders in small volume as consumer demand arises. The decline in the price of cotton tempered the enthusiasm evident in late August and early September, yet late reports indicate that October business has been very good.

The business mortality rate in this district evidenced a material betterment. Both the number of failures and the amount of liabilities declined sharply in September and were lower than in any month in more than a year.

The past month witnessed a seasonal liquidation of indebtedness at the Federal Reserve Bank, and an expansion in the loans and investments of member banks in selected cities. Federal Reserve Bank loans declined from \$12,891,000 on Sept. 15 to \$10,331,000 on Oct. 15, and on the latter date were \$9,008,000 lower than a year ago. The loans and investments of member banks in larger cities rose to \$388,043,000 on Oct. 12, which was the highest level reached since early in July. The daily average of combined net demand and time deposits of member banks amounted to \$600,331,000 in September, as compared with \$597,162,000 in August, and \$724,824,000 in September 1931. The strong demand for the 3% United States Treasury notes dated Oct. 15 was manifested in subscriptions of \$98,886,400, against which allotments of only \$3,617,300 were made.

Agricultural prospects showed no material change during the past month. Heavy rains damaged crops in some areas but the improvement which occurred in other sections as a result of the additional moisture was an offsetting factor. While harvesting operations were retarded during September by excessive moisture, farmers have made rapid progress with this work since the advent of favorable weather early in October. There is an excellent season in the ground and the fall seeding of small grains is well under way. Reports indicate that the portion of the crop now up is looking fine. Ranges have shown a marked improvement and are now in the best condition for this season reported in several years. Livestock are, likewise, showing noticeable improvement and are expected to go into the winter in fine shape. The local demand for livestock is becoming stronger.

Construction activity, as measured by the valuation of building permits issued at principal cities, declined to a low level, the September total being 20% below August and 68% under a year ago. The production of cement reflected a substantial increase as compared with the previous month, but was smaller than in the same month last year. Shipments were less than in either comparative month.

Regarding wholesale and retail trade conditions, the Bank reported the following:

Wholesale Trade.

The improvement in business at wholesale, which began in August, continued to be in evidence during September. Further substantial increases were reported in all lines except farm implements. The sales of dry goods showed a 20.4% increase which was contrary to seasonal tendency; and in the case of hardware and drugs, the pick-up was appreciably larger than is usual at this season. More favorable comparisons with a year ago were recorded for the second consecutive month, the decreases from September 1931 ranging from 1.2% in the case of hardware to 14.5% in the case of drugs. As retailers generally are adhering to the policy of ordering in small lots and for immediate shipment, it appears that the heavier demand is traceable directly to actual movement of goods into the hands of consumers. Business was reported to be fairly well sustained in the early part of October. The volume of collections turned upward in September and was seasonally larger than in the preceding month.

Following the large increase of 153.5%, which was reflected in the August business of wholesale dry goods firms, there was a further gain of 20.4% in the volume of sales during September. The latter increase was particularly encouraging, in view of the fact that a seasonal decline in distribution is usually visible in this month. The demand during September was only 3.6% less than in the corresponding month last year, as compared with a similar decline of 12.4% in August, and 44.1% in July. Purchases by retailers were for the most part necessitated by current requirements, there being little disposition to buy in anticipation of possible future needs. Collections reflected a further increase of 28.9% over August.

A considerable improvement in the sales of reporting wholesale hardware firms occurred during September, as evidenced by an increase of 19.8% over the previous month, and a dollar volume only 1.2% under that of September 1931. Only part of the business gain was attributable to seasonal influences. Indications are that consumer demand is expanding, and as merchants generally are carrying moderate stocks, they are finding it necessary to replenish supplies at frequent intervals. There was a seasonal pick up of 9.6% in collections.

Although the demand for groceries at wholesale during September showed somewhat less expansion than usually occurs at this season, the comparison with the same month a year ago continued to improve. The total sales of reporting wholesale grocery firms were 6.5% greater than in August, but 7.3% under the volume of September 1931. During the third quarter of the current year, they averaged 13.9% less than a year ago. Indications are that business is more satisfactory in some sections than in others. September witnessed an improvement of 21.7% in collections, as compared with the previous month.

PRODUCTION OF CRUDE PETROLEUM. (Thousands of barrels of 42 U. S. gallons.)

Table showing production of crude petroleum for September 1932 and August 1932, broken down by state (Arkansas, California, Colorado, etc.) and including total U.S. production.

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CALIFORNIA OIL RECEIPTS. (Barrels of 42 Gallons.)

Table showing distribution of total California oil receipts for October, September, August, and July, categorized by product (Gasoline, Kerosene, Fuel oil, Lubricants).

Stabilization of Markets for Crude Oil and Refined Products Agreed to by California Oil Concerns.

It was reported on Nov. 10, according to the New York "Herald-Tribune" of Nov. 11, that oil companies operating in California have reached a basis of understanding tending to give more stability to markets for both crude oil and refined products and definite plans to this effect have been completed by executives of the various groups. The "Herald-Tribune" also reported as follows:

While no official announcement of the accord was made, the reports followed a series of conferences in which bankers as well as oil executives are understood to have taken part, the discussions extending over the last two weeks.

Under the understandings reached, it is said, several of the largest oil purchasing organizations have agreed to purchase in excess of current requirements, while at the same time every effort will be made co-operatively to reduce daily average crude oil production.

Currently, daily crude oil output in California is estimated about 10,000 barrels in excess of requirements. Leading buyers have indicated they will purchase about 8,000 barrels a day more than they have been taking, which would mean that some 600,000 barrels of oil would be added to storage before the end of the year at a cost of \$500,000.

Imports of Petroleum at Principal United States Ports Gained During October.

According to figures collected by the American Petroleum Institute, imports of petroleum (crude and refined oils) at the principal ports for the month of October 1932 amounted to 3,906,000 barrels, a daily average of 126,000 barrels, compared with 2,623,000 barrels, a daily average of 87,433 barrels, in the month of September. The Institute's statement follows:

IMPORTS OF PETROLEUM AT PRINCIPAL UNITED STATES PORTS (CRUDE AND REFINED OILS). (Barrels of 42 Gallons.)

Table showing imports of petroleum at principal United States ports for October, September, August, and July, categorized by port (At Atlantic Coast Ports, At Gulf Coast Ports, At All United States Ports).

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL IMPORTS. (Barrels of 42 Gallons.)

Table showing distribution of total imports for October, September, August, and July, categorized by product (Crude, Gasoline, Kerosene, Fuel oil).

Receipts of California Oil at Atlantic and Gulf Coast Ports Increased in October.

Receipts of California oil (crude and refined) at Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports for the month of October 1932 totaled 1,135,000 barrels, a daily average of 36,613 barrels, as compared with 986,000 barrels, or a daily average of 32,867 barrels, during the preceding month, the American Petroleum Institute reports. The detailed statement follows:

RECEIPTS OF CALIFORNIA OIL AT ATLANTIC AND GULF COAST PORTS (CRUDE AND REFINED). (Barrels of 42 Gallons.)

Table showing receipts of California oil at Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports for October, September, August, and July, categorized by port (At Atlantic Coast ports, At Gulf Coast ports, At Atlantic & Gulf Coast ports).

New Oil Curb Law Passed by Texas House of Representatives—Statute May be in Hands of Governor Sterling by Nov. 18.

The Texas House of Representatives on Nov. 10 passed finally the corrective oil and gas conservation bill for which its special session was called, according to advices from Austin, Texas, Nov. 10, to the New York "Journal of Commerce," which also said:

The bill as enacted, survived all adverse amendments and retained authority for the Texas Railroad Commission in prorating oil and gas production, to consider economic waste and reasonable market demand along with physical waste, the changes being made to conform to a recent Federal decision nullifying the present enforcement.

Final passage of substantially the same bill in the Senate, and adjustment of differences was certain to send the new statute to Gov. Ross Sterling's desk by Nov. 18.

The committee of the House has added two provisions to the bill which must have the approval of the Senate. One would provide for proration of natural gas output on an individual-field basis instead of a Statewide basis, and the other that whatever law is finally enacted shall not conflict with the common purchaser act, the marginal law and the anti-trust laws.

The common purchaser act was brought into the limelight recently when the Humble Oil & Refining Co. sought to reduce its takings of crude oil from wells not owned, offering to store oil produced by independent operators for a nominal charge. It was ruled that the company had to purchase ratably from all wells to which it was connected and from which it had been taking oil.

The calling of the special session of the Texas Legislature by Governor Sterling was noted in our issue of Nov. 5, p. 3064.

Natural Gasoline Production Declined in September—Inventories Show a Further Drop.

According to the United States Bureau of Mines, Department of Commerce, the production of natural gasoline in September 1932, totaled 117,300,000 gallons, compared with 118,400,000 gallons produced in August. Though this represents a decline of 1,100,000 gallons in total output, the daily average production showed a gain of 2%. The chief gains in output in September were recorded in the settled fields of Oklahoma and in the Rocky Mountain district. Stocks of natural gasoline held at the plants were reduced in September but the net withdrawal was considerably below the average for the preceding six months.

PRODUCTION OF NATURAL GASOLINE (THOUSANDS OF GALLONS).

Table showing production of natural gasoline for September 1932, August 1932, September 1931, and January 1932, categorized by region (Appalachian, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Oklahoma, etc.) and including total production and stocks.

fact, advances under the finance act are to-day at a very low level. At the close of business on Nov. 7 such advances amounted to only \$28,344,000 and when full advantage is taken of the recent arrangement the total will only slightly exceed \$40,000,000.

"Not only are advances under the finance act at a low level but our gold holdings are larger than a year ago. To-day our gold holdings represent 44.5% of the total Dominion note circulation as compared with 43.1% on the same date last year."

Canadian Proclamation Establishing 12-Mile Limit—Aimed At "Rum-Runners."

Canadian Press accounts from Ottawa Nov. 1 said:

As from to-day, Canada's maritime jurisdiction, so far as it affects Canadian-owned vessels, extends to 12 miles offshore, from low tide. This is the effect of a proclamation issued here to-day in an extra of the Canada Gazette.

Legislation establishing the 12-mile limit as territorial waters of Canada was passed by Parliament in 1931. The principle had previously been asserted, but, at the time of its incorporation into the statutes, it was being disputed in a law-suit before the Supreme Court of Canada. The Supreme Court decided the law to be ultra vires, and the Government then took the case to the judicial committee of the Privy Council.

Meanwhile the act was assented to, and carried the rider that it would become effective on proclamation of the Governor-in-Council.

The judicial committee of the Privy Council reversed the judgment of the Supreme Court, holding that Canada was within its rights in legislating territorial limits at sea for the operation of vessels owned by nationals of the country. This settled, the Government has now given effect to the enactment by proclaiming it to have come into force to-day.

Customs officials to-day declared that, primarily, the law was aimed at rum-runners.

Great Britain Reported as Seeking Further Moratorium on Debt to United States—Note Handed to Secretary of State Stimson—Conversations in Washington.]

A note from Great Britain on the subject of war debts was handed to Secretary of State Stimson in Washington on Nov. 10 by Sir Ronald Lindsay, British Ambassador to the United States, it was learned unofficially in London, said a cablegram (Nov. 10) to the New York "Journal of Commerce," which went on to say:

It is understood that the British note sought a temporary extension of the Hoover moratorium on European war debts payments due December 15, while the entire question is thrown open for negotiation of a new settlement which would entail a decrease in their amount.

While stating that Britain is willing to meet the installment due next month the note, it is said, contends that a payment at that time would create difficulty owing to present conditions. Under present exchange rates, due to the fall of the pound, the amount of the British payment is increased, it is pointed out.

In its Washington advices the same day (Nov. 10) the paper quoted said:

Interpreted in many quarters as the initial move of the European debtors to launch the long expected drive for a scaling down of their obligations to the United States, Sir Ronald Lindsay, British Ambassador, and Paul Claudel, French Ambassador, held conferences with Secretary of State Stimson to-day.

While State Department officials declined to comment, the impression was general that Sir Ronald handed Secretary Stimson a note setting forth the British fiscal position as beset with financial difficulties.

It is expected that a similar note will be received from France to-morrow.

Whether Sir Ronald reiterated the views expressed in London that Great Britain would pay if absolutely necessary was not disclosed, but it was recognized that the British position would be improved by a postponement of the December payment, and belief was expressed that this message was conveyed to Secretary Stimson. Nothing was expected from Secretary Stimson until the Government has had the opportunity to study carefully the British representations.

Officials Meet Mills.

Shortly after the Ambassador's call on Secretary Stimson State Department officials were in conference with Secretary of the Treasury Mills. It was believed that the debt issue was the paramount topic of consideration.

The British payment December 15 is \$65,550,000 interest and \$30,000,000 in principal. Under the optional clause of debt agreement London would have had the right to serve notice September 15 that the principal payment would be postponed.

The debt agreement also gives the Secretary of the Treasury the right, in his discretion, to waive the 90-day notice and permit postponement of the principal up to the time it is due. England did not give the 90-day notice and dispatches from London had indicated the intention to pay. Interest payments are non-postponeable under the debt agreements leaving the Government without authority to act unless Congress enacts the necessary legislation.

May Leave Issue to Roosevelt.

There was a disposition on the part of some officials to leave the debt question as a legacy for the Roosevelt Administration, although such vigorous representations may be made by Great Britain and other countries that in the interest of international credit stability President Hoover's Government may be forced to act. The Congressional attitude toward another moratorium is decidedly hostile.

President Hoover's decision to return directly to Washington instead of making the trip via the Panama Canal was linked with the debt situation. It was believed that the Administration felt it necessary to take definite action before the due date of the next debt payments so that the necessary recommendations could be made to Congress if this course was agreed upon.

Stanley Baldwin of Great Britain for New War Debt Deal—Lausanne Work Must Be Completed He Says at Lord Mayor's Dinner.

Stanley Baldwin, Lord President of the Council, who in the absence of Prime Minister MacDonald spoke for the British Government at the Lord Mayor's dinner in London Nov. 9, made a significant allusion to the Hoover disarma-

ment plan and clearly implied that ending of reparations at Lausanne should now be followed by a new deal on war debts. The foregoing is from a London cablegram Nov. 9 to the New York "Times" from which we also quote the following:

"The Lausanne agreement," said Mr. Baldwin, "aimed at an ultimate end of all reparations, and the signing of that settlement was obviously the first preliminary step open to all nations concerned toward a solution of the crisis which even now is paralyzing the trade world. It is essential that there should be ratification of that settlement and that the work begun at Lausanne should be completed."

This, of course, was interpreted by everybody at the brilliant dinner in Guildhall as an intimation that debts should follow reparations into the discard. The Lord Mayor in his speech had said without mentioning the election, "We wish the United States Godspeed and a happy issue out of all her difficulties."

After having declared Britain could go no further in unilateral disarmament, Mr. Baldwin said concerning the Geneva conference:

"One great difficulty has been how to unite the various plans proposed in one form or another. The Hoover plan is a case in point. It was a plan cordially and sincerely welcomed by His Majesty's Government as a very important contribution to the problem. In many ways those proposals were wholly and literally accepted by us. In other respects we had some modifications to suggest taking account of the various needs of the different nations concerned and we now have some suggestions of our own to put forward."

"Despite what I said of unilateral disarmament, yet we are as desirous as any country in the world to proceed rapidly with substantial disarmament because we believe disarmament is the best way of securing peace, and to that end our endeavor will be devoted at Geneva. His Majesty's Government are firmly resolved to stand by all obligations which they have undertaken in the Covenant of the League of Nations and co-operate with the League in every aspect of its work for the maintenance of peace and the promotion of social well-being."

Referring to the coming world economic conference, Mr. Baldwin said the auspicious proceedings at Lausanne and Ottawa made one trust the world conference might profit by the example already set it. Concluding, Mr. Baldwin said the signs of better times were not clear, but he thought they could be seen on the horizon.

London Paper Says Great Britain Will Pay United States—Asserts Government Will Not Ask Postponement.

A London cablegram Nov. 5 is quoted as follows:

The British Government does not intend in any circumstances to ask the United States for postponement of next month's debt payment, according to the "Daily Telegraph." At the same time it is probable, the "Telegraph" asserts, that in announcing its intention to pay Great Britain will remind the United States Government of the "very onerous circumstances" under which payment will be made.

The depreciated pound and the cessation of reparations receipts will be called to the attention of the United States after the election. The "Telegraph" says, but the "government will not consider for a moment the alternative of defaulting."

Change in Debt Stand Reported Hoped for in Greece—More Liberal American Policy is Seen as Result of Election.

From Athens Nov. 10 to the New York "Times" reported the following:

The Greek newspapers, commenting on Governor Roosevelt's victory in the American election, express hopefulness as to a change of attitude on the war debts.

The government newspaper Proia, attributing the Republicans' defeat to exaggerated conservatism, predicts a more liberal American policy on the debts, Manchuria and all European questions.

The newspapers ask why Greece has not followed France's example in advertising her wines early, but hope for an increase in Greek exports to France as a result of the expected improvement in the French wine situation.

United States Failed to Receive from Greece Payment Due Nov. 10 on Nonpostponable Debt—Hungary Also Announces Lack of Exchange to Meet Interest Payment Due.

The United States failed to receive from Greece a \$444,920 nonpostponable debt payment due Nov. 10, Ogden L. Mills, the Secretary of the Treasury, announced Nov. 10. Secretary Mills characterized the action as a default and as the first one, according to the "United States Daily" of Nov. 11, which further said:

Although the Greek payment, the first nonpostponable item to mature since the expiration of the one-year moratorium, was not received, the American Government does not believe that this fact forecasts the action of other debtors, according to oral statements made at the Treasury.

Secretary Mills at the same time announced that the Hungarian Government has notified him that it does not have the necessary foreign exchange to make a \$40,729 debt payment due Dec. 15. Hungary becomes the fifth government to seek a postponement of a debt payment under the terms of the war debt funding agreement: Estonia, Latvia, Poland and Germany already have postponed amounts totalling \$9,959,420, according to additional information.

First to Come Due.

The Greek payment was the first nonpostponable installment to come due. The Greek Government could not invoke an automatic treaty delay, as the other Governments have done and as she herself did on a \$130,000 payment due July 1 the first day after the expiration of the moratorium, according to additional information.

Although Hungary has notified of her inability to meet her December payment, she has no privilege under the debt funding agreement to postpone her interest payment, which amounts to \$23,444 of the total \$40,729, and will have to be in default unless Congress waives the requirement, it was explained orally.

Mr. Mills' Statement.

Secretary Mills' statement follows in full text:

There was due and payable to-day under the terms of the debt-funding agreement with the Government of Greece on account of the 4% 20-year loan made on May 10 1929, the sum of \$444,920, of which \$227,000 represents an installment due on account of principal, and \$217,920 represents semi-annual interest. The payment has not been received.

The Hungarian Government has officially notified the United States Government that it does not have the necessary foreign exchange with which to make the payment due the United States on Dec. 15 1932, under the debt-funding agreement. The amount due on Dec. 15 1932, is \$40,729.35, of which \$12,285 represents principal and \$28,444.35 represents semi-annual interest.

South Africa Amends Treaty With Germany to Exempt British Empire Preference From Most-Favored-Nation Treatment—Change in Accord With Ottawa Agreement.

The treaty of commerce and navigation, which became effective June 11 1929 between the Union of South Africa and Germany has been amended to exclude from the operation of most-favored-nation treatment, preferential tariff rates granted by the Union to imports from the British Empire, said a cablegram received in the Department of Commerce from Minister Ralph J. Totten, Pretoria. The Department on Oct. 27 further reported:

Section 8 of the treaty provided for mutual unconditional most-favored-nation treatment, with the exception of reductions already granted by South Africa to the United Kingdom, Canada, and New Zealand, and, in effect, assured Germany the benefit of any additional preferences that might later be extended to the British Empire. The effect of this amendment is to exclude from the operation of this clause any such new preferences which the Union, in accordance with the agreements entered into at the Imperial Conference at Ottawa, has undertaken to accord to the various parts of the Empire.

The agreement, entered into by an exchange of notes, is subject to ratification and will become effective on the date of the exchange of ratifications at Pretoria. The amendment will be applied provisionally as from Oct. 24, except in regard to goods shipped to South Africa before Oct. 13.

Bahamas Increase Import Duties With Wider Margin of Preference to British Empire Imports.

An announcement, as follows, was issued Nov. 4 by the United States Department of Commerce:

The Bahaman Assembly on Nov. 1 voted to increase the general tariff rate from 12½% to 20% ad valorem (applying generally to all imports except on a special category of agricultural products, goods separately dutiable, and articles included in the free list), and also to widen the margin of preference on imports from the British Empire by increasing the rebate from one-fourth to one-half of the duty, according to a cablegram received in the Department of Commerce from Consul John P. Hurley, Nassau.

It is stated that the new duties will not become effective until Nov. 8, and that the question of the treatment of goods in transit, particularly consignment shipments, will receive consideration.

At the same time increased duties were recommended by the Government on some 70 tariff classifications, the new duties to be made provisionally effective by orders-in-council pending discussion by the Legislature.

United Kingdom Announces Termination of Russian Commercial Treaty.

Under date of Oct. 20, the Department of Commerce at Washington said:

The British Government has announced that the temporary commercial agreement with Russia will be terminated on April 17 1933, according to a cablegram received to-day in the Department of Commerce from Commercial Attaché William L. Cooper, London. The agreement, signed on April 16 1930, and subject to denunciation on six months' notice by either party, provided for reciprocal most-favored-nation treatment in trade.

It is stated that this action is taken as a result of the United Kingdom-Canada agreement signed at the Ottawa Conference, under which provision is made to prohibit the entry of goods from any foreign country the prices for which are created or maintained "directly or indirectly by State action" in such country, thereby threatening to frustrate the preferences granted in the agreement.

Federated Malay States Accord Further British Duty Preferences.

Duty changes made by the Federated Malay States Government, effective Oct. 14, in line with the agreements concluded at the Ottawa Conference, accord further duty preferences to British products and affect principally textiles, rubber manufactures (including tires and tubes), canned fruits, printing paper, certain metal manufactures, batteries, and tanned hides and skins, it was made known in a radiogram received in the Department of Commerce from Trade Commissioner Frank S. Williams, Singapore.

Report of Royal Commission Endorses British Dole—Urges Extension to Include Domestic and Farm Workers—Would Amortize Big Debts—Findings Call for Reduction in Total Expenditure by More Flexible Relief.

The majority report of the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance, made public at London on Nov. 7

(said a London cablegram to the New York "Times") upholds the "dole" system as the "first line of defense over a large part of the field of employment for a great majority of the unemployed." Further indicating the conclusions of the report the cablegram to the "Times" continued:

Moreover, it recommends certain extensions in the system to include domestic servants, and it would include under a separate plan a system of benefits for unemployed agricultural workers. The Commission's investigation required two years.

The majority and minority reports agreed that the State should be responsible for training and educating unemployed persons, especially young men and women.

The report of the Commission was well received by members of the Tory majority in Parliament, and it is likely the Government will adopt the recommendations despite inevitable bitter opposition from the Labor party and unemployed workers.

The present debt on the unemployment insurance fund amounts to £115,000,000, which the Commission would transfer to a separate account to be amortized in 65 years.

Report Goes to Parliament.

The majority report was represented to Parliament today, signed by the Chairman of the Commission, Judge Holman Gregory, and his six associates. The Commission recommends various economies and would take the question out of politics by setting up a permanent statutory commission to guide the Government on the flexible administration of insurance in accordance with conditions prevailing at any given period.

The minority report, also presented to Parliament, was signed by two Socialist members of the Committee, W. Asbury and Mrs. D. O. Rackham, and recommends that unemployed persons receive benefits as long as they are out of work, regardless of whether they are insured. The minority also would completely abolish the so-called means test now in operation to determine the actual need of uninsured jobless persons.

In other words, the minority Socialist suggestion is based on the assumption that society is at fault for unemployment and should be held responsible for compensating any man out of work. The majority answer to this is that such a basis for unemployment compensation could exist only in a State which controlled industry.

In Britain, however, the State controls only one-tenth of employment, and before giving relief must have guarantees that it is needed and will not result in the personal deterioration of the recipient, the report held, thus upholding the means test, which has caused so much bitterness. The standards of relief, says the majority report, must depend on the general level of national prosperity and the amount of public funds available. The amounts paid for relief, it says, must always be less than the prevailing wage rate.

The majority report criticizes successive British Government for making provision for financing unemployment on too low estimates of the number of workless. For the last 11 years, the report asserts, the average unemployment has been 13% annually. The governments, according to the report, in adopting a hand-to-mouth policy, had figured on totals lower than that and the "interests both of employers and employed have been sacrificed to political expediency."

The Commission says various emergency measures in recent years have resulted in a complicated body of laws which should bow be superseded by a consolidated act to get rid of anomalies and make jobless insurance workable. Parliament, according to the Commission, is not the best qualified group to control the situation. There should be appointed a permanent statutory commission outside of the political arena to advise the Government, the report holds.

Such a commission, it adds, by contact with industrial organizations, should keep the whole matter of unemployment in constant review and suggest to the Government each year what changes, if any, should be made in the rates of insurance benefits payable and what premiums should be contributed by employers and insured persons.

Flexible Period for "Dole."

Instead of a fixed period of 26 weeks, to which the insured jobless man is now entitled to benefit in any one year, the Commission recommends minimum and maximum periods ranging from 13 to 39 weeks, for which insured persons would be entitled to benefits according to the number of contributory payments previously made to the fund.

The report says that because of the seasonal character of farm labor it is inadvisable to try to make the present insurance scheme cover unemployed agricultural laborers, but that some separate plan should be devised for their benefit. As to assistance for unemployed and uninsured jobless persons, the majority report says

"A method of assistance must be adopted that will be acceptable to the public conscience."

Such assistance would be extended to all workless persons under 63 years old in the industrial field who involuntarily were unemployed and were honestly seeking work and not out of jobs because of strikes. Assistance to such persons must be entirely outside the scope of the humiliating poor laws, the Commission says, and the cost should be borne chiefly by the national exchequer, supplemented by contributions from local authorities.

The cost of the Government of benefits paid to unemployed and uninsured persons and jobless persons who did not qualify as insured amounted in 1928 to £11,800,000. In 1932 this total was £80,500,000. If the present system were continued with no reforms, the Commission estimates that the cost for the coming year would be £84,600,000, with no provisions made for freeing the system of the present load of debt.

By the adoption of the changes it recommends, the Commission estimates that for the coming year, on a basis of 3,000,000 persons unemployed, the cost to the Government would be £81,670,000, but that total contains an annual provision for amortization. The Commission does not recommend any alteration in the amount contributed to the insurance fund now made by the Exchequer, employers and workers.

Except for very minor modifications, it recommends the continuance of the existing rate of benefits. It recommends that young persons should begin paying insurance premiums as soon as they enter employment, provided they are not below 14 years old, the legal age for leaving school.

Great Britain Plans to Ease Means Test for Dole—Would Allow for War Pensions, Workmen's Compensation and Any Savings Funds.

A wireless message Nov. 9 from London to the New York "Times" is authority for the statement that the British Government revealed that night its plans for removing some irritations in connection with the administration of the highly contentious "Means test," which originally was

designed to prevent payment of a full dole to unemployed persons of substance. The message added:

At an estimated cost to the taxpayer of about £1,000,000 a year it is proposed to instruct the public assistance committees when, assessing the need of applicants for State relief, henceforth to disregard at least a half of any war pensions and at least half of any workmen's compensation payment for injury and the first 25 of any savings.

Every subsequent £25 savings would be deemed to produce an income of 1s. a week.

Laborites vigorously opposed any form of test, but the Government is determined that it shall remain, a spokesman contending that the proposed bill is the best means of obtaining greater uniformity in administration of the test, lack of which hitherto has been one of the chief causes of complaint. Leave to introduce the bill was granted by a vote of 267 to 43.

British Lists Opened for Final Loan Conversion.

On Nov. 7 Associated Press advices from London stated:

The lists were opened to-day for the final conversion loan, totaling £1,028,000,000 (about \$3,382,000,000), which the Government is floating to pay off the remainder of the unconverted war loans and 5% Treasury bonds.

The sale opened at three-eighths of 1% discount, subscriptions totaling less than was expected. After a few hours, however, the quotation rallied to one-eighth of 1% discount. Applicants for amounts up to £5,000 received full allotments. Others obtained about 75% of their applications.

This loan completes conversion of the British long-term credit to practically a 3% basis.

New 2% British Treasury Bonds of \$150,000,000 Reported Well Received.

Under date of Nov. 4 an announcement by the U. S. Department of Commerce said:

Cash subscribers to the recent issue of £150,000,000 2% British Treasury bonds, 1935-38, have now received their allotments on the basis of 47% of the amount applied for, and dealings in the new bonds opened at a small premium, according to a report to the Commerce Department from Trade Commissioner Roger R. Townsend, London.

An unusual feature of the new issue was that no commission was allowed to banks and brokers on cash subscriptions, although a commission of 1/8% was allowed in respect of conversion applications. The immediate success of this new issue, despite the unusually low rate of interest offered, had a stimulating effect on the bond market and particularly in the gilt edged section.

No announcement has been made of the total amount of cash subscriptions, or of the amount applied for by holders of the £140,000,000 of 4 1/2% Treasury bonds who were offered the option of conversion into the new issue in place of redemption on Dec. 1, when the outstanding bonds will be repaid. The new issue was well received and the cash subscription offer was closed within an hour of being opened.

The new 2% bonds are repayable on April 15 1938 but may be redeemed at the option of the Treasury on or after April 15 1935. They were offered to cash subscribers at par, but those who accepted the conversion offered received a cash bonus at the rate of 10 shillings per £100, or 1/8%, on the amount of their holdings of the 4 1/2% bonds thus converted.

The new 2% issue was referred to in these columns Oct. 15, page 2581.

Re-election of Montagu Norman as Governor of Bank of England Again Recommended.

A London cablegram Nov. 10 to the New York "Journal of Commerce" said:

The re-election of Montagu Norman as Governor of the Bank of England was recommended to-day at the meeting of the Court of Governors. They also recommended the re-election of Sir Ernest Musgrave as Deputy Governor.

Mr. Norman held the post of Governor of the Bank of England for the longest period in the history of the bank. Through the past decade he was re-elected each time his term ended. He is said to have been largely responsible for the return of England to gold in 1925 on a 4.86 basis.

Lord Cullen Dead—Formerly Governor of Bank of England.

Under date of Nov. 4 United Press advices from London to the New York "World-Telegram" said:

Lord Cullen of Ashbourne, 68, who played an important part in Great Britain's finances through the World War and the first of the critical post-years, died yesterday. As Brien Cokayne he was Governor of the Bank of England from 1918 to 1920.

It is noted that Brien Cokayne was made a Knight Commander of the British Empire in 1917 and was created the first Baron Cullen of Ashbourne three years later.

London Chamber of Commerce Urges Barter with 35 Countries to Free Frozen Credits.

Contending it had better do some trade on a primitive barter basis than do no trade at all, the London Chamber of Commerce on Nov. 10 published a scheme for the reversion to a temporary form of barter with 35 foreign countries which have imposed severe restrictions on currency exchanges with Great Britain. A London cablegram Nov. 10 to the New York "Times" from which we quote added:

The chamber suggests that representatives of the Central Banks or the Governments of the 35 countries should immediately discuss the establishment of clearing houses to provide machinery for the exchange of goods between traders. Under the proposed system checks or vouchers would be issued for goods.

An agreement between two countries to adopt the scheme with legislative sanction would permit the Central Banks of the two countries to fix their own internal par value of an external trade barter unit or "barter bond," negotiable only between the two countries.

Excess sales by one country to the other would lead to the accumulation of barter bonds, which it is thought would automatically bring about a corrective in the form of a reduction in later sales or an increase in purchases from the other country as the only means of liquidating the bonds.

By this system, the London Chamber of Commerce contends frozen credits could be released immediately, if foreign Governments undertook to issue ten-year guaranteed barter bonds, payable one-tenth each year, covered by an agreed excess of exports over imports.

Neville Chamberlain, British Chancellor, Sees Business Recovery but Rejects Remonetization of Silver to Aid Idle.

Neville Chamberlain, British Chancellor of the Exchequer, assured the House of Commons at the close of the three-day unemployment debate on Nov. 8 that the Governments' economic policies would bear fruit soon in a revival of industry and an increase of work. A London cablegram Nov. 8 to the New York "Times" went on to say:

He rejected the proposals to remonetize silver that Sir Robert Horne had advanced as a remedy for unemployment. Bringing in silver to help gold would not be useful in the present circumstances, said the Chancellor. He similarly rejected proposals that the Government help industry with credits and thus stimulate employment.

Warns Against Pessimism.

"It is very easy to waste money," said the Chancellor, "trying to provide employment by inducing authorities or individuals to undertake work that would certainly not be done except to increase employment. After all, if a thing is a profitable enterprise, why is it not going on now?"

"Don't let's be too pessimistic, because there are signs in many quarters that the effect of measures we have taken is beginning to show itself."

New Australian Loan of £8,000,000.

Subscription lists of a new ten-year £8,000,000 3 3/4% Commonwealth loan were opened on Nov. 6 and will remain open until Dec. 5 if the issue is not oversubscribed meanwhile, said Canadian Press accounts from Canberra, Australia, Nov. 6, which added:

Half of the proceeds of the loan will be used to fund Treasury bills and the remainder for financing public works to reduce unemployment. Interest on the loan will be exempt from State income tax, from any general increase in the Federal income tax and from the 10% Federal supertax. The loan is being underwritten by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and trading banks and will be sold at par.

The new loan was referred to in our issue of Nov. 5, p.3071.

New Zealand Maturing Loans to Be Renewed.

Associated Press advices from Wellington (New Zealand) Nov. 7 stated that Prime Minister Forbes announced that day that negotiations have been completed whereby New Zealand's municipal loans maturing soon will be renewed for periods ranging from 10 to 15 years to save the costs of exchange involved at present in the transfer of the accumulated sinking funds for repayment of the loans.

British Raise Duty on Irish Products—Treasury Acts to Offset Loss Due to Free State's Failure to Meet Obligations—Britain Induces Argentina, Australia and New Zealand to Reduce Exports of Meats.

A cablegram from London Nov. 7 is taken as follows from the New York "Times":

A further move in the economic war between Great Britain and the Irish Free State was made to-night by the British when a new treasury order was issued, doubling the import duties on Irish live cattle shipped to England and increasing by 50% the duties on Irish pork, poultry and dairy products.

This action was taken under a provision of the special duties act authorizing the British Treasury to recompense itself for any losses due to Ireland's failure to meet her financial obligations to Great Britain. This law is now invoked because of the Free State's refusal to pay to Britain land annuities amounting to £5,000,000 [about \$16,562,000] annually.

The duties of 20% on live cattle imposed by a treasury order last July are now increased to 40%, and the 20% duties on pork and dairy products are raised 30%.

Major Walter Elliott, the Minister of Agriculture, revealed to-night the drastic measures the Government has taken to restrict meat imports for the next two months and to help British live stock farmers over a desperate emergency.

He announced Argentine exporters had agreed voluntarily to cut exports of mutton and lamb to Great Britain by 20% and exports of chilled beef by 10%, and by 20 later if necessary. Australia and New Zealand, he said, were ready to cut their exports of mutton and lamb to Great Britain by 20%, and the Scandinavian countries had been asked for similar restrictions on their bacon and ham exports, and would probably agree.

Such a scheme was preferable, said Major Elliott, to taxing meat imports, which would have meant taxing dominion produce and violating the spirit of the Ottawa agreements.

Irish Cattle Market Affected by Increases in British Tariffs—Price of Dairy Cows Drop \$9.90.

Stating that the cattle market showed signs of collapsing on Nov. 10, as a result of the increased British tariffs against Free State live stock, the price of dairy cows falling £3 [about \$9.90 at current exchange] apiece, a Dublin message on that date to the New York "Times" said:

Prices are so low that the owners of live stock hesitate to sell, but the time is approaching when they will have no option.

A new schedule of twenty-six duties against British goods was announced on the Dail to-day. Most of the articles had already been taxed, but the rate of duty is now increased to 50% with a preferential rate of one-third on imperial produce.

The articles include about all classes of goods manufactured of wood and also toys exceeding a value of one shilling.

Dublin to Reimburse Exporters for Duties—Will Pay Equivalent Bounties on Irish Manufactured Articles to Meet British Exactions.

According to a Dublin cablegram Nov. 9 to the New York "Times" the Irish Free State Government announced that night that it would pay bounties on all articles locally manufactured to the equivalent of the duty that will be imposed on them after next Tuesday, when imperial preferences end between Britain and Southern Ireland. The cablegram added:

The articles include malt, marble, stone, brooms, brushes, candles, oils, paper, stationery, jute, cotton, linen, wools, carpets, shirts, hosiery and gloves.

The special British duties on goods from the Free State are designed to raise about £5,000,000 [about \$16,500,000 at current exchange] yearly, representing payments in respect of the land and other annuities being withheld by the Free State.

The imposition of an additional duty on Free State cattle yesterday resulted in remarkable scenes in Belfast to-day. Twenty special cattle trains were rushed to the city, but few arrived in time to escape the duty.

Finance Commission of French Chamber of Deputies Delays War Debt—Debate Awaiting the Outcome of Diplomatic Negotiations.

In a cablegram from Paris, Nov. 9, to the New York "Times" it was stated that the Finance Commission of the Chamber of Deputies decided that day to postpone parliamentary debate on the motion by Deputy Louis Marin calling for reconsideration of the whole question of inter-allied debts "because it might interfere with diplomatic negotiations now going on." The cablegram continued:

M. Marin's motion indicated that readjustment of war debts should be sought before France's next payment to the United States falls due on Dec. 15.

Nevertheless, the Finance Commission studied M. Marin's proposal carefully and opinions regarding its merits were exchanged. It was recalled that the Chamber, in 1929, adopted a "safeguard" resolution which specified that all France's debt payments would be conditional on receipt of equal reparation payments from Germany.

Therefore, the French Government may consider itself automatically relieved of the necessity of meeting the Dec. 15 payment, inasmuch as the Lausanne conference abolished reparations.

Simultaneous Cut in Debts and Arms Urged by Henry Berenger of France.

From Associated Press advices from Paris, Nov. 4, it is learned that Henry Berenger, co-negotiator of the Mellon-Berenger debt accord, said in an address that day that the impending economic and disarmament conferences should decide that war debts must be reduced simultaneously with war armaments. He is quoted as saying:

War which may come already has cost 150,000,000,000 francs (about \$6,000,000,000).

We must do away with the double burden of gold and steel if humanity is to find prosperity."

He spoke over the radio under the auspices of the International Association "Messages."

French Railway Makes Profit in Retiring Bonds.

The following is from the New York "Sun" of Nov. 4:

The Paris Lyons Mediterranean Railway of France is saving on interest and at the same time retiring an obligation in depreciated sterling, making an exchange profit, through issuing 45,000,000 guilders (about \$18,000,000) of 4½% bonds in equal portions in Holland and Switzerland. It is reported the purpose is to repay by call at 103 £5,000,000 6% sterling loan of 1922. Because the franc is upon the gold standard, while the British pound is at a discount of 30%, it will cost the French about \$16,500,000 to buy back an issue of bonds which, were sterling at par, would require more than \$24,000,000.

The new Dutch-Swiss issue is a 20-year loan, redeemable after 1938. The issue price will be around 97¼.

Monaco to Submit to French Taxation—Principality Prepares to Give Up Independence in Return for Financial Help—France Is Said to Have Obtained Permission to Fortify Rock in the Event of War.

From Monte Carlo, Nov. 8, advices to the New York "Times" said:

Financial difficulties may force the principality of Monaco to surrender its independence and accept French control, it was learned here on good authority to-day.

Agreements are said to have been drawn up by which in return for 13,000,000 francs (the franc is worth about 4 cents) in cash and a perpetual annuity of 3,750,000 francs Monaco will give to France customs privileges and supervision of her finances. A bill, said to be sponsored by Premier Herriot, has been prepared for the French Chamber of Deputies.

The bill has been approved by Maurice Bouilloux-Lafont, Minister of State of Monaco.

Monaco adopted this arrangement to do away with one of the prized privileges of her citizens, freedom from taxation, and residents will be subject henceforth to the taxation imposed on citizens of France. Foreigners who established themselves in Monte Carlo and drew dividends from investments in Monaco free of taxes would come under the new taxation.

The proposed treaty with Monaco is said to contain a clause providing for the right of France to fortify the Monaco rock in the event of war "with a foreign power."

In publishing the above the "Times" of Nov. 9 stated:

Monaco is a principality on the Mediterranean amid the French Department of Alpes Maritimes. The principality was abolished under the French Revolution after having existed since 968, but was re-established in 1814. Since 1861 it has been an enclave of France.

Financial troubles of Monaco became acute in 1930 with the decline in income of the Monte Carlo gambling casino, which had provided most of the revenue. Accompanying threats to oust Prince Louis II caused the Prince to dissolve the elected National Council on Dec. 26 1930, and to suspend some of the constitutional guarantees.

The gambling casino paid about \$400,000 yearly to Monaco beginning in 1917; \$450,000 yearly beginning in 1927. The contract for the concession calls for a yearly payment of about \$500,000 in 1937. Very little is paid now. The industrial depression caused a slump in gambling until the casino was forced to put in slot machines to gain stray francs from those who formerly played for high stakes.

Marketing of 830,000,000-Franc Issue of Five-Year Treasury Bills by Belgian Banks.

On Oct. 27 an announcement issued by the Department of Commerce at Washington said:

A group of Belgian banks assumed the responsibility of marketing the 830,000,000-franc issue of five-year Treasury bills authorized by the Finance Law of September 16. The principal loan of 1,500,000,000 francs provided for by the same law was temporarily withheld, presumably until the completion of the French loan conversion operations, as a substantial portion of the funds would doubtless have to be obtained in France, it was stated.

Holland Backs Gold Basis—Government Says Dropping Standard Would Hurt Country.

From The Hague Nov. 7 the New York "Times" reported the following:

Holland's struggle to maintain the gold standard will be continued by all the means in her power, the Government explained to-day, saying the "presumed advantages of abandoning the gold standard are partly illusory and partly temporary."

In a memorandum prepared at the request of the Lower House's budget committee, the Government remarked that the "disadvantages would make themselves felt in a tangible manner immediately and for a long term to come, while their extent and duration would be quite incalculable."

The Government insists that those countries that have gone off the gold standard will return to it in due course, while those that have held fast to gold will reap a reward for having kept faith with their own citizens and foreign investors.

Trouble in Financing Imports into Germany—Trade Revival Finds Provision of Raw Materials Obstructed by Circumstances.

Advices as follows from Berlin Nov. 5 appeared in the New York "Times":

Banks express fear that inability to finance import of raw materials may check industrial recovery. Except for cotton, import of all sorts of materials has declined this year and only consumers who are financially strong are holding large stocks of cotton. Recent import of raw materials averaged monthly only \$50,000,000, as against \$150,000,000 in 1928.

The amount of acceptance credits available for import under the standstill agreement has fallen 10% since March. Compulsion on German exporters to grant constantly longer credits, up to three years, in business with Italy, the Balkans and Russia, aggravates the situation. It is feared that shortage of raw materials, due to inability to finance imports, may cause undue rise in home prices. In view of the superfluity of materials in America and the heavy decline of the outstanding American trade credits shown by the last report of the American Acceptance Council, business men hope that some arrangement to facilitate German imports may be possible.

Interest Burden of German Farmers Temporarily Lightened by Presidential Decree.

Easing of the interest burden on German farmers is provided in a new presidential decree, says a report from the Commercial Attache's office in Berlin to the Commerce Department which on Oct. 29 also stated:

According to this decree all rates on mortgages are temporarily reduced by 2%, except that a minimum of 4% is established. This is the second interest reduction by Presidential decree and as a result a large portion of the German farm mortgages are now bearing 4½% interest, it is pointed out.

Under the terms of the decree, the reduction in interest extends to Oct. 1 1934. At that time, the interest saved can be added to the principal of the mortgage debt and will become due at the end of the amortization period. No interest can be charged on the deferred interest payments.

It is pointed out that this decree applies only to farm mortgages and not to mortgage bonds.

Germany Reported Seeking 20,000,000 Bushels of U. S. Corn.

Officials of the U. S. Department of Commerce indicated on Nov. 4 that they had received word that German importers were preparing to start negotiations in the United States for the purchase of upward of 20,000,000 bushels of corn for stock feed. A Washington dispatch, Nov. 4, to

the New York "Journal of Commerce" reporting this further said:

John H. Bruins, American Consul at Hamburg, reported that part of this requirement, if not all, would be sought in America, although the Argentine competition was brisk.

In discussing Mr. Bruins's report Department officials said they were aware of Germany's recent financial situation, but were inclined to regard the reported corn purchase plan as a sign of improvement. German interests were represented as weighing American and the Argentine prices before beginning the contemplated negotiations, but were expected to reach a decision soon.

Only a small price difference between American and the Argentine corn now exists, it was said, and Mr. Bruins was understood to have expressed the opinion that American corn would receive preferential consideration because hog raisers in Germany like it better than the South American product.

Felix Pope, the Commerce Department's grain authority, explained that the amount the German interests would purchase in this country would obviously depend upon the price relation of American corn with that of its competitors. He said the demand would be for "No. 2 mixed" chiefly, but there likely would be some for "No. 2 yellow" and "No. 3 white" as well.

Simultaneously with the receipt of Mr. Bruins's report the Department's grain division compiled statistics on last week's corn exports, showing shipments of 1,140,000 bushels, the largest outgoing movement of the year. Approximately all this shipment went to Canada from the Chicago market.

The shipment last week was more than one-third of the entire exports from July 1 to Oct. 31 1931, according to Department records. In the week preceding the heavy Canadian shipment, the outbound movement of corn totaled 353,000 bushels, while in the corresponding week of 1931 the exports amounted to only 1,000 bushels.

New Wheat Tariff in Effect in Germany.

A new wheat tariff was in effect in Germany on Nov. 2 imposing a duty of 7.50 marks (about \$1.77) a ton on wheat imported on import certificates. Associated Press advices from Berlin reporting this further said:

This tariff will not affect wheat brought into Germany under ordinary tariff schedules, but only that grain previously brought in duty-free on certificates issued by the government against wheat exported earlier in the year.

The government in the Spring inaugurated the certificate system whereby an exporter could sell wheat and receive a certificate entitling him to import a like amount into Germany duty-free. The proposal was put into effect to permit German farmers to raise cash necessary for taxes or improvements.

With the ordinary tariff of 250 marks (about \$60) a ton for wheat these certificates had a negotiable value and lately have dropped to about 140 marks (about \$33) per certificate ton.

With the inland price of wheat varying around 197 marks a ton of 36 bushels, the differential is still too great to permit extensive importing, except in the case of Canadian hard wheats needed for milling mixtures. Recently Manitobas 1 or 2 have been selling c. i. f. Hamburg at 91 marks a ton, but even the drop in the price of certificates to 140 marks makes Manitoba wheat cost 231 marks a ton inside the country, against 197 marks for domestic wheat.

Plan to Increase Trade with Germany Through Creation of International Clearing House.

Through the creation of the International Waren Clearing G. m. b. H., greater facilities are now being provided for exporters and importers to enlarge their trading activities with Germany, it was made known on Nov. 4, said the New York "Journal of Commerce" of Nov. 5, from which we also quote as follows:

To overcome the increasing difficulties which confront international trading the creation of a clearing house for the interchange of goods is deemed by both importers and exporters as a means of facilitating foreign commerce.

Acts as Mediator.

More than 100 export and import concerns have joined the International Waren Clearing G. m. b. H., according to the American Import Merchant. Serving on the board of directors are Gustav Scipio, President of the Bremen Chamber of Commerce; the former managing director of the North German Lloyd Line, Ernest Glassel, and other prominent business men. The organization acts as mediator between exporters and importers and facilitates the exchange of goods with foreign countries to a larger extent than the Government exchange regulations would ordinarily permit to individual firms.

While it is true that the German Government has restricted the quantity of imports into Germany, nevertheless, under the clearing house plan it is said to be possible to increase the amount, provided it can be proved and justified through additional exports of German goods. The International Waren Clearing G. m. b. H. collects data on possible new foreign trade and endeavors thereby to facilitate business for both importers and exporters. The company is issuing query sheets giving detailed information as to the trading contemplated with the name of the company interested. When the parties to a contract are arranged the clearing house company seeks the approval of the governmental authorities to the transaction.

Although it is said the clearing house medium is not absolutely necessary to the American importers in their transactions with Germany, it does afford them an additional means of extending their trading operations. An application to the clearing house for registration may lead to enlarged trading between American exports and importers, it is stated.

German Decree Bans Payment by Foreign Purchasers in German Securities—Payment Required in Cash.

From Berlin the "Wall Street Journal" of Nov. 5 reported the following:

Payment by foreign purchasers of German goods with German securities, instead of cash, has been banned by decree. An exception is made, however, in the case of exports to a country having exchange restrictions. The consent of the German exchange office is necessary in such cases.

The decree has been brought about by the extensive trading in German securities during recent months for foreign account, although these transactions are mostly forbidden.

German Construction Projects Financed by Loans, Two-Thirds of Which Booked as "Lost" When Loan Is Made.

Several construction jobs are under way in Germany as a result of the reconstruction program of the new German Cabinet, it is made known in a report from the American Consulate at Hamburg, made public by the Commerce Department. The Department on Nov. 5 further said:

One of these, the causeway under construction on the Island of Sylt, is being carried forward under a plan whereby two-thirds of the 1,500,000 reichsmarks appropriated by the Federal authorities is booked as "lost" while the balance is considered a loan to the local authorities.

A number of smaller projects are underway and others planned. In the past few months, the number of registered unemployed in Germany has been reduced materially.

(Mark equals about 23.8 cents.)

Improvement Seen in German Unemployment Problem.

Improvement in the unemployment situation in Germany is indicated in a report from Vice-Consul C. W. Gray, Berlin, made public by the Commerce Department Nov. 2, which shows that registered unemployed at the end of September totaled 5,100,000 persons, as compared with 5,225,000 in the previous month and 6,128,000 in February 1932. The Department likewise said:

Although there has been some change in the method of determining unemployed, it is pointed out that reports throughout Germany tend to prove that more persons are returning to gainful pursuits. The decline from the February peak has been gradual and consistent.

A seasonal gain in unemployment is considered normal during the next four months.

Berlin Marketing Tax Certificates—First of Government's New Paper for Future Payments of Levies Sell at 90.

A cablegram from Berlin, Nov. 1, is taken as follows from the New York "Times":

The great event to-day on the Bourse was the introduction of the Government's tax-redemption certificates, which were quoted officially for the first time since they were created in Chancellor von Papen's economic reconstruction plan last August.

The certificates handed out were those for the payment of turnover and certain other taxes and can be used for the payment of those taxes between April 1934 and April 1938. By selling the certificates in the bond market, employers were to be provided immediately with funds for hiring additional workmen, thereby mitigating unemployment. The success of the Chancellor's plan depends therefore chiefly on whether there is a good market for the certificates.

There were practically no certificates available to-day to satisfy a large demand. It was reported that only 800 marks of certificates were offered, as against a total demand of well over 500,000 marks. Acting as agent for the Reichsbank, the Deutsche Bank furnished the necessary amount of certificates.

The largest business was done in the first set of certificates, which may be used for tax payments beginning on April 1 1934. On a turnover of about 500,000 marks they were quoted at 90¼. Other sets of four certificates, maturing on April 1 1935, and the same date in subsequent years until 1938 were quoted at 85, 80, 75½ and 71.

The stock market was quiet to-day without anything to stimulate interest. Realizing sales gave rise to all sorts of rumors, which resulted in a gradual decline of prices. The stagnation was due in part also to the Catholic holiday and the fact that general interest was concentrated in the tax certificates. Bonds also showed a tendency to decline.

Differential on German Dollar Security Quotations No Longer Significant.

Under date of Oct. 25, an announcement by the Department of Commerce at Washington said:

Because of the narrower margin between the Berlin and New York quotations on dollar securities and of the special restrictions recently enacted by the German foreign exchange control board, it is thought that it will not be possible for Germans to repatriate dollar bonds and stimulate exports at the same time so extensively as has been the case since June, when quotation of German securities on domestic exchanges was again permitted, according to a report by Vice Consul A. N. Steyne, Hamburg, made public by the Commerce Department.

While no accurate figures are obtainable as the total value of the dollar obligations repatriated since June, or of the additional exports made possible, it is believed by trade observers that the amounts have been considerable.

The Foreign Exchange Control Bureau has allowed concerns engaged in foreign trade to retain a proportion of their dollar receipts, received in payment for merchandise exported, when such goods could not otherwise be sold at a profit. This amount could then be utilized in New York to purchase German dollar industrial and state obligations which were resold in Germany at considerable gains, depending upon the security and the date of transaction. The practice, however, is self-annulling, as increased purchases of securities on the American market and sales in Germany tend to reduce the difference between the quotations in the two markets. As a consequence, the German premium has declined from a general average of 25% a few months ago to about 13% in the latter part of September.

Germany's Silver Coinage Program Believed to Have Exhausted Most of Present Possibilities.

The U. S. Department of Commerce stated on Nov. 3 that it believed locally that Germany's program of coining silver in an effort to reduce note circulation has about exhausted present possibilities in that direction, according to a report from Consul Sydney B. Redecker, Frankfort-on-Main. In the past year and a half, Germany has been an

outstanding buyer of silver in the international market, says the Department, which adds:

In 1931, Germany's metal coinage increased by 45% to a total of 1,371,000,000 marks. The expansion continued in 1932 and at the end of August there were 1,672,000,000 marks of this character on the market. The expansion of this type of money was authorized by a decree in July 1931 which made possible the increase of metal coinage from about 20 marks per capita to 30 marks.

By issuing metal coins in large numbers, Germany has been able to withdraw large amounts of paper currency, amounting, according to recent estimates, to as much as a billion marks. This lowered, by a corresponding amount, the required gold currency reserves.

Another factor in this coinage program has been the profit to the Government resulting from the operations. Owing to the low price of silver, it is reported locally that each mark minted represents a profit of between 78 and 85 pfennigs, or about 400%.

A reaction in trade circles against the coinage program is becoming evident, the report said, and large amounts are returning to the Reich Bank. At this time, the return flow has resulted in a stock of silver metal coins amounting to about 304,000,000 marks as compared with a normal stock of about 75,000,000 marks.

Germany imported 958,936 kilograms of silver in 1931 as compared with 224,580 in 1930; and 728,223 kilograms in the first seven months of this year as compared with 71,479 kilograms in the same period of 1931.

(German mark equal to about 23.75 cents, United States.)

World Currency Ridiculed—German Writer Insists on Return to True Gold Standard.

From Berlin, Oct. 21, the New York "Times" reported the following:

Alfred Lansburgh, Editor of Die Bank, rejects as impracticable and unnecessary the suggestions to create a world currency or a European currency. He declares that the purposes of the currency enthusiasts would be realized only if the country were to return to the pre-war system of a genuine gold standard.

In other words, Germany would have to abandon what he calls the spurious gold-exchange standard.

Germany Repays On Instalment On Lee, Higginson Credit.

The "Wall Street Journal" of Nov. 9 reported the following from Berlin:

German treasury has repaid punctually the second \$3,000,000 instalment on the \$125,000,000 Lee Higginson credit.

Death Of Henry Nathan, Director Of Dresdner Bank Of Berlin.

The death of Henry Nathan, 71 years of age, a Director of the Dresdner Bank of Berlin and one of Germany's prominent financiers, was reported in United Press advices to the "Wall Street Journal" of Nov. 9.

Essener Bank, German Co-operative Institution, Reported Closed.

Associated Press advices from Essen (Germany), Nov. 11, stated:

The Essener Bank, well-known co-operative institution, closed its doors to-day with a reported deficit of 11,000,000 marks (about \$1,750,000).

The bank temporarily suspended payment in February, but resumed operations on a government subsidy. A similar rescue action already has begun to protect 10,000 depositors.

Hungary Decreases Cut in Farm Loan Interest—Finance Minister to Ask Foreign Creditors to Make 5% Rate Permanent.

A cablegram as follows from Budapest, Oct. 29, is taken from the New York "Times":

Of considerable importance to American investors in Hungary is a decree issued by the government to-day reducing the interest rate on loans secured by farm mortgages from $7\frac{1}{2}$ and 7% to 5%. Bela Imredy, Finance Minister, announced he would endeavor by negotiations with foreign creditors to have this reduction, which provisionally holds good only for a year, made permanent and extended to all other categories of mortgage bonds.

In his report on the financial condition of Hungary for the third quarter of the present year, Royal Tyler, League of Nations Commissioner to Hungary, announced the economic condition of the country had grown worse, agricultural prices had decreased, industrial prices had risen and the State deficit increased so that drastic budget changes would be necessary to avoid inflation. The foreign debt of Hungary on Oct. 1 was \$250,000,000.

Trustees of Kingdom of Bulgaria $7\frac{1}{2}$ % Stabilization Loan of 1928 Announce Receipt of Funds to Pay 50% of Nov. 15 Coupon.

Speyer & Co. and J. Henry Schroder Banking Corp. announced on Nov. 8 that they received from the trustees of the above loan the following communication:

The trustees of the above-mentioned loan announce that they have received from the Bulgarian Government sufficient sums in foreign exchange to provide for the payment of 50% of the interest coupon due on Nov. 15. The balance due to the service of the loan (interest and sinking fund) has been blocked in Levas at the National Bank of Bulgaria in the name of the League of Nations' Adviser to the Bank and invested by him in Bulgarian Treasury Bills, in accordance with the proposal recommended to the bondholders by the League Loans Committee in their communication of July 22 1932.

The trustees are therefore arranging with the paying agents for the payment of 50% of the coupon due on Nov. 15. In order to preserve

the bondholders' claim to the balance, in the case of the sterling and dollar issues, the coupon will be marked "50% paid" and returned to the bondholder; in the case of the French franc issue a fractional coupon receipt will be issued. It will not be possible to provide any sums for sinking fund purposes, and drawings will therefore not take place.

The trustees have informed the League Loans Committee of the present position with a view to immediate negotiations with the Bulgarian Government as regards the service of the loan after Sept. 30, on which date the provisional arrangements terminated.

Denmark's Treasury Shows Small Surplus at Close of Fiscal Year.

Denmark's treasury showed a small surplus of 100,000 kroner at the close of the 1931-32 fiscal year, which runs from April 1 to March 31, it is stated in a report to the Commerce Department from Commercial Attache Charles B. Spofford, Jr., Copenhagen. The Department on Nov. 8 also had the following to say:

It was expected that the Treasury would show a deficit of about 5,300,000 kroner, but it was disclosed that revenues were 3,000,000 greater than was expected, and expenditures 2,400,000 less than expected.

The capital account showed an income of 131,500,000 kroner and an expenditure of 171,000,000 kroner. The difference was covered from cash on hand, which was reduced to 2,600,000 kroner at the end of the fiscal year.

The State debt at the end of this fiscal year amounted to 1,255,000,000 kroner.

For the present fiscal, from April 1 1932 to March 31 1933, it is difficult to estimate final figures. The Finance Minister had previously estimated a decline of about 20,000,000 kroner, and called for new taxation.

Import duties had been budgeted to yield 97,000,000 kroner. Actual customs receipt during the first half of the fiscal year have brought in only 39,000,000 kroner.

The first half of the year also revealed a decline in other indirect revenues, but it is not easy to estimate the influence of this decline because no tax basis is so uncertain in times of depression as indirect taxation, it was stated. The Government now favors new direct taxes in order to balance the budget.

The 1933-34 budget allows for ordinary revenues at 301,700,000 and ordinary expenditures at 300,500,000 kroner, leaving a surplus of 1,200,000 kroner.

(A kroner at par is equal to 26.8 cents, United States.)

Danish Import Duties on Many Products Increased.

Danish import duties on footwear, hats, radios, knit goods and a good many other products have been appreciably increased by a law passed by Parliament on Oct. 13 1932, according to a radiogram from Commercial Attache Charles B. Spofford Jr., Copenhagen. Announcement of this was made Oct. 19 by the Department of Commerce at Washington, which said:

The present temporary law, under which the Danish system of control of most imports through "exchange certificates" (import permits) operates, is only valid until Oct. 31 of this year, and the question of its prolongation is now being debated in the Danish Parliament. However, no important modifications of the system after Oct. 31 are expected locally, according to a radiogram of Oct. 17 from the same source.

(No further details are yet available.)

Netherland Import Duties Increased Provisionally.

The Department of Commerce on Oct. 11 stated:

Effective Sept. 29 1932, most existing Netherland import duties were provisionally increased by a surtax of three-tenths of the duties, pending passage of the bill definitely providing for this increase, according to a cablegram from Commercial Attache Jesse F. Van Wickel, The Hague.

It is understood that excess duties paid under this provisional increase will be refunded if the bill is not passed by the Netherland Parliament, now in session, it was stated.

Greek Government 6% Secured Gold Notes Extended to May 4, 1933.

Speyer & Co., the National City Co. and J. & W. Seligman & Co. announce that the \$7,500,000 Greek Government 6% Secured Treasury Gold Notes have been extended to May 4 1933, with interest at the same rate, all holders having agreed to this extension.

Barter System Arranged Between Czechoslovakia, Turkey and Bulgaria Involving Tobacco.

Bulgarian and Turkish tobacco are involved in the latest middle European barter arrangement with Czechoslovakia, according to the Commerce Department's Tobacco division. Reporting this on Oct. 27 the Department said:

The Czechoslovakian Tobacco Monopoly has now extended the time limit on opening of bids on 500,000 kilograms of Bulgarian tobacco from Oct. 8 to Nov. 15, owing to the present export difficulties of Czechoslovakian goods to Bulgaria. It is expected that it will be easier for the Bulgarian bidders than for the Czechoslovakian exporters to make proposals for compensation agreements. Under the arrangements the tobacco would be compensated for by Czechoslovakian exports to Bulgaria.

On Oct. 17, the monopoly opened bids on 2,000,000 kilograms of Turkish tobacco, valued at about \$2,100,000. According to a temporary agreement with the Turkish government the payments were to be deposited on a blocked account with the Czechoslovak National Bank, which was to use the money in redeeming Turkish obligations issued by the Turkish Government and payable to a certain machinery company in Prague for shipments of machinery. The Turkish tobacco suppliers were to be paid by the Turkish bank of issue from blocked account of the machinery company.

"Barter" Arrangements Between Czechoslovakia and Denmark.

Negotiations between Czechoslovakia and Denmark have resulted in a compensation arrangement being made for the exchange of Czechoslovak textile and glass for 140 metric tons of Danish butter, and nine carloads of Polish eggs will also be imported against shipment of Czechoslovak automobiles and malt beverage, it is stated in a report to the Commerce Department from Assistant Trade Commissioner S. E. Woods, Prague. The Department (Nov. 3) added:

Both Denmark and Poland are primarily agricultural countries, while Czechoslovakia is an important central European industrial country. The barter or compensation system of international exchange of goods has made much headway, particularly in central European countries, where lack of foreign exchange has all but throttled foreign trade.

Increase in Farm Output in Spain Seen as Result of Agrarian Reform Law.

A marked increase in agricultural productivity of Spanish farmers is anticipated as a result of the recent agrarian reform bill passed by the Cortes, it is indicated in a report made by the Commerce Department's Regional Division. The advices of the Department Nov. 8 said:

The law calls for the expropriation of large tracts of cultivated land and their distribution under Government ownership among small holders and co-operative associations, it was stated.

In addition to allocating land to small holders, the law also provides facilities for financing farm equipment and crops, construction of buildings and purchase of seeds and fertilizer, it was reported.

Establishment of settlers on the expropriated lands of Andalucia, Estremadura, Ciudad Real, Toledo, Albacete and Salamanca, those regions in which agricultural conditions have been most acute, will be provided for, and also temporary settlement on lands subject to expropriation in the provinces.

For the purpose of carrying out the law, the Institute de Reforma Agraria has been created. This organization will be conceded 50,000,000 pesetas annually which is to be included in the budget to finance the application of the law. This unit is charged with the establishment of credit organizations and is charged also with the organization of official entities for the purpose of fomenting agricultural education, with a view to greater production. (Peseta equal to about 8 cents, U. S., at present exchange.)

Sao Paulo to Create State Mortgage Bank.

An Associated Press dispatch from Sao Paulo (Brazil) Nov. 11 to the New York "Sun" said:

Waldomiro Lima, Military Governor of Sao Paulo since the collapse of the revolution, to-day announced creation of a State mortgage bank modeled after Argentina's to aid small agriculturists. It will also co-operate with the National Coffee Council.

Credits of 25,000 contos—equivalent to \$18,000—will be opened to aid farmers.

Brazil Goes on Eight-Hour Day—Shops Close Two Hours at Noon.

According to a Rio de Janeiro cablegram to the New York "Times," the eight-hour day went into effect by law on Oct. 31. The cablegram added:

In compliance with it stores closed between 11.30 and 1.30 p.m., causing consternation among shoppers who found themselves unable to make any purchases during luncheon hours.

A modification of the law is expected.

The Economist Party, the first National party in Brazil's history, has been organized, and its leaders will meet Saturday to approve by-laws and a political program. It is composed of agricultural, industrial and commercial groups, and it is expected that hundreds of thousands of Brazilians who have been too indifferent to vote will enroll, bringing heavy pressure at the elections next May. The development is disturbing the professional politicians.

Brazil Auto Owners Protest Against Alcohol in Gasoline

The mixture of gasoline and alcohol now served by all service stations in Rio de Janeiro, Oct. 29, is condemned by most automobile owners, according to Brazilian newspaper investigations. A cablegram from Rio de Janeiro to the New York "Times," reporting this on Oct. 29, added:

Cleaners and other industries also protest that they are unable to obtain pure gasoline.

An official of a gasoline company said to-day the country's alcohol supply would be exhausted by the end of November, when pure gasoline would be served again.

The gasoline-alcohol mixture is the result of a Government decree compelling gasoline companies to purchase alcohol equal to 5% of the country's gasoline imports.

A reference to the sale of diluted gasoline in Brazil appeared in our issue of Oct. 29, page 2900.

Chile Urged to Halt Motor Traffic to Save Gold—Finance Minister Warns Gasoline Imports of \$50,000 a Week Are Depleting Reserve in New York.

From a Santiago (Chile) cablegram, Oct. 30, to the New York "Times" it is learned that the Central Bank has advised the Finance Minister that it will be impossible to continue the importation of gasoline at the rate of \$50,000 a week without further depleting the bank's gold reserves in New York. The cablegram added:

The statement recommends that drastic measures be adopted to reduce gasoline consumption in Chile to a minimum, even including the suspension of motor traffic, as great difficulty is being encountered to find sufficient foreign drafts to import foodstuffs to feed the people.

The question of maintaining or removing the exchange control commission is still being discussed. The Minister of Finance appears inclined to remove it in the belief that this would improve the exchange rate, but others argue that a free market for foreign currencies would create an outlet from the accumulated profits of foreign firms dealing here which would proceed to export their capital, lowering still further the value of Chilean currency.

Richard Washburn Child Heads Committee Representing Holders of Bonds of Departments of Republic of Colombia in Default.

Richard Washburn Child, former United States Ambassador to Italy and founder of the Council on Foreign Relations, announced on Nov. 9 the formation of a Committee of holders of external dollar bonds of Departments and Municipalities of the Republic of Colombia now in default. The announcement issued in the matter said:

The Minister of Finance and Public Credit of Colombia, Don Esteban Jaramillo, has publicly announced that his Government had been constantly preoccupied in endeavoring to find some method whereby contact might be established with the holders of the bonds representing the various Colombian loans, and that he has been handicapped and prevented from attaining his object of negotiating with the bondholders and arriving at an honorable and equitable arrangement with them by the lack of any organization representing the bondholders and clothed with sufficient authority to negotiate in their name.

It is the desire of this Committee to co-operate with the Minister of Finance and endeavor to effect a settlement of the situation which will be satisfactory to the holders of the bonds as well as to the Republic.

Mr. Child's Committee is formed, therefore, to represent the holders of bonds of the various Departments and Municipalities of Colombia which are in default.

These comprise some eighteen different issues of the Departments of Antioquia, Caldas, Cauca Valley, Cundinamarca, Santander and Tolima, the City of Bogota, and the Municipalities of Cali and Medellin.

Members of Mr. Child's committee include:

Frederick E. Hasler, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Continental Bank & Trust Co., who has been actively engaged in commercial banking relations with Colombia.

Judge Wm. H. Jackson, for eight years United States District Judge at Panama.

Fred Lavis, Consulting Engineer, whose intimate connection with Colombia dates from forty years ago.

Frederic R. Sawyer, investment counsellor of Boston.

Douglas Bradford, 120 Wall St., is Secretary and the New York Trust Co., depository.

The situation of the external debt of Colombia is somewhat complicated by the question of exchange, and although most of the Departments and Municipalities are able and have shown every willingness to meet their obligations and in several instances have deposited in banks in Colombia funds for this purpose, they have not been able because of exchange restrictions to make remittances to New York to meet the service. A recent decree proposed to make these deposits available for public works.

The Colombian National Government has so far promptly met the interest of the external direct and guaranteed debt of the nation. The President, Dr. Enrique Olaya Herrera, and his Minister of Finance are anxious to find a means of restoring and sustaining the credit of the country and of meeting all of the external obligations but, as stated in the message of the Minister of Finance, they have met the insuperable difficulty of having no responsible and properly accredited representatives of the holders of the bonds with whom to reach a settlement.

It is the purpose of this committee, therefore, to call for a deposit of bonds, and the announcement particularly stresses the fact that it has been formed to comply with the expressed desire of the Minister of Finance and in an endeavor to co-operate with the Colombian authorities to reach a solution of its difficulties which will inure to the benefit of all concerned.

France and Chile Sign Nitrate Agreement.

Press accounts from Paris on Oct. 28 stated that the Chilean Ambassador in London and the French Government have signed an agreement under which the sale of Chilean nitrates shall be financed in part through release of frozen French credits in Chile. The Paris message published in the New York "Sun" stated:

The plan provides that 40% of the amount due on whatever allotment may be fixed for the importation of Chilean nitrate into France during the coming year shall be paid in pesos. The allotment has not yet been fixed, but 130,000 tons has been mentioned as the probable quantity to be shipped to France next year. It is possible that a higher figure will be obtained when the licensing commission meets ten days hence to fix quotas for Chilean, American and German nitrates.

United States Not Informed as to Reported Plan of Chile to Take Over Nitrate Activities.

According to Washington advices Nov. 4 to the New York "Journal of Commerce," State Department officials asserted that night that they were without knowledge of the rumored intention on the part of Chile to take over the nitrate activities in their country and engage in Government operation. Just what might be the policy of the Administration in the event of such an occurrence they declined to forecast. The paper quoted went on to say:

The United States recently gave recognition to the Oyanedel Government of Chile after having withheld such action in the case of the Davila Government and the Blanche Government which succeeded it. It is to be assumed from this that the State Department was satisfied that the international obligations of Chile would be fulfilled by the Oyanedel Government and now by President-elect Arturo Alessandria, who soon will become the chief executive of that country.

Under international law, while it is within the power of any country to take over commercial and other activities carried on within its borders, in so doing it is required to reimburse foreign nationals for any losses they may sustain. It would be expected by the United States Government that such course would be followed if Chile takes over Cosach, the nitrate monopoly in that country, but on this possibility State Department officials decline to speculate.

Chile Authorizes Cosach to Get Loan—Assures Nitrate Corporation of Operation Until Year's End, Pending Reorganization—Currency Reform Urged—Central Bank Fears Inflation Will Cause Further Depreciation.

According to a cablegram from Santiago, Chile, Oct. 27, to the New York "Times," the operation of Cosach, the Nitrate Corporation of Chile, was assured until the end of this year, at least, by resolutions adopted that afternoon (Oct. 27) by the Government after considering a report issued by the consulting committee recently designated by the Minister of Finance. It is stated that the report contemplates provisional financial support for the corporation to maintain the operation of nitrate fields while a complete study of reconstruction schemes for Cosach is carried on by the new administration which will come into office after the Oct. 30 elections. The cablegram to the "Times" continued:

The Finance Minister said this evening the Government had authorized Cosach to proceed with negotiations for the financial support of foreign bankers within limitations previously established. To-day's agreement contemplates the export of 100,000 to 150,000 tons of nitrate from northern ports before the end of the year, with no reduction of the number of the corporation's nitrate plants in operation.

The independent producers have not yet reached an agreement concerning the sale of their nitrate in foreign markets, as they do not desire to co-operate in the distribution policy of Cosach, according to the latest reports.

A bulletin issued to-day by the Central Bank says that, whatever may be the result of the Oct. 30 elections, they will not afford any immediate solution of the economic crisis Chile is undergoing, although the country can no longer endure ill-considered measures and experiments in State socialism.

The bulletin recommends the reformation of the present exchange control commission, which it says is ineffective.

The report adds that the abnormal conditions in foreign exchange are responsible for the confusion in business here, while the forecasts are that there is danger of still greater currency depreciation due to failure to balance the budget.

Reviewing the unfavorable budget situation, the report asserts the deficit at the end of the year will be at least five times that already existing. It admits that additional note issues up to September bring the total circulating above 750,000,000 pesos—\$50,000,000—which is more than double the figure for September last year. It observes that further issues already authorized will carry the currency issues beyond 1,000,000,000 pesos by the end of the year.

The bulletin indicates that due to the impossibility of importing raw materials, no improvement is noticeable in industry, notwithstanding the increased consumption. It asserts the lack of sufficient production, with the consequent increase in the price of wheat, has compelled the Government to import Argentine grain.

The report ends by recommending State control of basic production to safeguard the vital needs of the country, which never will be self-supporting in this line, and demanding the adoption of measures to regulate food to the requirements of the populace.

Nitrate Accord Expected to Restore Trade Equilibrium of France and Chile.

A cablegram from Santiago, Chile, Nov. 5, to the New York "Times" had the following to say:

The commercial treaty recently signed by Chile and France, involving the employment of compensating measures in the transfer of goods, has become the most important step in the readjustment of trade conditions, according to Hermann Max, technical expert of the Chilean Central Bank.

France, he points out, engages to purchase 75,000,000 francs worth of Chilean nitrates, delivering 60% to the Cosach Nitrate Corp. This presumably is designed to cover operating expenses. The balance is to be used to pay off pending credits of French firms established here, and 15,000,000 francs will be used to finance the importation of French goods.

Nitrate Plant in Chile Closed—Guggenheims Suspend Production and Supervisors Return to Homes.

The following (Associated Press) from Toocopilla, Chile, Nov. 4, is from the New York "World-Telegram":

The world's largest nitrate plant, the Pedro de Valdivia, had suspended production to-day, retaining all Chilean workmen for jobs in other plants. American supervisors are returning home. The plant is owned by the Guggenheim interests.

Medley G. B. Whelpley, President of the Cosach Nitrate Combine, which controls the plant, said that this was a "constructive move to divide production evenly among the other plants and at the same time to cut operating costs."

Mexicans Reported Confident of \$10,000,000 Loan—Advance on Taxes, It Is Said, Will Be Made by Oil Companies Soon.

The following from Mexico City, Nov. 8, is from the New York "Times":

Reports that oil companies operating in Mexico would lend the Government \$10,000,000 as an advance on taxes are declared in reliable circles to be likely to materialize in a few days.

The actual amount likely to change hands now is \$7,000,000, the balance being included in a loan already advanced by the Standard Oil Co.

The proceeds of the loan, it is said, will be held temporarily by the Banco de Mexico in order to avert too great fluctuations of dollar exchange

pending the loan's disposition. The peso, which has been quoted as low as 4 to the dollar this year, went down to 3.08 to-day.

An earlier item in the matter appeared in our issue of Oct. 22, page 2744.

Mexican Party Would Deny Second Term to President.

From the New York "Times" we quote the following from Mexico City Oct. 31:

The biggest Mexican political convention in many years, that of the National Revolutionary party, which opened yesterday at Aguas Calientes, approved this evening in principle a platform plank which would forbid the re-election to the Presidency of Mexico or to the Governorship of a State any person who has ever served in the office concerned.

A resolution was approved, subject to discussion of details, to reduce the terms of Congressional Deputies from three to two years and increase the terms of Senators from four to six years.

Dr. Jose M. Puig Oasaurane, the Mexican Ambassador to the United States, argued at the convention that the anti-re-election measure would bar from supreme power such revolutionary figures as former President Calles and Portes Gil and President Abelardo Rodriguez.

Silver Bank Notes Issued by Bank of Mexico Total 35,800,000 Pesos.

The following is from the New York "Evening Post" of Nov. 7:

Silver bank notes issued by the Bank of Mexico since the gold standard was abandoned July 25 1931 totaled 35,800,000 pesos (approximately \$11,500,000 American) up to October 9, of which 31,942,540 are in circulation and 3,857,460 retired.

The National Banking Commission statement shows that on October 9, the bank's metallic reserves were 33,918,942 pesos, while its cash on hand totaled 50,204,176 pesos. Bank's outstanding gold bank notes on October 9 totaled 49,995 pesos.

Mexico's 1933 Income Put at \$91,350,000—Government Departments Prepare to Keep Within Estimate to Avoid Later Upset.

Indications are that the Mexican Federal Government's income for 1933 will be about 290,000,000 pesos—\$91,350,000 at quotations on Nov. 7, said Mexico City advices that day to the New York "Times" which also had the following to say:

Finance Minister Alberto Pani is understood to have notified the various governmental departments of this prospect and they are preparing to keep within their share.

It is believed that the overestimate last year which caused a financial stringency and consequent dislocation of business early this year will be avoided in the coming budget.

Improved income enabled the Government to renew payment of salaries and other obligations on the due date. Business has been picking up, with Mexican merchants showing a tendency to restock their shelves. This is due in part to the fact that the dollar quotation for the Mexican peso has been fairly stationary recently at around 31 cents, restoring confidence to many business men who had been delaying purchases because of dread of violent fluctuation of dollar exchange.

New Trade Mark Regulations Announced in Shanghai—May Sell Bonds to Meet Budget Deficit and Finance Reconstruction Work.

New regulations of the Chinese Trade Mark Bureau prohibit the use of the words "registered trade mark" on goods offered for sale in China unless the mark is registered in China, it was indicated in a radiogram on Oct. 28 to the United States Commerce Department from Acting Commercial Attache A. B. Calder, Shanghai. It is not believed that this particular portion of the regulations will decrease the fraudulent use of American trade marks on goods manufactured elsewhere, said the Department which announced:

The Chinese Municipality of Greater Shanghai is planning to float a 20-year bond issue of 6,000,000 yuan in November. This is equivalent to about \$1,250,000. The bond issue is for the purpose of financing the municipal deficit and providing money for reconstruction work.

Japan Grants New Subsidy to Shipping.

After much discussion during recent months, the Japanese government is to provide a subsidy for shipbuilding, contingent upon scrapping at least double the amount of tonnage built, it is announced by the Commerce Department's Transportation Division. The announcement (Oct. 28) likewise said:

The subsidy program is to extend over three years and provides amounts of 45 to 65 yen per ton for new vessels, and anticipates the construction of some 200,000 gross tons. As a prerequisite to the subsidy, 400,000 to 600,000 tons of vessels over 1,000 gross tons and 25 years of age must be scrapped, it was stated.

(Yen equal to about 22½ cents, U. S.)

Series of Conferences on Current Financial and Business Problems To Be Held Weekly at New York Stock Exchange Under Auspices of New York Group of Investment Bankers' Association and New York University.

The New York group of the Investment Bankers' Association of America and New York University announced on Nov. 1 the inauguration of a series of conferences on current

The Governor asserted the extension of the holiday, which started Nov. 1, was necessary to give 12 banks and the depositors time to work out an agreement for reopening.

Reference to the 12-day holiday proclaimed in Nevada by the Governor was made in these columns Nov. 5, page 3075.

Banking Moratoria in States Construed—United States Treasury Not Called to Act on Situation in Nevada.

From the "United States Daily" of Nov. 9 we take the following:

State authorities will be the first to act on the legality or illegality of bank holidays such as that now in force in Nevada, according to oral statements Nov. 7 at the Treasury Department.

Federal banking authorities, including the Comptroller of the Currency and the Federal Reserve Board, have not been called upon officially to take any action in any of the numerous bank moratoria declared by mayors or other local officials, it was stated. Additional oral information made available follows:

The Attorney General of Minnesota already has ruled that municipal moratoria are illegal, and the Lieutenant Governor of Nevada has called a special session of the Legislature to deal with the first State moratorium declared in that State.

Only the Legislature can legally declare a holiday, according to the informal opinion of Federal authorities, but formally no opinion has been drawn up and the Federal Government has not been called into any local situation.

Market Action of Leading New York City Bank Stocks Compared with Industrial Stocks.

A study of the market action of leading New York City bank stocks since the first of the year as compared with industrial stocks discloses that bank stocks have shown greater advances during each upward move, while in declining markets their losses have not equaled that of the industrial stocks, according to Rackliff, Whittaker & Loomis. It is noted that as a result of their favorable market action, the bank stock average showed a net gain of 4% on Nov. 2 over Jan. 1, as compared with a net decline of 25% for industrials during the same period.

The following tabulation of the firm shows how bank stocks have outstripped industrials since the first of the year:

1932—	Bank Stock, Average.*	Industrials, Average.**
Jan. 1 to Mar. 8	Plus 31%	Plus 14%
Mar. 8 to July 8	Minus 45½%	Minus 53%
July 8 to Sept. 7	Plus 100%	Plus 94%
Sept. 7 to Nov. 2	Minus 21%	Minus 27%
Jan. 1 to Nov. 2	Plus 4%	Minus 25%

*"American Banker." **Dow, Jones & Co.

"The action of bank stocks during recent months," says Rackliff, Whittaker & Loomis, "would indicate that the liquidation of 1930 and 1931 has largely eliminated weak holders with the result that little stock is forthcoming in declining markets. Conversely, this scarcity of stock brings about sharp price advances when buyers enter the market on any sizable scale. The technical condition of the bank stock market has seldom been stronger."

Pacific Coast Banking Resources Reported in Excess of \$5,000,000,000—Aggregate Deposits of Banks in 12th Federal Reserve District Increase for Quarter Ended Oct. 1.

Showing greater strength in the banking structure of the Pacific West, approximately 1,000 National and State banks report resources in excess of five billion dollars, and some 500 member banks in the 12th Federal Reserve District report an increase in deposits of \$10,000,000 since June last to date, according to a survey completed by the Bank of America, large Pacific Coast branch banking system. It is stated that as an indication of increasing strength, eight banks in southern Idaho and eastern Oregon reopened for business during the week ended Nov. 5, making available to depositors \$10,000,000 for regulated withdrawals. These banks have been closed since Aug. 30. It is further observed by the Bank of America that while detailed reports show that banking has improved generally in the seven States of the 12th Reserve District, some weakness has developed in Nevada, where nine National and 14 State banks, having aggregate deposits of \$22,000,000, have taken advantage of an optional State bank holiday, extending until Nov. 12. It is added that those who have studied the Nevada problem regard its origin as largely local and assert that the holiday may prove a painless operation leading to sound recovery. The First National Bank, Reno, with deposits of \$5,000,000, elected to remain open.

Leading N. Y. City Banks Earnings Dividends According to Rackliff, Whittaker & Loomis.

Despite prevailing low money rates and lack of business activity, third quarter earnings of leading New York City banks and trust companies covered dividend requirements by

a comfortable margin according to Rackliff, Whittaker & Loomis. It is stated that another encouraging development, disclosed by third quarter bank statements, was the fact that deposits in many instances showed substantial gains over June 30th figures. These gains were especially noteworthy in view of the fact that deposits normally show a seasonal drop during the third quarter of the year.

The following tabulation, giving third quarter earnings of 12 leading institutions as compared with dividend requirements for the period, shows an average excess coverage of 15%.

Bank—	3rd Quarter Earnings.	Quarterly Div. Req.	Excess Earnings Over Div.	Change in Deposits Since June 30.
Guaranty	\$4,835,000	\$4,500,000	7%	+7.5%
Chase	4,654,000	3,700,000	26%	+9.0%
City	4,210,000	3,100,000	36%	+5.0%
First National	2,754,000	2,500,000	10%	+17.8%
Bankers	2,035,000	1,875,000	8%	+5.6%
Irving	2,010,000	2,000,000	---	+3.3%
Central Hanover	1,575,000	1,575,000	---	+9.5%
Chemical	1,325,000	945,000	40%	+12.1%
Manhattan Trust	952,000	834,400	14%	+14.6%
New York Trust	881,000	625,000	41%	+8.3%
Manufacturers	823,350	825,350	---	-1.2%
Corn	794,000	750,000	9%	-10.5%
Totals	\$26,839,350	\$23,227,750	15%	Avg. +6.2-3%

a Before a special transfer of \$25,000,000 from surplus to reserves. b After additions to reserves.

The firm says:

That these banks are able to more than earn their dividends under present conditions is worthy of comment, particularly in view of the fact that eight of these institutions are paying the same dividends to-day that they were in 1929 while present dividend rates of the 12 average 86% of 1929 payments.

Survey of New York City Bank Stock Market in October.

Although marking time before Election in sympathy with other security markets, the New York City bank stock market closed moderately higher from the lows of October, Hoit, Rose & Troster report. The firm's weighted average of 17 representative issues opened October 1 at 64.35, eased off to the month's low of 53.69 Oct. 10, but closed Oct. 31 at 57.47. Leaders in the improvement over the lows were First National, Guaranty Trust, Central Hanover and New York Trust.

Based upon closing bid prices, the month's range follows:

	Month's High Oct. 1.	Month's Low Oct. 10.	Close Oct. 31.
Bankers Trust	68	61	65½
Brooklyn Trust	200	170	175
Central Hanover	147	128	136
Chase	42	32½	35
Continental	19½	17½	17½
Chemical	39½	33	36½
City	54½	41	43½
Commercial	178	158	160
Corn Exchange	73	64	72½
Empire Trust	28½	23½	24
First National	1670	1480	1510
Guaranty Trust	331	291	312
Irving Trust	27	22½	23½
Manhattan	38½	30½	31
Manufacturers Trust	33½	25½	28½
New York Trust	99	85	92
Public National	31	25½	30
Weighted average	64.35	53.69	57.47

1932 Range.
High, Sept. 7.....70.76
Low, May 31.....31.34

Offering of \$75,000,000 or Thereabouts of 91-Day Treasury Bills.

Announcement of a new issue of 91-day Treasury bills to the amount of \$75,000,000 or thereabouts was made by Secretary of the Treasury Mills on Nov. 9. Tenders for the new bills, which are sold on a discount basis to the highest bidders, will be received at the Federal Reserve banks and their branches up to 2 p.m. Eastern standard time on Monday, Nov. 14. The new bills will replace a similar amount of bills which mature on Nov. 16. The new issue will be dated Nov. 16 1932 and will mature on Feb. 15 1933, and on the maturity date the face amount will be payable without interest. The bills 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). Secretary Mills's announcement also says in part:

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 investment 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.

Immediately after the closing hour for receipt of tenders on Nov. 14 1932, all tenders received at the Federal Reserve banks or branches thereof, up to the closing hour will be opened and public announcement of the acceptable prices will follow as soon as possible thereafter, probably on the following morning. The Secretary of the Treasury expressly reserves the

right to reject any or all tenders or parts of tenders, and to allot less than the amount applied for, and his action in any such respect shall be final. Those submitting tenders will be advised of the acceptance or rejection thereof. Payment at the price offered for Treasury bills allotted must be made at the Federal Reserve banks in cash or other immediately available funds on Nov. 16 1932.

The Treasury bills will be exempt, as to principal and interest, and any gain from the sale or other disposition thereof will also be exempt, from all taxation, except estate and inheritance taxes. No loss from the sale or other disposition of the Treasury bills shall be allowed as a deduction or otherwise recognized, for the purposes of any tax now or hereafter imposed by the United States or any of its possessions.

Comment by Treasury Department on Low Rates on Treasury Issues—Security Houses Said to Be Buying Short-Term Bills.

From the "United States Daily" of Nov. 9 we take the following:

Security houses such as investment banks have become interested in short-term Government loans during the depression, helping the Treasury to float 91-day bills at record low discount rates, according to information made available Nov. 7 at the Treasury Department.

Treasury bills, attractive because of their soundness and liquidity, have appealed to commercial banks in normal times while investment houses placed their funds in securities of long maturity, the information shows. Additional information made available follows:

Entrance of investment houses into the field of competition for Treasury bills has helped reduce the discount rate on them to record low levels. On Oct. 19 the Treasury borrowed \$75,000,000 of 91-day money for a discount rate equivalent to 14% on an annual basis, the lowest rate on record.

Since the low mark of Oct. 19, the rate which the Government has had to pay has advanced slightly, reaching .20 on Oct. 26 and .22 on Nov. 4, but this advance is not considered indicative of any tendency on the part of banks to place funds in commercial rather than Government loans.

Proclamation of President Hoover Setting Aside Nov. 24 as Day of Thanksgiving—Quotes Proclamation of President Washington in 1789.

In issuing on Nov. 3, his proclamation setting apart Nov. 24 "as a day of National thanksgiving," President Hoover took occasion to quote in full the original Thanksgiving proclamation, issued Oct. 3 1789 by President Washington. President Hoover's action is prompted by the fact that the present year is the 200th anniversary of the birth of Washington, a fitting occasion for "our people" to "refresh their memory of his (Washington's) first Thanksgiving proclamation." President Hoover's proclamation follows:

THANKSGIVING DAY 1932.

By the President of the United States of America.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas at this season of the year our people for generations past have always turned their thoughts to thankfulness of the blessings of Almighty God,

Now, therefore, I, Herbert Hoover, President of the United States, do set aside and declare Thursday, Nov. 24 1932, as a day of national thanksgiving, and I do urge that they repair to their places of public worship, there to give thanks to the beneficent Providence from whom comes all our good.

And I do further recommend, inasmuch as this year marks the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of George Washington, the Father of our Country, whose immeasurable services to our liberty and our security are blessings perennially renewed upon us, that our people refresh their memory of his first Thanksgiving proclamation, which I append and incorporate in this present proclamation:

"A PROCLAMATION.

"By the President of the United States of America.

"Whereas, it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits and humbly to implore His protection and favor—and whereas both houses of Congress have by their joint committee requested me 'to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many singular favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness."

"Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of the great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be—that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks—for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation—for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of His providence, which we experienced in the course, and conclusion of the late war—the great degree of tranquillity, union and plenty, which we have since enjoyed—for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted—for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which He hath been pleased to confer upon us.

"And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually to render our national government a blessing to all the People, by constantly being a government of wise, just and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed—to protect and guide all Sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness unto us) and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord—to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us—and generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

"Given under my hand at the City of New York the third day of October in the year of Our Lord 1789."

G. WASHINGTON,

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 3d day of November, in the year of Our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-two and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fifty-seventh.

HERBERT HOOVER.

By the President:
HENRY L. STIMSON,
Secretary of State.

Election of Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt of New York as President of United States—As Democratic Nominee He Received 472 Electoral Votes Against 59 for President Hoover, Named as Republican Candidate for Re-Election.

The National election on Tuesday, Nov. 8, resulted in a sweeping Democratic victory, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Governor of New York, being elected President by a record vote. Out of a total of 531 electoral votes, Gov. Roosevelt received 472, this number representing 42 States, while President Hoover carried but six States, giving him 59 electoral votes. These six States were Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Pennsylvania. Four years ago President Hoover carried 40 States, with an electoral vote of 444, while the Democratic nominee in 1928, Gov. Alfred E. Smith carried eight States with an electoral vote of 87. Record figures of the popular vote are also registered this year; while there are still some election districts to be heard from, the latest figures indicate that Gov. Roosevelt has received 20,744,378 votes against 14,716,947 for President Hoover. These figures compare with 21,392,190 for President Hoover in 1928 and 15,016,443 for Gov. Smith in that year. It was recently stated that nearly 47,000,000 had qualified to vote at this year's election.

According to Associated Press accounts from Washington yesterday (Nov. 11) the popular vote for Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for President, has climbed to 459,959 as returns slowly drifted in. The dispatch said:

This vote was gained from 64,279 precincts, or slightly more than half of the nation's total of 119,714.

Other minor candidates and their votes to date follows: Reynolds, 1,608; Foster, 2,715; Upshaw, 23,480; and Harvey, 21,217.

In referring to the record breaking landslide for the Democrats, the New York "Herald Tribune" of Nov. 9 noted that:

The first nation-wide election in the hard times developed a political upheaval which swept Democrats back into complete control of the national government for the first time since the World War.

From the New York "Times" of Nov. 10 we quote:

Big Congress Majority.

The victory gave the successful party a tremendous lead in Congress. With 26 House seats doubtful, the tally was Democrats, 298; Republicans, 36; Farm-Labor, 1.

Senators Dale of Vermont, Barbour of New Jersey, Norbeck of South Dakota, Steiwer of Oregon, J. J. Davis of Pennsylvania and Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota, who wore the Republican label, survived the balloting. Senators Smoot of Utah, Moses of New Hampshire, Watson of Indiana, Bingham of Connecticut, Glenn of Illinois and Jones of Washington were among those stalwarts who were rejected by their constituencies.

The Democrats won 18 contests for Governorships and will probably be victors in many of 11 others where the count is not complete. Seven States retired Republican Chief Executives for Democrats, following the example set by Maine in September.

In Wisconsin Walter J. Kohler, who overturned the La Follette dynasty, was defeated by Mayor A. C. Schmedeman of Madison, a Democrat, for the Governorship, and Illinois refused to reseat former Governor Small, giving its preference to Judge Henry Horner, a Chicago Democrat.

In Tennessee, where the regular Democratic gubernatorial nominee, Hill McAlister, was opposed by Lewis Pope, another Democrat, on the issue as to whether former Senator Luke Lea should be extradited to the demand of North Carolina, Mr. McAlister won easily. A fusion movement against the Fergusons failed in Texas, and Ma and Jim were sent back to Austin.

The South returned so enthusiastically to its ancient political moorings that Virginia ejected its only Republican Representative, and Georgia gave to the "first citizen of Warm Springs" an astronomical majority. The defection of five Southern States from Alfred E. Smith in 1928 was atoned for in full. Kentucky, where the count may not legally begin until the day after election, early showed that it was not out of step with the national trend and would give a large lead to Governor Roosevelt.

Wherever they gathered, Republican leaders took stock of the situation, and, despite their natural gloom, tried to find bright spots in their clouded party sky. In New York a disposition was evident to rebuild the party at once as the Democrats did after the 1928 debacle.

One leader said that the thing to do was to remove from party place all traces of "the Hoover influence." He described the President as "a great soul and a great President, but a poor politician." To such weakness he ascribed much of the party's woe.

Local gossip was that the election of former Senator James W. Wadsworth of Genesee as a Representative has given New York Republicans a new leader to supplant the Secretary of the Treasury, Ogden L. Mills.

In New York State Col. Herbert H. Lehman (Democrat) was elected Governor by a vote of 2,657,923 against 1,819,532 for Col. William J. Donovan, Republican candidate for Governor; it is proper to state that the figures for Governor are still incomplete, since some election districts are missing.

Yesterday (Nov. 11) Associated Press accounts from Washington said:

The Democratic triumph in Tuesday's Senatorial election was so complete that it not only gives the Democrats control for the next Congress but assures them a majority until 1937 and probably until 1939.

By winning 28 out of 34 Senatorial contests, the Democrats will have 59 seats in the new Senate beginning in March, a strength which has been exceeded only twice in history.

All of these 28 newly elected Senators hold office until 1937 at least, providing death does not interrupt their service. In addition, the Democrats have 18 holdovers whose terms do not expire until that time, making 46 of the 49 necessary for a majority.

Also of the 13 Democratic Senators who face the polls in 1935, five are from the solid South, which gives the Democrats an almost certain strength of 51 until 1937.

Tuesday's one-sided results also give the Democrats a very good chance of controlling the Senate from 1937 to 1939, because 27 of their candidates just elected serve until the latter date. If they continue to hold the 16 Southern seats that are contested in 1935 and 1937, they will have 43 votes, and will only need to retain six of the other 16 seats they now hold.

Latest returns to-day showed the next House will be composed of 314 Democrats, 111 Republicans and four Farmer-Laborites. Seven seats remained in doubt.

Secretary of Agriculture Hyde in Message to President Hoover Says "Your Shadow Will Lengthen in History."

An Associated Press dispatch Nov. 8 from Palo Alto, Cal., said:

One of the first messages received by President Hoover to-night as he watched the mounting election returns was from Secretary Hyde.

The telegram read:
"Win, lose or draw, you have made a gallant fight both as President and as candidate. Regardless of election results to-day, your shadow will lengthen in history."

Everett Sanders, Republican Campaign Manager, Lays Result of Election to World-Wide Slump—Says Hoover Defeat Was Caused by Those Who Did Not Understand a Great Man.

The following radio speech was made early Nov. 9 over National Broadcasting Co. networks from Chicago by Everett Sanders, Republican campaign manager, according to the New York "Times":

A very great man has been defeated. The millions of votes that have been cast for him constitute not only a marvelous tribute to him, but approval of his policies. America has never returned to power any administration in a period when we have hard times.

That this was not just hard times but a world depression for which the administration was not responsible, has been brought home to those who have thoroughly understood the conditions. Millions have hope that a political change would better their economic condition. This vote has outnumbered the votes of those who did understand. The millions of votes that have approved Herbert Hoover are a great vindication of a great President.

So far as I have the power to do so, I shall give every support to the incoming President in all of his policies that are for the best interests of our country.

Pre-Election Telegram to President Hoover Reported Argentinian Papers as Putting Hope in Gov. Roosevelt for Lower Tariffs.

From the New York "Times" of Nov. 8 we take the following:

President Hoover made known to-day that a telegram had been received saying that leading Argentine newspapers were advocating the election of Franklin D. Roosevelt with the hope that tariffs would be lowered, thus enabling their nation to export its agricultural and animal products to the United States.

The announcement was as follows:
"The President to-day received a telegram confirming dispatches from Buenos Aires as printed in this country in which it was stated that the leading newspapers in the Argentine capital were advocating the election of Roosevelt with the hope that tariffs would be lowered, thus enabling the Argentine to export its agricultural and animal products to the United States.

"Such exportations would result in further demoralizing agricultural prices in the United States as the Argentine products would replace large volumes of American farm products."

Secretary of Treasury Mills Congratulates President-Elect Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Ogden L. Mills, Secretary of the Treasury, on Nov. 9, according to United Press accounts from Washington congratulated Franklin D. Roosevelt in a public statement to the press as follows:

"The American people have decided they desire a change in administration.

"It is now the duty of all of us to be helpful whenever we can to the new administration in meeting the difficult problems that lie ahead, and in promoting the common welfare.

"I congratulate Governor Roosevelt and Speaker Garner on the country's vote of confidence."

President Hoover's Message of Congratulation to President-Elect Roosevelt—Offers to Co-operate with New Administration—Governor Roosevelt's Reply.

From Palo Alto, Cal., Nov. 8, where he had gone to cast his vote in his home town, President Hoover sent to the newly-elected President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Governor of New York, a congratulatory telegram, as follows:

Palo Alto, Cal.,
Nov. 8, 1932.

The Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Biltmore Hotel,
New York, N. Y.

I congratulate you on the opportunity that has come to you to be of service to the country and I wish for you a most successful administration. In the common purpose of all of us I shall dedicate myself to every possible helpful effort.

HERBERT HOOVER.

The reply of Governor Roosevelt follows:

New York,
Nov. 9, 1932.

The President,
Palo Alto, Cal.

I appreciate your generous telegram for the immediate as well as for the more distant future. I join in your gracious expression of a common purpose in helpful effort for our country.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

President-Elect Roosevelt in Message Election Night Expressed Hope His Administration Would Do Everything Possible to Restore Country to Prosperity.

Just before midnight on Nov. 8, when his election as President seemed assured, Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt of New York, addressing a gathering of Democratic workers in the Hotel Biltmore, New York, said:

My friends, I have come out here to bid you God-speed and to thank you, each and every one, for all you have done in this campaign, and especially all the men and women who have worked so faithfully. It has been because of their work that the great majority we have had throughout the country has been made possible.

I want to say just one word—that there are two people in the United States, more than anybody else, who are responsible for the great victory. One is my old friend and associate, Colonel Louis McHenry Howe, and the other one is that splendid American, Jim Farley.

As you know, the returns have not yet come in from a number of the Western States, so I am making no formal statement. All I can tell you is that the returns seem to indicate a great victory, and it is my great hope that during the next four years we, all of us, will do what we possibly can to restore this country to prosperity.

President-Elect Roosevelt in Radio Message Expresses "Deep Appreciation" for "Great Vote of Confidence." Regards it as "National Expression of Liberal Thought."

From his New York home on Nov. 9, Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt, President-elect, broadcast a radio message, expressing his "deep appreciation" for the "great vote of confidence" cast at Tuesday's election (Nov. 8). The message was broadcast over the NBC and Columbia Broadcasting networks, and rebroadcast to Europe, Asia and South America. The message follows:

My Friends:

I am glad of this opportunity to extend my deep appreciation to the electorate of this country which has given me this great vote of confidence.

It is a vote that has more than mere party significance. It transcends party lines. It became a national expression of liberal thought. It means, I am sure, that the masses of the people of this nation firmly believe that there is great and actual possibility in an orderly recovery, through a well-conceived and actively directed plan of action.

Such a plan has been presented to you, and you have expressed approval of it. This, my friends, is most reassuring to me. It shows that there is in the nation unbounded confidence in the future of sound agriculture and honorable industry.

This clear mandate shall not be forgotten. I pledge you this, and I invite your help, the help of all of you, in the happy task of restoration.

Statement by Democratic National Chairman James A. Farley with the Election as President of Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt of New York.

On election night, Nov. 8, James A. Farley, Democratic National Chairman, issued the following statement on the election as President of Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt as President:

The returns of course indicate that Governor Roosevelt has been elected by the greatest vote ever given a nominee in a two-party fight in this country. The result was not wholly unexpected in these headquarters. We were satisfied that the citizens of America were in accord with the platform of the Democratic party and the policies outlined by Governor Roosevelt in his campaign and that the people were determined to place him in the White House in this momentous period in the history of our country.

Of course I am happy at the result and take this opportunity to thank every worker throughout the country for the part he played, and I am grateful to the American public, who made this victory possible.

Madison Square Garden Speech of Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt with Closing of Presidential Campaign—By United Effort of All, He Holds, Fear Can Be Dissipated and Economic Fabric Reconstructed.

Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Governor of New York (who on Nov. 8 was elected President of the United States) with the practical close of the Presidential campaign on Saturday, Nov. 5, delivered an address at Madison Square Garden, New York, in which he declared that "there can be only one great principle to guide our course in the coming years." The Governor went on to say:

We have learned the lesson that extravagant advantage for the few ultimately depresses the many. To our cost we have seen how, as the foundations of the false structure are undermined, all come down together. We must put behind us the idea that an uncontrolled, unbalanced economy, creating paper profits for a relatively small group, means or ever can mean prosperity.

The Governor made the statement that "confident in the sinew and fibre of American life, we know that our losses are not beyond repair. We know that we can apply to the

great structure we have built our power of organization, our fertility of mind and the intelligence and the foresight needed to make that structure more serviceable." He added:

We refuse to be oppressed by baseless fears that our firesides are to become cold or that our civilization will disappear. We know that by the united effort of us all, our fear can be dissipated, our firesides protected, our economic fabric reconstructed and our individual lives brought to more perfect fulfillment.

At the close of his address Gov. Roosevelt said:

We can and will bring to the problem of the individual the maturity of the united effort of a nation come of age. America, mature in its power, united in its purpose, high in its faith, can come and will come, to better days.

Gov. Roosevelt's speech in full follows:

To-night we close the campaign. Our case has been stated and made. In every home, to every individual, in every part of our wide land full opportunity has been given to hear that case and to render honest judgment on Tuesday next.

From the time that my airplane touched ground at Chicago up to the present I have consistently set forth the doctrine of the present-day democracy. It is the program of a party dedicated to the conviction that every one of our people is entitled to the opportunity to earn a living and to develop himself to the fullest measure consistent with the rights of his fellowmen.

You are familiar with that program. You are aware that it has found favor in the sight of the American electorate. The movement comes not from the leaders of any group, of any faction or even of any party. It is the spontaneous expression of the aspirations of millions of individual men and women. These hopes, these ambitions, have struggled for realization in different ways, on the farms, in the cities, in the factories, among business men and in the homes. These have found at length a common meeting ground in the Democratic program.

To-night we set the seal upon that program. After Tuesday we go forward to the great task of its accomplishment and, we trust, to its fulfillment.

There can be only one great principle to guide our course in the coming years. We have learned the lesson that extravagant advantage for the few ultimately depresses the many. To our cost we have seen how, as the foundations of the false structure are undermined, all come down together. We must put behind us the idea that an uncontrolled, unbalanced economy, creating paper profits for a relatively small group, means or ever can mean prosperity.

Exactly four years ago, on a similar occasion, the Democratic party, in closing its campaign, stigmatized the condition, then called "Prosperity," in truly prophetic language with the label "False Prosperity." You know now, and America knows, the justice of that label. The reasoning then was as simple as is the analysis now. While the families upon our farms are in want there can be no safety for the families of the workers in our cities.

There is an interdependence in economics just as there is a brotherhood in humanity. Loss to any is loss to all.

By United Effort Economic Fabric Can Be Reconstructed.

To-day we struggle against the inevitable result of wandering after false gods. Confident in the sinew and fiber of American life, we know that our losses are not beyond repair. We know that we can apply to the great structure we have built our power of organization, our fertility of mind and the intelligence and the foresight needed to make that structure more serviceable. We refuse to be oppressed by baseless fears that our firesides are to become cold or that our civilization will disappear. We know that by the united effort of us all our fear can be dissipated, our firesides protected, our economic fabric reconstructed and our individual lives brought to more perfect fulfillment.

In that united effort I make bold to include not only you, the members of my own party; not only the great independent masses who seek relief from an administration which has served them ill; not only the liberal-minded elements in all parts of the country who have joined in creating the program we are proud to offer but also the men and women in the ranks of the Republican party, whose interest must also be ours.

Genius of America Stronger Than Any Candidate or Party.

The next administration must represent not a fraction of the United States but all of the United States. No resource of mind or heart or organization can be excluded in the fight against what is, after all, our real enemy. Our real enemies are hunger, want, insecurity, poverty and fear. Against these there is no glory in a victory only partisan.

The genius of America is stronger than any candidate or any party. This campaign, hard as it has been, has not shattered my sense of humor or my sense of proportion—I still know that the fate of America cannot depend on any one man. The greatness of America is grounded in principles and not on any single personality. I, for one, shall remember that even as President. Unless by victory we can accomplish a greater unity toward liberal effort, we shall have done little indeed.

Let us turn from consideration of leadership and think of the loyal voters who constitute the great army that has brought us to the gate of victory. Let us give thought to the men and women in the ranks. There are many millions of them. What have they in mind? Why have they enlisted?

There is among you the man who is not bound by party lines. You vote according to your common sense and your calm judgment after hearing each party set forth its program. To you I say that the strength of this independent thought is the great contribution of the American political system. You and millions like you have appraised the Democratic program and have rallied to its standard. Your thought makes wider our vision in handling our national policies.

There is among you the woman who knows that women's traditional interests—welfare, children and the home—rest on the broader basis of an economic system which assures her or her husband a job. The old expression that "a woman's place is in the home" has a wider meaning to-day. Your interests may be in your home, but you now know that they are no longer dissociated from the interests of the State. Into your home, for instance, comes electricity. What you pay for it is largely determined by the attitude of your government. Your family budget must provide for a tax bill as well as for your baby's clothes. And you know now that your baby's clothes are apt to depend upon the amount of taxes your family pays. You who have had the clarity of vision to trace many of your private problems back to their roots in government policy best appreciate the program we lay before you.

Logical Remedy for Mistaken Policy is Change in Policy.

There is among you the man in business or in trade who has heard the cry that change was a fearful thing but who, unafraid, has decided to change. You know now that when things are going wrong, only partisan prejudice and stupidity can countenance a continuance. You know now that the logical remedy for mistaken policy is a change in policy. You have

decided to make this change. You have decided to put the conduct of affairs into other hands.

All of you, consciously or not, have helped shape the policies of the Democratic Party in this, its war on human suffering. Your own experience and your own fears and your own problems—all have written themselves into our program. There is something of you in all of us.

There is among you the man who has been brought up in the good American tradition to work hard and to save for a rainy day. You have worked hard. You have stunted yourself to save. You now find your savings gone. You now find your job gone. Your resentment comes not from discontent alone but from a feeling of deep injustice. You have joined us not because of discontent, but because in our program you find the hope that this can not come again. We have not enticed you with offers of magic, nor lured you with vain promises. We have given you the hope of a better ordered system of national economy. We have pledged you our word and our will to do.

There is among you the man who has been brought up to believe that a livelihood could always be wrung from the soil by willing labor. You have broken your back in your efforts to make the soil produce. And when you have gathered your harvest you have found that harvest worthless. In bewilderment, you have learned that when you had something to buy the cost was great; but when you had something to sell, the price was low—or the price was nil. For years you have endured this until at length the mounting tide of debt has threatened your very home. You have entered our ranks. No promised cure-all led you there. You came because by careful analysis you were convinced where your difficulty lay.

You knew that your difficulties were beyond your individual control to prevent or cure. Our plan offered to you a mobilization of the resources of government to bring to you the fruits which your labor deserved.

There is among you the man who has been able to save something from this wreck. You have joined our ranks because you, too, have come to realize the falsity of the 1928 economics and to look for your safety in a new and stronger philosophy of American constitutional government.

All of you, in all places, in all walks of life, have joined in proving that only by a true conception of the interdependence of the American economic system, can there be hope of safety and security for all.

To-day there appears once more the truth taught 2,000 years ago—that "no man lives to himself, and no man dies to himself; but living or dying, we are the Lord's and each others'."

It may be said, when the history of the past few months comes to be written, that this was a bitter campaign. I prefer to remember it only as a hard-fought campaign. There can be no bitterness where the sole thought is the welfare of the United States of America.

Strength of Country Is Strength of Union.

It is with this spirit and in this spirit that I close the campaign. I believe that the best interests of the country require a change in administration. Every sign points to that change. But I would have you realize that the strength of the country is the strength of union. Let us restore that strength.

It was said at the close of the World War that "America had come of age." After that war we had a unique opportunity to build permanently for America. That opportunity we did not grasp.

But even in our mistakes we have learned how strength can best be used for the common benefit of us all. The millions of unchronicled heroes who, by self-denial and patience, have carried this Nation through this economic crisis must give us new hope. We can and will bring to the problem of the individual the maturity of the united effort of a nation come of age. America, mature in its power, united in its purpose, high in its faith, can come and will come to better days.

Resolution Adopted By Texas House Calling Upon All Holding Office as Democrats to Vote Democratic Ticket From "Top to Bottom"—Criticism of President Hoover's Springfield, Illinois, Speech.

A resolution attacking President Hoover's speech at Springfield, Ill., and calling on all "who sought, accepted or hold office as a Democrat" to vote the Democratic ticket from "top to bottom" was passed in the House of the Texas Legislature on Nov. 5, said Associated Press advices from Austin, Tex., Nov. 6, published in the Houston "Post." The dispatch continued:

The resolution was adopted, 83 to 11, with six present and not voting. but the action was not final because of a motion to reconsider and spread on the journal.

The resolution referred to Hoover as the "Acting President" and quoted him as likening the present economic crisis to the Civil War period.

Bayonet Rule Recalled.

Citizens of Texas were "reminded" in the resolution of the "bayonet enforced Republican rule, one time foisted on the people of the Lone Star State" and were exhorted to turn to the Democratic Party for relief.

Criticizing the President's Springfield address, the resolution stated: "We condemn the veiled threat to arouse sectional strife among our people and to return to our State carpet bag governors, and to prevent this we respectfully urge the citizens . . . to vote a straight Democratic ticket . . . in order that the great principles of Democracy may survive."

Presumably the resolution was offered in an effort to obtain support for the national Democratic ticket, but many interpreted it as an effort to line up additional sentiment for Mrs. Miriam A. Ferguson, Democratic nominee for Governor, who is engaged in a fight with Bullington, Republican candidate for the governorship. Many Democrats opposed to the Ferguson cause, including Governor Ross S. Sterling, have announced they would support the Republican in preference to their party's nominee.

Resolution Called Ill-Timed.

The statements concerning the return of carpet bag Governors were challenged by Representative Penrose Metcalfe of San Angelo, who stated he voted the "ticket from top to bottom" before leaving to attend the legislative session. Metcalfe stated he believed the resolution to be "ill-timed" and added that "the Legislature is in bad enough repute with the citizens of Texas without playing partisan politics on the floor of the House." Proponents of the resolution disclaimed any intention of mixing into State politics in a paragraph citing that "where bayonets supersede civil authority in the enforcement of legislative enactments" the foundations of government were shaken.

Representative Thomas R. Bond of Terrell had interpreted the clause as an assault on the action of Governor R. S. Sterling in declaring martial law in the East Texas oil field to aid in controlling oil production.

Bond moved that the resolution be reconsidered and spread on the journal, keeping it open for amendment. He stated he did not want anything in

the resolution to cause a further breach between the Sterling supporters and the Democratic Party, and that the party wanted everybody to vote the ticket straight at Tuesday's (Nov. 8) election.

President Hoover's Springfield speech is referred to in another item in this issue:

President Hoover in St. Louis Speech Relates Incidents Bearing on Loan by Reconstruction Finance Corporation to Dawes Bank in Chicago—Says "Constant Misrepresentation" of Episode Is "Cruel Injustice to General Dawes."

The incidents bearing on the \$80,000,000 loan in June by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to the Chicago bank headed by Charles G. Dawes were related by President Hoover in a speech delivered in St. Louis, Nov. 4. That part of the President's address bearing thereon is given herewith:

I do not have time to-night to present the whole great constructive measures of the Administration by which we defended the American people from acute danger of a generation of chaos from this world disaster. These measures are now placing us upon the road to recovery. They are vast and complicated. I think perhaps I can best illustrate the working of only two of them by short examples.

I would like to have you picture a group of gentlemen sitting in the board room of the Federal Reserve Bank in one of our important cities, a thousand miles from Washington. Another similar group is seated in the board room of another Federal Reserve Bank in a city some 200 miles from Washington.

A group of advisers is seated with the President of the United States. Both of the city groups included Governors of the Federal Reserve banks, directors of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, together with the leading bankers and merchants of these two cities, embracing men of both political parties.

It was Sunday afternoon, and all had been summoned, on a few moments' notice, to meet a grave emergency. These three groups were continuously in communication by long-distance telephone.

During the preceding week there had been a general run upon the banks in one of these important cities. All of the banks had felt the pressure of these unreasoning withdrawals.

On Saturday morning the situation had become critical in the extreme. The financial districts were thronged with excited crowds of frightened and hysterical depositors. They filled the lobbies of the banks and stood in long queues upon the sidewalks. When the doors were closed for the day there were still crowds demanding their deposits. Throughout Saturday evening and Sunday panic increased and began to spread like a contagion to the whole district.

The banks were under heavy pressure because of the frightened depositors and the inability of the banks in the midst of the crisis to make a quick sale of their long-term securities without such tremendous sacrifices as to imperil all of the depositors, or, in turn, to force the payment of notes of an army of borrowers without, in turn, forcing them to sell their homes and business at half price.

It was found that one of the banks in one of these great cities had been weakened more than the others by these panic-stricken depositors. Without assistance, that bank would be unable to open on the following Monday morning.

The failure of this bank to continue business would have added to the panic which threatened to bring down on the other banks of that city and spread in turn to other cities and involve many trust and insurance companies.

Efforts to Quiet Unreasoning Fear.

The immediate problem was to provide before Monday morning a sufficient sum of money to quiet unreasoning fear and give absolute assurance that funds were available to pay every depositor in full without question.

In the course of inquiry into the condition of the bank it was found that they had ample securities which, in normal times, could have paid out their depositors, leaving a large margin. But the securities could not be instantly sold at any price, or at least at a price which would produce sufficient to pay all depositors, and they could not collect instantly from the notes.

In the inquiry into the condition of the bank it developed they had 122,000 depositors, of whom 105,000 were savings depositors; that the average of the savings deposits was only \$140 each, many of them working women and children; that the safety of these depositors could not be separated from the other depositors of the bank.

It was found that there were 17,000 commercial depositors, most of whom were men and women engaged in small businesses, whose deposits represented the money necessary to meet their payrolls, the purchasing of their materials and the discharge of obligations to others incurred in the course of business. Jeopardy to them meant that many thousands of men and women in factories and stores would be discharged into untold hardships.

But these were not all who were dependent upon the maintenance of this bank. It was found that among the 17,000 commercial deposits 755 were country banks, the great majority of them in towns of less than 5,000 people. If this bank should fail many of these country banks must fall.

In the complex system of our economic life things that on the surface seem unrelated are in fact under the surface inextricably tied together.

A farmer in a small town in an agricultural State might feel no concern for the safety of this important bank in a great city. The widow with a small deposit in a small bank of a town of another State might know of no relationship between her bank and the city bank. But the farmer in one State and the widow in another, even though they did not know it, had a direct financial stake in the fate of this city bank. For the country banks must conduct business with the city banks in the ordinary conduct of trade and must carry their reserves with the city banks in order that they may draw interest upon them which they in turn pay to their depositors.

Now, it was found on examination that these 755 depositing banks had 6,500,000 depositors scattered over 15 States. But that is not all. There were 21,000 other banks scattered throughout the country which had deposits in the 755 banks depositing with this particular city bank; and in these 21,000 banks were more than 20,000,000 depositors; and they involved widows, orphans, workers, insurance companies, manufacturers and merchants.

And in addition to all this, there was the position of the borrowers from all this mass of banks. If this city bank should fail, there must be immediate demand for the payment of the money due from its borrowers.

If any of the banks dependent upon it should fail, their borrowers in turn would be compelled to make immediate payment of money due and to realize upon their property at a time when property could not be turned into cash at anything like its real value.

In this city bank and in the 755 banks who carried their reserve deposits in this city bank, there was 695,000 men and women and institutions owing money on their notes. They were scattered throughout the length and breadth of the land. They were on the farms, in the cities, the villages and hamlets.

Most of all, these groups of people were unaware of their danger. They were in their homes and in their churches, concerned with their own affairs—but they were not being forgotten.

Dawes Bank.

The men who had conducted this bank over great numbers of years were men of high esteem in the whole community. To their credit be it said that their chief concern was the preservation of these hundreds of thousands, of millions of people from disaster. They were not asking aid for themselves.

The investigations and the conversations occupied many hours of continuous communication from these two cities to Washington and back again.

Remember this was on Sunday, when the normal processes of business were difficult to conduct. Countless difficulties were encountered and solutions worked out. They were working against time.

Finally, at three hours after Sunday midnight, the task was completed. The assets had been valued by the examiners of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. The banks of the two cities joined in lending assistance, and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation agreed to furnish a sufficient sum to assure that this bank could open without fear and meet every demand of its depositors.

At 10 o'clock on Monday all these banks opened for business as usual. Public announcement was made that ample funds were on hand to pay every depositor.

As had been anticipated, immediately excitement and panic subsided and confidence was restored. The crowds melted away—deposits began to return. The situation was saved, not only in this bank but in the other banks which had been subject to heavy withdrawals.

The loans offered by the co-operating banks and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation were never fully called for and have since been largely repaid, and every danger in connection with that episode is now over.

The central human figure of that bank was a man who had served his country for 40 years in many high capacities, who in recent years had been absent from the country in a position of first importance to the American people.

That is the story of the Dawes bank in Chicago. You know the use our political opponents have made of this incident. They ignore that fact that General Dawes resigned from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation three weeks before, on his first news that attacks were being made on the bank with which his name had long been associated.

He resigned to try to save that bank without call on the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, of which he had been a director. He knew and appreciated the use that would be made in this campaign of such calumny. He sought to avoid it.

Loans Secured and Being Paid Off in Ordinary Course.

And you should know that, when that Sunday meeting started, General Dawes stated that he could not bring himself to ask for assistance from the Corporation in which he had so lately been a director but it was upon the insistence of the two Democratic members of the Reconstruction Board, sitting in the Federal Reserve Bank meeting in Chicago, and upon the insistence of the leading Democratic banker of Chicago, who was then mentioned as a candidate for the Presidency of the United States, and upon the insistence in New York City of the leading Democratic banker and a leading Democratic manufacturer, also mentioned for the Presidency, upon insistence of the other Democratic members of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, that this was no case of the personal feelings of General Dawes or the effect upon my Administration; that it was solely a case of national necessity, and those men then and there jointly offered to take the full responsibility for the action.

These men acted not because they were Democrats or Republicans, but because they were loyal citizens of the United States. The situation demanded broad vision and comprehensive understanding of the problem, instant decision, bold and courageous action. Only by this was a major disaster averted. And I may tell you that not only were these loans adequately secured, but in the ordinary course of business they are being paid off.

"Constant Misrepresentation" "Cruel Injustice to General Dawes."

The constant misrepresentation of this episode for political purposes by Democratic politicians is a slander upon men of their own party as well as a cruel injustice to General Dawes.

It is a characteristic example of the character of this campaign. It is an insult to the American people to substitute this sort of political action for competent discussion of the grave issues which lie before our country.

And I may tell you that this is but one of six similar episodes in great financial centers in the United States.

President Hoover in Springfield (Ill.) Speech Reviews Events in Earlier History of Nation—Finds Situation Akin to That in President Lincoln's Time.

Stating in a speech at Springfield, Ill., on Nov. 4 that "I would like to give to you an important analogy with the whole situation we are now in." President Hoover added that "from Springfield, in the heart of the western prairies, Lincoln was called to the leadership of the nation at the beginning of a crisis that threatened its destruction." In that part of his Springfield speech in which he devoted his remarks to stressing the similarity of the present period with that of President Lincoln's time, President Hoover went on to say:

It was an unprecedented situation, of unprecedented problems. A multitude of conflicting counsels beat in on Washington. An influential body of public opinion advocated a do-nothing policy.

Even the Commander-in-Chief of the national armies, on the day before Lincoln's inauguration, wrote in this spirit: "Say to the seceded States," he wrote: "Wayward sisters, depart in peace."

The most distinguished statesman of the time, William H. Seward, Lincoln's Secretary of State, advised the President to take the country into a foreign war in the hope that this might rally the separating States to the defense of the Union.

When the Commission in such cases takes action to cancel leases it provides for 90 days' notice to the leaseholders in which to make payments before the cancellation can take effect.

Mayor McKee Moves to Amend Tax Exemption Law to Prevent Bronx Building, Thus Blocking Loan By Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

The following is taken from the New York "Sun" Nov. 11: The city moved to-day to block the attempt of the Hillside Housing Corp. to obtain funds from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for the building of a vast housing development in the Bronx.

Acting Mayor Joseph V. McKee introduced in the Municipal Assembly an emergency measure to amend the present local law which exempts from taxation for 20 years new buildings in "congested and unsanitary" areas, providing that any such application for tax exemption must first receive the approval of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

It is understood that the Acting Mayor's petition to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the State Housing Board has held up the final approval of the loan, pending the passage of the local amendment, giving the Board of Estimate a chance to say "yes" or "no" in the exemption of its own taxes. Approval of the State Housing Board has heretofore been sufficient to grant the exemption, the city formerly waiving this power.

Will Be Pushed Through.

The amendment had its first reading to-day. It will come up before the Municipal Assembly for a hearing next week and will be pushed through, the Mayor indicated, in time to block what Mr. McKee regards as a "glut-ting of the market" on Bronx apartments.

Text of Amendment.

The amendment reads:

"For the purpose of securing exemption from local taxation as set forth in Section 2 hereof, an application shall first be made to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment setting forth all details of the proposed housing operation and compliance with the provisions of Section 2 of the State housing law and Section 1 of this law.

"The said Board of Estimate and Apportionment shall thereafter in its discretion by resolution either grant or refuse the said exemption.

"This local law shall take effect immediately."

Carlton & Coast RR. to Receive Loan of \$549,000 from Reconstruction Finance Corporation—Townsville RR. Denied Loan—Additional Applications for Loans Filed, Including \$35,000,000 Loan by New Short Line.

The Inter-State Commerce Commission on Nov. 3 approved a loan of \$549,000 to the Carlton & Coast RR. from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, bringing the total loans approved to \$350,589,678 to 73 roads. The Commission, at the same time, denied the application of the Townsville RR. for a loan of \$32,000 because "the prospective earning power of the applicant and the security offered as a pledge for the proposed loan are not such as to afford reasonable assurance of its ability to repay the loan."

Applications were filed by two additional roads to borrow a total of \$39,000,000 from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, bringing the total amount of loans applied for to date to approximately \$479,131,336. The two roads seeking the loans are the Vicksburg Bridge & Terminal Co. for a loan of \$4,000,000, and the St. Louis-Kansas City Short Line Co., a new company, which petitions for a \$35,000,000 loan for the purpose of constructing a 236-mile double-track line between St. Louis, Mo., and Kansas City, Mo.

The report of the Commission approving the loan to the Carlton & Coast RR. follows:

The Carlton & Coast RR. on May 25 1932 filed an application to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and on July 23 1932 an amended application, for a loan under the provisions of Section 5 of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation Act, approved Jan. 22 1932, as amended.

The Application.

The applicant requests a loan of \$556,000 for a term of three years from the date thereof, with the privilege of repaying the principal, in whole or in part, before maturity. The purposes for which the proceeds of the loan are proposed to be used are as follows:

Rehabilitation of seven miles of the logging road of the Flora Logging Co.	\$7,000
Payment of principal of matured first mortgage bonds.	250,000
Purchase of 80 logging cars from the Flora Logging Co.	80,000
Purchase of one locomotive.	20,000
Construction of new extension.	199,000
Total.	\$556,000

The applicant states that it is unable to obtain any part of the necessary funds from local financial institutions, from the Southern Pacific Co., with which it interchanges traffic, or from any other source.

On May 25 1932 the applicant presented an application under Section 1(18) of the Inter-State Commerce Act for authority to construct the new extension and to acquire the line of the logging company. This application is filed in Finance Docket No. 9439. We are concurrently denying this application insofar as it involves the acquisition of the line of the logging company.

Transportation Properties and Operations.

The applicant owns and operates a single-track standard-gauge steam railroad extending from Carlton to Tillamook Gate, Yamhill County, Oreg., a distance of 13.93 miles, with 2.34 miles of yard tracks and sidings. At the eastern terminus, Carlton, the applicant's railroad connects with the Southern Pacific. The principal commodity carried is forest products, other traffic being negligible in amount. At a point near its western terminus, Tillamook Gate, the applicant's railroad connects with a branch of the logging road of the Flora Logging Co., not a common carrier, which extends westward through timber lands now practically exhausted. The Flora Logging Co. owns the entire capital stock of the applicant. The main logging railroad of the Flora Logging Co., as at present constructed,

extends for 17 miles from Tualatin Pass in a southwesterly direction. The connecting branch above referred to extends to Tillamook Gate, and at present constitutes the connecting link between the main line of the Flora Logging Co. and the western terminus of the applicant's railroad. The applicant proposes to purchase the entire 17 miles of the main line of the Flora Logging Co. and thereafter operate it as a common carrier.

This main logging line is standard-gauge; the right-of-way has been cleared and grubbed; 10 miles of the line are laid with 70-pound rail and seven miles with 65-pound rail. No part of the loan requested is proposed to be used for the purchase of the 17 miles of main logging road. The Flora Logging Co. has agreed to accept in payment therefor a note for \$425,000, secured by a second mortgage upon the applicant's railroad properties, which will be subordinate to the first mortgage proposed to be pledged as security for the loan now requested. As above stated, the application by the Carlton & Coast RR. Co. to acquire this 17 miles of logging road is being concurrently denied by us in Finance Docket No. 9439.

With a part of the proceeds of the loan requested, the applicant proposes to construct a new connection 9.5 miles in length, extending from a point, Cedar Creek, near the Western terminus of the present line of the applicant in a general northwesterly direction to Tualatin Pass, the northeastern terminus of the logging road of the Flora Logging Co. This new cut-off or extension would avoid the maximum grades of 7% and difficult operating conditions existing on the present connection between the applicant's railroad and the main line of the Flora Logging Co. The applicant does not propose to abandon its railroad west of Cedar Creek, since its operation will continue to be necessary in serving two industries now located upon that trackage. The track is laid mainly with 56-pound rail; the ties are of sawn and hewn fir, 2,640 to the mile. The applicant owns one locomotive and 10 freight cars, and leases one locomotive and one passenger car. The applicant also owns terminal lands and facilities at Carlton, including a lake used in storing logs, also log rollways and dams.

Necessities of the Applicant.

The present connecting link between the applicant's line and the main logging road of the Flora Logging Co. extends westerly from Tillamook Gate, the western terminus of the applicant's railroad. It is necessary to operate this portion of the logging line with geared engines, by reason of existing grades of 7% and extreme curvature. Only four or five cars at a time can be handled. The 17 miles of main line of the logging company which the applicant proposes to purchase have a maximum grade of 2½% and can be operated with rod engines in the same manner as the present line of the applicant. The new cut-off, if constructed, will have a maximum grade of 3%, and it also will be operated with rod engines, resulting in a saving in operating expenses estimated at 75c. per 1,000 feet of logs. Since it is estimated that 150,000,000 feet of logs will be transported each year, the total annual saving is estimated in excess of \$100,000. Furthermore, it is claimed that operating conditions will be much safer, a matter of importance, since a number of men have been killed, and serious injuries have been numerous on the present switchback. The applicant states that none of the proposed loan will be advisable unless funds are included for the construction of the Cedar Creek cut-off.

The \$250,000 of the applicant's 5% first mortgage bonds proposed to be retired with a part of the proceeds of the loan were issued under a mortgage dated March 1 1910. These bonds became due and payable on March 1 1930. On that date the applicant was unable to discharge the bonds and the entire amount is at present in the possession of a trustee awaiting payment, the owners of the bonds having agreed to accept in satisfaction and discharge thereof the face value of the bonds without accrued interest.

The beneficial owners of these bonds, which are held by the Ladd Estate Co., Paul C. Murphy and Frederick H. Strong, as trustees, are also the owners of large timber holdings and other properties, which, together with the bonds, are under contract of sale to the Flora Logging Co. The purchase price involved in the contract of sale has all been paid with the exception of about \$200,000, which includes principal and interest. In the event the applicant pays these bonds, the present owners thereof must apply \$200,000 of the total amount of \$250,000 so received to the final payment due from the Flora Logging Co., under the contract, but they will be under obligation to return a cash balance of about \$50,000 to the Flora Logging Co. Therefore, the payment of the bonds will improve the cash position of the Flora Logging Co. to the extent of approximately \$50,000. The Flora Logging Co. will also receive title to the following timber lands comprising an estimated amount of 53,845,000 feet of timber; parts of Sections 8, 18, 19, 20 and 26, Twp. 2, So. R. 5, W.; parts of Sections 10, 14, 27, 28 and 34, Twp. 2, So. R. 6, W.; and part of Section 26, Twp. 2, So. R. 7, W.

The sum of \$50,000, together with the additional amount to be received by the Flora Logging Co. from the sale of its equipment, is expected to be used by the logging company in the construction of new and additional logging spurs into uncut timber lands, thereby making available new sources of timber and providing traffic for the applicant's line for future years. Without assistance from these sources the Flora Logging Co. will be financially unable to construct these logging spurs.

The timber along the present logging road is nearly exhausted and operation of the applicant's railroad is practically at a standstill. Until recently it has been impracticable to project any new spurs into the uncut timber lands because of the great diversity of ownership of various tracts of land proposed to be served. Heretofore, the owner of one section of timber land seldom owned or controlled the adjoining sections, and the owners of some sections were in a position to block the construction of logging facilities to other sections; furthermore, owners of isolated sections would not have found it profitable to provide transportation facilities for small and disconnected tracts of land. However, there has been effected within the last few months by means of exchanges of titles, a consolidation of the various tracts into three main areas, each of single ownership, thereby insuring a permanency of traffic when the new logging spurs are constructed. These exchanges of title were the result of an agreement entered into on June 29 1931 by the Flora Logging Co. with the owners of a majority of the standing timber. The agreement further requires the owners of the timber lands adjacent to the logging road of the Flora Logging Co., proposed to be acquired by the applicant, to grant easements for connecting logging roads to the owners of timber lands further removed from the road to be acquired.

The main source of timber which will be carried by the applicant at first will be from the timber lands owned by the Flora Logging Co., containing approximately 1,900,000,000 feet of merchantable timber, but eventually the timber lands of the other owners also will be served, upon which it is estimated there are approximately five billion feet of timber.

It is urged that the acquisition of the 17 miles of logging road of the Flora Logging Co., their operation in common carrier service by the applicant, and the construction of new logging spurs, which will be possible only through use of the money to be obtained by applying the proceeds of the loan to the purposes proposed, will all be of important public advantage since it will insure an outlet for timber of all owners

ney, Chairman of the Railway Labor Executives' Association. The "Journal of Commerce" Nov. 7 further states:

The suggestion included the proposal that the renewed wage agreement could be terminated by either the railroads or the unions after the six months with 30 days' notice.

Representatives of the railroads and the unions are to meet in Chicago on Dec. 10, for a series of conferences in advance of the expiration of the present agreement which has brought a 10% wage cut from the levels prior to Feb. 1 1931. The Chicago meetings are called almost two months in advance of the expiration of the agreement so that wages will not automatically be restored the first of February.

A proposal of the railroads to serve notices of a 20% wage cut from the levels prevailing before the present agreement was refused by the unions. President Hoover, upon being appealed to by the unions, asked that further discussion of the new cut be postponed until after Jan. 1, but the several conferees are meeting 20 days earlier than that date in order to have more time for negotiations. The six months' extension now proposed is considered to be an alternative suggestion by the railroads.

Thiehoff's Views.

Mr. Thiehoff's letter to Mr. Whitney, quoted in the "Railroad Trainman," publication of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, said in part: "We have received and given consideration to your reply of Oct. 14 to our letter of Oct. 13. You have placed interpretations upon our letter with which we do not agree and we are also unable to agree with the suggested procedure as outlined in your letter.

"As a means, however, of arriving at a solution of our immediate problem and to provide a method of procedure which will disturb present conditions as little as possible, we propose the following:

"The conference committee of managers proposes that the railroads represented by it will agree to withhold the service of notice of any reduction in present basic rates of pay pending a negotiation referred to below, provided that the members of the Railway Labor Executives' Association will undertake to proceed forthwith to ascertain in accordance with the laws of their respective organizations whether they will authorize representatives to enter into a negotiation with this conference committee of managers beginning at approximately Dec. 10 1932, upon the proposal made by this conference committee of managers, which is that the present agreement providing for 10% deduction from pay checks shall be extended from its present expiration date of Jan. 31 1933, for such a period and in such a manner as may be agreed upon in said negotiation."

Eastern Railroads Restrict Free Passes.

The use of free passes on railroads in Eastern territory will be restricted on Jan. 1, according to an announcement, as follows, issued Oct. 31 by the Committee on Public Relations of the Eastern railroads:

As a result of studies which have been made under their direction, it has been announced by the Presidents of substantially all of the major railroads in Eastern territory that:

Effective Jan. 1 1933 it will be the purpose of such carriers to issue free or reduced rate complimentary or exchange transportation only to directors, officers and employees of railroads who are carried regularly and in good faith on the payroll of the railroad for account of which such transportation is requested and who devote substantially all their working time to railroad business.

The New York "Journal of Commerce" of Nov. 1, in noting the promulgation of the new ruling, said:

This move marks the first step taken by the carriers to restrict free transportation which had heretofore been awarded as a courtesy to all railroad employees and officers, regardless of the carrier they belonged to. This practice had come in for much criticism recently, especially since passenger traffic losses have been mounting since 1920.

Passes to Be Limited.

Under the new ruling only full-time officers and employees of the carriers who are carried regularly on the payroll of the railroad for the account of which such transportation is requested, and who devote practically all their time to railroad business, will be given passes.

Carriers in Western and Southern territory are expected to take similar action soon. It is understood that the heads of practically all the large railroads of the country had come to an understanding in this direction before the Eastern carriers made their announcement.

Those rules under which dependents of railroad employees may obtain free transportation, as well as the rules affecting clergymen and certain charity workers who, under certain conditions, obtain rebates and passes, will not be changed.

Effective Jan. 1.

Under the new ruling directors and officers, regardless of rank, who do not devote nearly all of their time in the service of the railroad, will not be entitled to free transportation. These individuals will be restricted to passes on their own lines, or lines with which their railroad is affiliated.

Great Lakes Navigation to Be Closed on Nov. 15—Some Lighthouses and Markers to Continue for Two Weeks.

According to advices from Detroit, Nov. 6, to the New York "Herald Tribune" navigation on the Great Lakes for 1932 will be closed officially on Tuesday, Nov. 15, when the Lighthouse Service plans to begin the removal of all the buoys and lightships from the Great Lakes and tributary waters in preparation for freezing weather. All navigation markers will have been removed from the Lakes on Dec. 7, said the account, which also stated:

Working from the more exposed portions of the Lake, the lighthouse tenders will first remove those buoys which can best be spared by navigators. The removal of the last of the buoys will be delayed as long as possible for the use of belated vessels, and the four lightships which guard the dangerous reefs in the northern part of Lake Michigan and in Green Bay will not be taken into port until the first week of December. Last of the lightships to be withdrawn will be the vessels on Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair which guard the approaches to Detroit.

In removing the keepers from the more isolated lighthouses, considerable danger is frequently encountered. An unheralded cold snap often forces the keepers to reach shore over newly-formed ice. After preparing their stations so that the minimum of damage will be done during the long

and severe winter, the keepers of certain designated stations prepare the unattended winter light, of sufficient candle power to aid mariners who have been delayed or have been caught in the ice.

The shore lighthouses are the last to dim their lights, and even when it seems apparent that the last vessel has made port a careful watch is kept and the light immediately relighted or a fog signal started should a ship be sighted.

President Hoover Sees Need of Working Out of Problem of Regulation of Transportation by Water—Injuries to Traffic Incident to "Cut-Throat" Competition.

In a letter read before the Atlantic Deeper Waterways Association Convention, which opened in Philadelphia, damaging our other great arm of transportation, that is, the Oct. 27, President Hoover stated that "cut-throat competition is not only injuring waterway traffic itself but it is railways." The President wrote thus to Mayor J. Hampton Moore, of Philadelphia, President of the Waterways Association, his letter also stating "we must work out the problem of regulation of transportation by water, because the cut-throat competition now going on in certain cases is making impossible the entry and maintenance of adequate services upon these channels." The President's letter follows:

The development of the natural water channels with which the United States is so richly blessed has for many years been an active interest with me. They provide an economical means of transportation of bulk goods that is of immense benefit to farmers and the heavy industries.

These benefits reflect to the whole nation in increased buying power of the agricultural communities and in lessened costs to the consumers. Twice as much work on these inland waterways has been accomplished in the last three years as in any comparable period in our history.

We have new problems before us in the matter of waterways. We must work out the problem of regulation of transportation by water: First, because the cut-throat competition now going on in certain cases is making impossible the entry and maintenance of adequate service upon these channels. And, second, this cut-throat competition is not only injuring waterway traffic itself, but it is damaging our other great arm of transportation, that is, the railways.

There is a place for both of these in our system, and their development can be made of mutual interest. A study of these problems by your association would be a contribution to the proper development of the waterways and the securing of the advantages which they offer.

I wish you success in your labors to promote the development of these great national services.

Five States Notify Inter-State Commerce Commission of Change in Freight Rates—Intra-State Charges To Be Advanced to Inter-State Level Prescribed by Federal Commission.

Five States have officially notified the Inter-State Commerce Commission that they will "promptly" advance the freight rates on certain commodities moving intra-State within their respective borders, to a level with the inter-State rates prescribed by the Commission in the so-called "Fifteen Per Cent Case," according to information made public by the Commission Nov. 1. The "United States Daily" from which we quote added:

By its ruling in Docket No. 25135, "Increases in Intrastate Freight Rates," the Commission agreed with the railroads that the refusal of the State regulatory commissions to permit increases in intrastate rates in line with those advanced for inter-State traffic had resulted in discrimination against inter-State commerce.

The States were given until Nov. 1 to notify the Commission that they will "promptly" readjust the intra-State rates to the inter-State level, failing which orders would be issued by the Commission requiring compliance with its ruling.

Six States Heard From.

At the close of business Nov. 1, however, only the States of Arkansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas and Utah had made such official notification, although Kentucky filed a petition Nov. 1 asking for further hearing in the proceedings.

The States of Idaho, Louisiana, and Montana have yet to be heard from, and while some grace is usually given if the notifications are in the mail before midnight of the date set for the filing, it was explained, failure to respond within a reasonable time will leave the Commission no alternative but to issue an order under Section 13 of the Inter-State Commerce Act requiring compliance with its decision.

Petition by Kentucky.

The State of Kentucky, in its petition for a further hearing in the proceedings, recited a number of exceptions to the Commission's report and declared that "no justification is shown why the principal industrial pursuits, such as coal mining and agricultural pursuits, such as tobacco farming, of Kentucky, should be burdened with these emergency charges, while the principal industrial pursuits of other States, such as petroleum production (in direct competition with coal) and furniture manufacture; and agricultural pursuits such as grain and stock farming should be exempt; and the Commission will err if it should make the threatened order, under the circumstances."

It was further contended by Kentucky that the Commission erred in using its discretion as to what inter-State commodities should bear these emergency charges while denying intra-State authority like discretion without having determined that either the inter-State or intra-State rates would be just and reasonable.

It was pointed out that if the Commission enters an order requiring that the intra-State rates be changed in compliance with the Commission's decision, such order will be "an unwarranted and unjustifiable invasion of the domain and rights of the State of Kentucky." It was charged that the intra-State rates in Kentucky, with few "isolated exceptions" already are higher than the intra-State rates in neighboring States, even with the addition of the emergency charges in those States.

Wage Cut Accepted by Tugboat Workers in New York—Agreement Affects 4,000, Ends Strike Threat and Assures Peace for at Least Six Months.

A new wage agreement for the 4,000 men employed by tugboat lines operating in the Harbor was signed on Nov. 7, by representatives of the men and the owners, meeting at the New York Towboat Exchange, 17 Battery Place. According to the New York "Times" of Nov. 8, which reports this, peace was thus assured for six months after a series of conferences held in the last four weeks at which threats of a strike to tie up harbor traffic were conveyed to the employers. The "Times" continued:

Despite the inability of the two groups to reach satisfactory terms at the earlier meetings, both sides indicated that everything possible would be done to keep the tugboats operating and assure the safe movement of transatlantic liners to and from their piers and the movement of freight between the various terminals in the port. At yesterday's meeting both sides agreed to make concessions and terms were settled after several hours of discussion.

Under the new contract the licensed employees, including captains, pilots and chief engineers, accepted a reduction of \$10 a month and the unlicensed employees, including deckhands, cooks and other workers, were reduced \$5 a month. The allowance of 80 cents a day for food for the men on the boats was reduced 10 cents a day. The contract which expired Oct. 1 will be retained with these exceptions.

The employers demanded originally that the licensed employees be reduced \$20 a month and the unlicensed men \$10 a month, and that the working day, which has been 7 a. m. to 5 p. m., be changed to 5 a. m. to 7 p. m. This would not have meant an extension of the number of hours of work, but would have limited the time during which employees would have had an opportunity to receive overtime wages, which are 50% higher than the regular wages.

The employers also demanded that the allowance for food be reduced to 65 cents a day, and that a fee of \$2 paid to a man on the tug who goes aboard an unmanned lighter and handles the rope be eliminated. When these demands were first submitted the men replied that they could not live on smaller wages than those paid during the last year, when an average of only 300 men worked six days a week and about 2,000 worked at intervals, ranging from two to five days a week. The men threatened to strike if the employers' demands were pressed, but at a meeting Sunday evening they authorized a conference committee to accept the best agreement possible without strike.

The old agreement expired Oct. 1 and the new one will be effective as of Nov. 1 and run until May 1 1933, and thereafter unless one group asks for a reopening of the matter before May 31. The maximum salaries under the new scale will be \$240 a month for tugboat captains, \$230 for chief engineers, \$201 for pilots and masters and \$75 to \$90 for firemen. The pay of the deckhands and other workers will average about \$85.

Captain William A. Maher of the Associated Marine Workers and Joseph H. Moran, President of the Moran Towing & Transportation Co., acted for the employees and owners, respectively, during the negotiations.

Oklahoma Corporation Commission Issues Order to Permit Increases in Intra-State Freight Rates.

The following from Oklahoma City, Nov. 1, is from the "United States Daily":

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission has issued an order, effective Nov. 15, amending its previous order so as to permit increases in intra-State freight rates to the level of the increases authorized by the Inter-State Commerce Commission in the 15% case.

The State Commission had refused to permit increases on petroleum oils and refined and other gasolines when such commodities are moving for further manufacture; on crude oil; on cottonseed products, on certain animal and poultry feeds, and on less-than-carload traffic handled at a rate of \$1.04 or less.

Upon consideration of this case, the Inter-State Commerce Commission held that increases should be permitted except in the case of the intra-State rates on oils, refined, and on other gasolines and fuel, road and petroleum residual oils when moving for further manufacture.

Canadian National Railways Show Increased Earnings.

Advices as follows from the Department of Commerce were issued on Nov. 5:

Net earnings for the Canadian National Railways for September were registered at \$2,828,833 compared with \$1,387,081 for the corresponding month of last year, an increase of \$1,441,752, according to a report to the Commerce Department from Trade Commissioner E. G. Sabine, Montreal, Canada.

Gross revenues of the railways, however, were more than \$1,000,000 lower than the same month in 1931, it was stated.

This particular showing for the net earnings was reported accounted for largely by the reduced operating expenses and the heavier grain movement of recent weeks.

For the nine months from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30 1932, the net revenue of the system totalled \$6,200,117 compared with \$3,565,770 in the corresponding period of 1931, it was pointed out.

300 Large Construction Projects to Give Employment to Thousands in Far Western States—Entail Expenditure of Nearly \$800,000,000.

Eleven States of the far West are planning activity on some 300 large construction jobs, entailing an estimated expenditure of nearly \$800,000,000, it was announced on Oct. 30 by the Bank of America, Pacific Coast branch banking system. Reports from cities of the area, it is stated, show that practically all work has been financed and construction has started, or will start, at an early date. Outstanding projects in California where much of the construction work is centered include:

All-American Canal.....	\$33,000,000	Army Bombing Base, Marin County.....	\$4,000,000
Los Angeles Flood Control District.....	15,000,000	Hoover Dam.....	165,000,000
Pine Canyon Dam, Pasadena	10,000,000	Los Angeles Water District.....	220,000,000
Navy Dirigible Base, Sunnyvale.....	5,000,000	Golden Gate Bridge.....	30,000,000
		S. F.-Oakland Bay Bridge.....	75,000,000

It is stated that supplementary figures on employment indicated that at the peak of activity the Metropolitan Water District, Los Angeles, would employ 15,000 men; San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, 6,000; Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco, 1,500, and Hoover Dam, 3,000. Except for the latter, where more than 3,400 men are now employed, most of the projects are not expected to reach peak figures before six months. It is added:

Some undertakings . . . in other parts of the West are: New Federal building, Spokane, \$790,000; city power plant, Seattle, \$1,500,000; public market, Portland, \$1,400,000; special highway construction, Utah, \$2,500,000, as well as large reservoir and conduit systems, entailing some 20,000 man days of labor in that State and approximately 30 post office buildings, each costing upward of \$100,000, already under construction or which will be started immediately in cities within the area.

Some indication of the importance of the construction work to allied industries is found in the reports on the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge project, which at the peak is expected to employ an additional 2,300 men in factories and shops within the area, aside from those employed in Eastern and Mid-Western steel mills and factories.

Economic Policy Commission Finds Economic Changes Affecting Banks Preferable to Legislative Reforms—Eliminations of "Uneconomic Units" by Suspensions, Mergers, &c., Viewed As Strengthening Banking Structure.

A stronger banking structure has already been developed through the elimination of "uneconomic units" by suspensions, mergers and voluntary liquidations with greater thoroughness and effectiveness than could be accomplished by any of the sweeping plans proposed for reform through legislation, the Economic Policy Commission of the American Bankers' Association declares in a study made public in New York on Oct. 25. In 11 years, the report finds, the number of American banking institutions has been reduced by these means from over 30,000 to under 20,000 and their average financial resources doubled. Although many good banks and bankers were ruined by conditions in the depression for which they were not to blame, the institutions eliminated during the past decade, it says, were mainly among banks that should never have been granted charters, that were improperly conducted or for which sufficient business to support them no longer existed in their localities. The report says:

There have been a salutary elimination of undesirable elements and causes of weakness that reacted against all banking, a strengthening of the banks that are left and a raising of the new prevailing standards of character and soundness as measured in terms of average capital, resources, available volume of business and qualities of management. The average bank in 1921 had the activities of only 3,500 persons as the basis of its business, while to-day there are more than 6,000 persons per bank, it brings out, adding that the capital funds per bank then averaged \$205,000 and the deposits \$1,250,000, while the averages for the present structure are \$420,000 and \$2,500,000, or twice the former figures.

The total capital funds for the 30,800 banks of 1921 were \$6,360,000,000 and to-day they are approximately \$8,500,000,000 for 19,500 banks—a readjustment downward from the high point of \$10,000,000,000 reached in 1930. No arbitrary dimensions can be stated for the banking plant required by the nation, but probably these readjustments have gone far in bringing it in line with a sounder relationship to the actual needs of the country than has existed in over a decade and the present number of banks and volume of banking capital can take care for some time to come of the expansion in business which is to be expected. Over-competition among too many banks and dispersion of capital among too large a number of small, high-cost units have been largely responsible in the past for unsatisfactory banking developments.

The report says it is not claimed that all desirable readjustments have been perfected, granting that some changes in existing banking laws to bring them up to date with economic changes and correct features that experience has proved undesirable are in order. The report further says:

Such changes should be given deliberate consideration and based on practical banking experience and conditions, not on theoretical or prejudiced views. For the greater part, however, the further strengthening and readjustments desirable in the banking structure will come in due course from other than legislative sources. It is expected that consolidations and voluntary liquidations will continue to eliminate where and as required such uneconomic units as still remain and will be the chief means of correction, as distinguished from the destructive forces of bank suspensions. In places which have been deprived of needed banking facilities they should be restored by reopenings, establishment of branches where State laws permit or organizations of new banks where fully justified from all points of view.

These processes present the most effective and desirable means for bringing the banking structure, both as to the number, capital and distribution of its units, into closer contact with the economic needs of the nation. The looseness of this contact was created in the past largely as a result of former competitive and ill-considered chartering practices on the part of both State and National banking authorities. It is a cardinal requirement for insuring sound banking that these mistaken policies shall not be repeated. Full consideration of the advisability of granting new charters can be exercised under existing laws, both State and National. There is no need for any major legislative enactment to prevent the return of the evils of over-banking or the entry of unqualified persons into the banking business.

External factors aiding in bringing about "a sounder situation on more fundamental lines than could be provided by laws," as cited in the report are the "marked subsidence of public fear in regard to banks, a reduction in withdrawals for hoarding, a falling off in runs, a gradual revival of sound industrial and mercantile transactions as a basis for new obligations, a return toward normal market values in the investment securities that form the basis of so large a part of bank assets and a gradual improvement in the ability of borrowing customers to meet past obligations."

Economic conditions, it says, by thus reversing their trends are exerting opposite influences from those "by which many banks were previously wrecked." Full consideration is also to be given to the emergency aid to banks extended by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the report says. It adds:

The great majority of the aided banks were well managed, intrinsically sound institutions under anything like normal conditions and capable of rendering useful services to their communities. There developed a wholly artificial situation, against which no banking structure could be wholly proof in all its parts without special aid, that was created by public conditions and public acts and called for public aid and a change of public attitude. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation loans were the answer to this situation. These loans brought the powers of the nation's public credit to the support of the banking structure, which is a semi-public instrumentality.

We would particularly emphasize that this in no way constituted "banking relief" in the sense of helping banks make money with public funds or enabling them to pass losses on to the Government. Advances are purely loan on the basis of intrinsically good assets with ample margins of security and ample elements of responsibility on the part of the borrowers and should ultimately be repaid in full. The change of public attitude has relieved pressure against the banks and the turn in the bond market has materially aided in readjusting their positions, justifying the theory on which the Reconstruction Finance Corporation was based and going far in making possible a real start in liquidating the temporary emergency credit structure erected by it with public funds in the public interest.

In the case of some banks their part in taking down this structure by repayment of their loans can be carried out promptly, while in others doubtless the longer term of credit aid envisioned in the Reconstruction loan plan will be necessary. However, we would emphasize that in the interest of the banks themselves it is highly desirable to free the banking structure as rapidly as possible of all leaning on public support as fast as general and individual circumstances permit.

Changed Business Methods Regarded as Main Factor in Non-Liquid Banking Situation Which Had Its Inception in 1929 According to Economic Policy Commission of A. B. A.

Scarcity of financial transactions of a type creating pure commercial credit, caused by changed business methods rather than voluntary banking policies, was a major factor in the non-liquid banking situation that was "abnormally vulnerable to the general business reaction" which began in 1929, the Economic Policy Commission, American Bankers Association, said in a report made public Oct. 27. Banking readjustments that have now been made and a return by business to former financial practices are more effective means for restoring desirable conditions than "too much regulation by means of radical legislation," it says.

Loss of liquidity by the commercial banking credit structure has "important social and economic aspects and is not merely a banking technicality," the commission says, defining banking liquidity as "maintenance of an adequate position, by the convertibility of earning assets into cash through the automatic maturity of loans and discounts and the marketability of other paper and investments without loss, to keep a bank amply prepared at all times to meet withdrawals of deposits or make adjustments in the employment of its funds." The most satisfactory method, says the Commission, is an ample volume of eligible commercial loans and commercial paper, and, secondarily, investment in Federal Government and other high grade securities with stable market conditions, it says, but points out that "this ideal situation was very materially disrupted by circumstances over which bankers had little or no control." Widespread changes in the financial habits of business, which moved its goods faster and financed working capital needs more largely with security issues in place of bank credit, resulted in a decline in the demand for commercial loans and supply of commercial paper, causing "technological unemployment for commercial banking credit," the commission finds. The report also said:

The enforced search for other employment was reflected in an increase in investments, a rise in loans on real estate, often taken as additional collateral to secure weakened loans, and expansion in loans on securities during the stock market boom when many desirable customers were insisting on such accommodations. Always there continued a steady drop in the ratios of pure commercial credit.

At the very time there prevailed to a serious extent this direct debasement of the liquidity of the credit structure of the banks, their position was further rendered less liquid by collapse of market values of investments and real estate. This disruption in conditions under which banking was operated rendered it absolutely impossible for it to maintain its former

standards of liquidity. It was against this precarious position that the full force of the public panic of distrust against the banks struck.

Those who blame the impairment of banking liquidity on changed methods "premeditatedly adopted by bankers and would curb them by law would strike at symptoms rather than the disease itself," the report declares. It adds:

Those who hold that increased investments by commercial banks and the undesirable decline of liquid commercial loans should be corrected by outlawing investment activities so far as the commercial banks are concerned, apparently have the theory that engrossment of bankers in investment affiliates, distribution of securities and building up large investment portfolios for their banks caused neglect and shrinkage of pure commercial bank credit. The reverse may be the truth. Shrinkage of demand from business for accommodations on a commercial credit basis and its transfer of a large part of its working capital requirements from bank loans to security issues naturally caused bankers to increase their interests along investment lines to keep their facilities and growing resources employed.

If, with return of normal conditions, business methods return to their former standard credit practices, the chief cause of impaired liquidity will be remedied or reduced, and likewise business will find a better capitalized and better managed group of banks ready to serve it than under pre-depression conditions, the report says. Continuing the report, said:

If there does not develop the hoped-for restoration of the part played by pure commercial banking, and a less liquid type is to become permanent, the present structure will be better qualified than before to adapt itself to this situation without need of too much regulation by statute. It will require closer adaptation of the investment portfolio to the deposits side of a bank's position in co-ordination with its commercial loans than generally existed when the depression fell upon the country. It will require, also, a higher development of the investment faculties of our commercial banks, rather than their suppression by law. These are largely managerial problems to be handled by the banks themselves and cannot be solved by means of radical legislation.

Banking Unification Through Abolishment of State Banks Opposed by Economic Policy Commission of A. B. A.—Instead Would Extend Scope of Federal Reserve System Among State Banks.

Unification of commercial banking operations by extending further the scope of the Federal Reserve System among State banks, rather than by doing away with the State banking systems and forcing all commercial banks under Federal charter as proposed at Washington, is advocated by the Economic Policy Commission of the American Bankers' Association in a report issued in New York on Oct. 30. It points out that the ratio of commercial banking activities conducted by members of the system comprising both State and National banks, has risen in recent years to nearly 80% of the total volume, while the percentage of non-members has decreased.

Improvement in banking conditions, it declares, can be attained without sacrificing "the dual banking system of optional State and National charters which, in the banking field, stands as just as great a defense against undue central government control over the financial liberties of our people as the dual system of State and Federal governmental jurisdictions represents in respect to their political liberties." The report says in part:

"It is the theory of proposals for unification that a single, unified system for the country as a whole under Federal Government supervision would make for better supervision, a more compact and better co-ordinated banking structure, a nationally higher standard of management for all banks and a credit mechanism that would be subject to greater control in the National interest. While we are wholly in sympathy with the basic purposes in this argument, we believe they can be attained under the present dual system of State and National charters, that this dual system has additional virtues in itself, particularly along the lines of maintaining local financial independence and credit sympathies free from the domination of over-centralized Federal Government, and that the dual system should be strengthened rather than destroyed.

"Material enlargement of the sphere of the Federal Reserve System is particularly favored by the reduction of the banking picture to its present dimensions and character. In 1921, 65% of all banks in the commercial field were not Federal Reserve members. The great bulk, however, of the activities in that field were within the system since members represented 71% of the deposits and loans and investments. This extensive unification existing even then has been carried further by subsequent developments. In June 1931 the ratio of outside banks had fallen to 62%, while 75% of the commercial banking capital funds were in the system, 79% of the deposits and 78% of the loans and investments. This is a distinct move in the right direction. The changes this has involved have promoted unity in the operating aspects of our commercial banking system embracing both State and National banks, without abrogating their respective charter rights or nullifying the advantages of our dual system.

"With these developments pointing the way, the end to be sought is not destruction of the dual banking system, but promotion to the utmost of further developments along the lines indicated. As a condition developed in which the greater portion of banks were of a size and character to qualify them for membership in the Federal Reserve System, and as the system by its demonstrated advantages of membership extended its scope, we would approach in the dual system itself, without sacrificing its own peculiar virtues, all the virtues claimed for a unified system.

"It is true the Federal Reserve System's record has in no sense shown it to be a panacea for banking difficulties or an impregnable defense against depression. Many banks have failed within the system as well as outside. However, the record for the banks in the system was materially better than for those outside. Moreover, although the facts indicate that greater strength is to be desired for banks both inside and outside, it is our conviction that the system constitutes the most promising instrumentality for

building up the kind of banking structure that is to be desired. We are in favor, therefore, of a broadening unity in the functioning of our commercial banks both State and National, along sound co-ordinated lines under the leadership of an ever improving Federal Reserve System."

State Committee on Mortgages Created in Ohio— County Organizations to Be Set Up to Aid Farmers and Home Owners, Governor Announces.

Columbus (Ohio) advices, Nov. 3, to the "United States Daily" stated that Governor George White on Nov. 1 announced appointment of a State-wide Farm and Home Protective Committee to set up organizations in every county to co-operate with farmers and home owners burdened with mortgages on their property maturing or past due. The Governor is quoted as follows:

"The purpose of these organizations is to bring together the mortgagor and mortgagee of property about to be foreclosed and attempt to work out some plan of refinancing whereby the property owner may continue in possession for sufficient time to work out his problem.

Sympathy Expressed.

"I have every sympathy with the man who has worked hard for years to acquire a farm or home and now, through no fault of his own, but due solely to present economic circumstances, loses it and sees the results of a lifetime of effort wiped out. When the manufacturer, merchant or the operator of a commercial enterprise gets into financial difficulties it is the custom for his bankers and creditors to strain every effort toward refinancing or readjusting his affairs so the enterprise may be placed upon its feet rather than put out of business.

"We see strenuous efforts upon the part of agencies of the Federal Government to prevent failures and bankruptcies of railroads and other large enterprises. Why, as a matter of justice and right, should not a similar method be provided for the farmer or home owner about to lose his property under mortgage foreclosure?

Reasons for Plan.

"To my regret, I found it impossible, due to constitutional limitations, to ask for legislation in the nature of an extension of time for payment of mortgages at the recent special session of the Legislature. So I am placing this plan in operation, hoping that, in many cases through co-operative effort of the owner and the mortgage holder, plans may be devised affording the farmer or home owner opportunity to work out of his difficulty."

The Columbus advices to the "Daily" further said:

The Governor explained that the State-wide committee, serving without pay, will be the nucleus of his plan and it will designate local committees in each County. As mortgages mature or in cases where they are now past due, the owner of the property may consult the County Committee and that Committee will intervene with the mortgage holder in an attempt to delay foreclosure. It also will counsel and assist the owner of the farm or home in refinancing, and defer final action until a chance is afforded to overcome obstacles.

Stockholders of Closed Bank in Illinois Subject to Assessment for Depositors' Loss, According to State Supreme Court.

Reaffirming a previous opinion, the Illinois Supreme Court has ruled, after rehearing the case involving the matter, that all former stockholders of a closed bank are liable up to the par value of their stock for all deposits made while they were stockholders, provided such deposits were not withdrawn up to the time the bank closed. Advices to this effect from Springfield, Ill., Oct. 24, as given in the "United States Daily" of Oct. 26, continued:

The court, in an opinion written by Justice Frank K. Dunn, declared that "under the Constitution the stockholder is responsible to the amount of his stock for all liabilities of the bank incurred during his ownership of stock and no more, and such responsibility continues until the liability is discharged. Stockholders of a bank at the time credit was extended to it or a liability was incurred by it are individually and personally liable to the creditor to an amount equal to their stock."

In the court's first opinion, filed last April, it was also held that the statute of limitations with regard to stockholders' liability does not commence to run until the bank closed, and that the double liability provision may be enforced against heirs of former stockholders who have died.

Because the lower court did not classify various creditors' claims, the Supreme Court stated it had no basis for holding that the statute of limitations applies to any debt included in the decree.

The case in which the decision was handed down was brought by Charles Sanders and six other creditors against the Merchants' State Bank of Centralia and present and former stockholders. The latter had appealed.

Two Suits Delay Action on Oklahoma State Guaranty Fund—Liquidation in Oklahoma Bank Case Tied Up by Cases in Federal Court, State Officer Says.

Liquidation of Oklahoma's defunct State Bank Guaranty fund has been delayed again by two suits in Federal District Court here which have been scheduled for hearing before Judge Edgar S. Vaught, Nov. 14, according to M. B. Cope, attorney for the State Banking Department. We quote from Oklahoma City advices, Nov. 3, to the "United States Daily," which went on to say:

After several years of litigation, a number of cases involving claims against the defunct fund finally were consolidated in a case tried in the Oklahoma County District Court before Judge Sam Hooker, in which liquidation of the fund's assets was provided, it is explained. The district court approved findings of John B. Harrison, referee, in the case. Later, according to Mr. Cope, the District Court overruled a motion for a new trial filed by some dissatisfied litigants.

The two Federal court suits which tied up the fund again were filed by attorneys for the American Surety Co. of New York and the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Co., and seek to recover about \$200,000 of the assets of the fund.

Liquid Assets of Fund.

Mr. Cope said the total liquid assets of the defunct fund total only about \$250,000, so outcome of the Federal court suits will have an important bearing on chances of claimants to realize anything on their claims.

Mr. Cope and W. J. Barnett, State Bank Commissioner, who, upon taking office several months ago replaced C. G. Shull, former Commissioner, as receiver for the fund, estimate total indebtedness of the bank guaranty fund when the law was repealed in 1923 ranged above \$5,000,000.

Since about three-fourths of this total was composed of bank deposits on which depositors will recover little if anything, about \$1,500,000 in claims are involved in the liquidation litigation, it is explained. Of the total claims, \$1,297,000 consisted of Banking Board warrants and the remainder of bank drafts, certificates of deposit and cashier's checks, which at the time of payment were not considered along with deposits.

Assets of the fund amount to about \$250,000 in cash, distributed in various banks in Oklahoma, it was pointed out, and about \$150,000 in Liberty bonds originally posted with the Banking Department as collateral to assure payments of assessments levied against banks. The District Court decision however ruled these bonds where they can be identified by banks which paid all assessments levied against them, will be returned to the banks.

Warrants Sometimes Issued.

Mr. Barnett said the Banking Board, when the bank guaranty law still was in effect, with consent of depositing banks sometimes sold the collateral bonds and issued to the bank owners Banking Board warrants. Banks holding these warrants will share only pro rata in distribution of assets of the fund, while the bonds will be returned to claimant banks which did not consent to exchange for warrants.

The District Court ruling decided against a plea of some claimants that the assets of the fund go to pay warrant holders in numerical order from the first numbered warrant until the fund is exhausted. The judge ruled the fund is insolvent and under the rules of law all creditors should share pro rata, there being no preferred claims to the cash.

If the fund were liquidated now the creditors would receive about 15 cents on the dollar. Mr. Barnett said the bank guaranty fund stood by itself while the law was in effect, since the State of Oklahoma is not the guarantor of payment of any claims which cannot be satisfied from the assets of the fund itself. The fund was operated by the State officials but did not directly involve the State.

Less Freight Cars and Locomotives Owned by Railroads Now Than at Any Time During Past Decade— Made Possible by Modernization of Existing Rail- way Equipment According to M. J. Gormley of American Railway Association.

As a result of a gradual reduction in recent years in the amount of rolling stock owned, the railroads of this country now have fewer freight cars and locomotives than at any time in the past decade, according to the annual report of the Car Service Division submitted at the fall meeting of the American Railway Association held Nov. 11 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York.

"The reduction," said M. J. Gormley, Chairman of the Car Service Division of the Association, in submitting the report, "in ownership of freight cars and locomotives has been made possible by the modernization of existing railway equipment. This, together with the fact that the handling of freight traffic has been expedited and operating efficiency greatly improved in recent years, has resulted in a constant improvement of service to the public." Mr. Gormley also said as follows:

Freight cars owned by the railroads of this country now total 2,141,647 cars, a reduction of 223,025 cars, or 9.4%, compared with the number owned in 1925, when the ownership was the highest on record. The average capacity of freight cars to-day, however, is 47.07 tons, an increase of nearly two and one-half tons since 1925 and an increase of 3.71 tons in the past 10 years.

Ownership of locomotives on Oct. 1 1932, totaled 52,936, a reduction of 12,135 or 18.6% compared with the number owned in 1924, which marked the highest number on record in any one year. At the same time, there has been an increase of 16.4% in the tractive power of locomotives and for the 10-year period, an increase of 19.4%.

Regarding freight traffic this year, Mr. Gormley said:

Due to the movement of crops and fuel, together with some greater stimulation in business activity, there has been an improvement in freight traffic this fall compared with earlier months. Beginning with the week ended on Aug. 6, when 496,033 cars were loaded with revenue freight, there was a steady increase up to the week ended on Oct. 15, when 650,578 cars were loaded. This was an increase of 31.2% compared with the week of Aug. 6. In 1931 for the same period, there was an increase of only 5.9%, and in 1930, an increase of only 8.9%. For the same period in 1921, the increase was 22.7%. These comparisons show there has been a greater percentage of increase for this period in 1932 than ordinarily occurred in previous years.

Re-opening by Inter-State Commerce Commission of Inquiry into Freight Rates on Newsprint.

Re-opening of its investigation into freight rates on newsprint in the Eastern States to hear evidence of changed conditions since the closing of the record in 1930 was ordered by the Inter-State Commerce Commission on Nov. 2 at the request of the American Newspaper Publishers Association and the Publishers Association of New York. The New York "Times" in a Washington dispatch Nov. 2, reporting this added:

The Commission assigned the case for further hearing at the Hotel New Yorker on Nov. 28 before Examiner Howell. The petition of the publishers followed a tentative recommendation by Mr. Howell for sweeping revisions in the prevailing rate structure, providing for both increases and reductions.

The publishers in their joint brief contended that evidence on which the report was based took no account of and did not adequately reflect the real conditions in the newspaper, newsprint and transportation industries. They pointed out that the record in the case was closed on May 7 1930, more than two years before the recommendations were made.

The trunk line carriers in their reply brief said they did not object to a reopening of the case provided the taking of new testimony was restricted to evidence not already of record and which dealt with conditions that had developed since May 1930.

The publishers intend to show that since that time there have been drastic reductions in newsprint prices; that many newspapers have failed or withdrawn from business; that consideration should be given in any rate revision to the marked falling off in advertising lineages reducing newspaper revenues; that much traffic is being diverted from the rails to trucks and waterways and that the Commission should consider the prospective ability of the newsprint traffic to bear any increase in rates at this time.

To Widen Scope of Work of American Institute of Banking Through Institute Graduate School.

At the recent convention of the American Bankers Association in Los Angeles, Harold Stonier, Educational Director of the American Institute of Banking, announced a new plan for expanding the usefulness of the institute of outstanding interest not only to every Institute graduate, but every bank officer in the country. The plan proposes opening an Institute Graduate School, probably first in New York City, in 1933 or 1934, and to concentrate on five major subjects of an advanced nature. They are:

1. Bank management.
2. Trusts.
3. Credit.
4. The investment portfolio, and
5. The laws relating to the operation of National and State banking systems as well as the Federal Reserve System.

The school will be conducted on an intensive basis for two or three weeks during the summer under a faculty of exceptional weight and experience. Two faculty members, both foremost in their particular lines, have been selected to head the work. Mr. Stonier says:

This project will enter a field where no pathways have been blazed, where all the basic material must be gathered from National surveys by the various divisions and sections of the American Bankers Association, and where for the first time a clinical approach will be made toward the problems of banking and bank management.

Upon the results of this experiment depends the spread of the work to every nook and corner of the banking world over the vast nation-wide network of 223 chapters of the institute. Everyone interested in the future of banking will give this forward-looking plan careful study to determine how best to use it for his own benefit and for the benefit of his bank.

The announcement of this new program was the result of a survey of the possibilities for a graduate school, suggested by former President H. J. Haas of the American Bankers Association, conducted by its Public Education Commission under the Chairmanship of John H. Puelicher. The survey revealed that there were 16,000 graduates of the American Institute of Banking, many in executive position, who might put to profitable use a highly concentrated course of study, while there were many thousand other bank officers to whom specialized training would be beneficial.

Mid-Winter Meeting of National Association of Real Estate Boards to Be Held in Washington Jan. 25-28.

Washington, D. C., will be the place for holding the coming mid-winter annual business meeting of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, according to the action taken by the executive committee of the Association. The meeting will be held at the Willard Hotel, Washington, Jan. 25, 26, 27 and 28.

Death of E. H. Outerbridge, Former Chairman of the Port of New York Authority and Former President of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York.

James Brown, President of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, announced on Nov. 10 that he had appointed the following members to represent the Chamber at the funeral of Eugenius H. Outerbridge, former President, who died on Nov. 10: James Brown, Joseph E. Sterrett, Alfred E. Marling, Irving T. Bush, Frederick H. Ecker, William L. DeBost, Leonor F. Loree, J. Barstow Smull and Charles T. Gwynne.

Mr. Outerbridge had been a member of the Chamber for 29 years and served as President in 1916-1918 and as Vice-President in 1924-1925 and 1927-1931. At the time of his death he was Chairman of the special Committee on National Defense, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Real Estate of the Chamber and of the Committee on Fund for the Relief of Members of their Families.

Mr. Outerbridge was also formerly Chairman of the Port of New York Authority. At the time of his death he was President of Harvey & Outerbridge, Inc., importers. Mr. Outerbridge was born in Philadelphia in 1860.

Fourth Annual Trust Conference to Be Held at Paterson, N. J., Nov. 17-18 Under Auspices of New Jersey Bankers' Association.

George Letterhouse, Chairman of Committee on Trust Matters, New Jersey Bankers Association, has announced the following speakers and subjects for the Fourth Annual Trust Conference to be held at the Alexander Hamilton Hotel in Paterson on Nov. 17 and 18:

Walter J. McLaren of the Trust Co. of New Jersey as "Principles of Personal Trust Solicitation."

John H. Annis, Trust Officer, Camden Safe Deposit & Trust Co. on "Organization of a Trust Department."

Rembrandt P. Lane of the National Newark & Essex Banking Co. on "Practical Handling of Trust Securities."

James Wilson, President, Chamber of Commerce, Paterson, N. J.

Frederic R. Pilch, Vice-President, National Commercial Title & Mortgage Guaranty Co., Newark, N. J. on "Problems of Property Acquired Under Foreclosure."

Waldron M. Ward of Pitney, Hardin & Skinner, Newark, N. J. on "Trustees' Responsibility Particularly on Retaining Securities a Decedent Might Have Left."

Senator Arthur N. Pierson of Westfield, N. J. on "What is Responsible For the Present Standing of Jersey Municipals."

E. P. Thomas Named President of National Foreign Trade Council—James A. Farrell to Continue as Chairman—G. L. Harding Elected Secretary Succeeding Late O. K. Davis—Pittsburgh Chosen for 1933 Convention To Be Held April 26-28.

The election of Eugene P. Thomas to the newly created post of President of the National Foreign Trade Council was announced by James A. Farrell, Chairman of the Council, following the organization's annual meeting on Oct. 17. The meeting also re-elected Mr. Farrell as its Chairman. He will continue his relationship as the head of the Council as heretofore.

Mr. Farrell at the same time announced the election of Gardner L. Harding as Secretary to succeed the late O. K. Davis, with the reelection of Robert H. Patchin, Vice-President of W. R. Grace & Co., as Treasurer, and of the members of the Executive Committee as follows: James A. Farrell, Willis H. Booth, Fred I. Kent, P. A. S. Franklin, Robert H. Patchin, Lewis E. Pierson, John D. Ryan, Eugene P. Thomas.

Mr. Thomas has been identified with the foreign trade of the United States Steel Corp. for the past 30 years, having been the President of the United States Steel Products Co. from 1911 until 1928 when he became Vice-President of the United States Steel Corp. in charge of sales. He has been a member of the Council since its organization in 1914.

In discussing a further extension of the Council's work, Mr. Farrell says:

In times like these it should be possible for industrial leaders to voice with no uncertainty their views touching those fundamentals that are the foundations of our industrial system and our economic order. It is most desirable, therefore, that the work of this Council should be continued unimpaired, and, as far as possible, extended in the educational field. At our annual conventions we have a co-ordination of all interests concerned, directly or indirectly, in the promotion of our foreign commerce.

How to maintain this co-ordination throughout the year is a problem which is at present engaging our thoughts. The segregation of particular interests through separate organizations leads to over-lapping, and to much confusion of thought on questions of public interests.

We are fortunate in having added to our Council the names of men prominent in the industrial life of America. The fact that the following leading foreign trade executives have become members of the National Foreign Trade Council this year is an added incentive to the continuance and extension of our work:

H. C. Beaver, President, Worthington Pump & Machinery Corp.
George L. Browning, President, Seaboard National Bank of Los Angeles.
Reginald F. Chutter, Export Manager, Sharp & Dohme, Philadelphia, Pa.
W. L. Clayton (Anderson, Clayton & Co., Houston, Tex).
Philip B. Deane, (General Manager of Sales, York Safe & Lock Co.), York, Pa.

Col. Edward A. Deeds, (Chairman, National Cash Register Co.), Dayton, Ohio.

R. Stanley Dollar, (Dollar Steamship Lines), San Francisco, Calif.

E. C. Faustmann, (President, Royal Typewriter Co.), New York City.

David M. Goodrich, (Chairman of the Board, The B. F. Goodrich Co.), Akron, Ohio.

Carl R. Gray, (President, Union Pacific System), Omaha, Neb.

T. H. Hanrahan, (President, Buffalo Freight Terminal Warehouse Co.), Buffalo, N. Y.

R. C. Holmes, (President, The Texas Co.), New York City.

W. P. Kenney, (President, Great Northern Railway Co.), St. Paul, Minn.

Herbert L. Pratt, (Chairman of the Board, Standard Oil Co. of N. Y.), New York City.

A. W. Robertson, (Chairman, Westinghouse Electric & Mfg. Co.), New York City.

George C. Scott, (President, U. S. Steel Products Co.), New York City.

A. D. Simpson, (Vice-President, National Bank of Commerce), Houston, Tex.

H. S. Wherrett, (President, Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.), Pittsburgh, Pa.

In outlining the plans of the Council, Mr. Thomas emphasizes the further co-ordination of effort now taking place among associations representing special phases of the foreign

trade field. He stressed the formation of a joint committee for foreign trade action which had its first meeting at India House earlier in October, with representatives of 10 associations present, and the co-operation now effectively secured between exporters and importers in the Council's Committee on Exchange Restrictions, also set up by agreement among all the foreign trade groups, as practical steps toward this policy of further concentration.

Mr. Thomas also referred to the important work being done by the committee on Inter-American Relations, of which General Palmer E. Pierce of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey is chairman, associated with the National Foreign Trade Council, on improving the better understanding with our southern neighbors. An important step in furthering this program of united effort on behalf of American foreign trade, it is anticipated will be the 20th National Foreign Trade Convention, to be held in Pittsburgh on April 26, 27 and 28 next, which will bring together 2,000 foreign traders representing all sections and industries of the United States.

ITEMS ABOUT BANKS, TRUST COMPANIES, &c.

Arrangements were made Nov. 7 for the sale of a New York Stock Exchange membership at \$125,000, an advance of \$5,000 over the last previous sale, Oct. 21.

Arrangements were made Nov. 11 for the sale of a New York Curb Exchange membership at \$32,000, an increase of \$2,000 over the last previous sale, Oct. 24.

Arrangements were completed Nov. 11 for the transfer of a Chicago Stock Exchange membership at \$4,000, a decrease of \$5,500 from the last previous sale which was made about Sept. 10.

All New York security and commodity exchanges, including the New York Stock and Curb Exchanges, commemorated the fourteenth anniversary of Armistice Day, Nov. 11, by a two minute suspension of trading. All American grain exchanges, including Winnipeg, were closed. In Chicago, the Stock, Curb and Cotton Exchanges were closed, but the Chicago Livestock Exchange remained open. The Boston Stock Exchange held no regular session but all the necessary facilities were open for the specialists whom were present to receive orders as usual. As Armistice Day is a legal holiday in Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Stock Exchange and the Pittsburgh Stock Exchange remained closed. Other exchanges that remained closed in observance of Armistice Day were: The New Orleans Cotton Exchange, the St. Louis Stock Exchange, the Cleveland Stock Exchange, the Cincinnati Stock Exchange, the Toronto Stock Exchange and both the Montreal Stock and Curb Exchanges.

The new branch of the Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank of New York City in the remodeled Transit Building at 7 East 42nd Street in the heart of the Grand Central district will be formally opened on Monday, Nov. 14. The branch extends from Forty-second to Forty-third Streets, with entrances on both streets. The present uptown branch of the bank at Lexington Avenue and Forty-third Street will be consolidated with the new branch. Regarding the new quarters an announcement says in part:

The decorative motif of the new branch of the Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank departs from the conventional bank interiors of cold marble and formidable steel cages, and by so doing it creates an atmosphere of warmth. The entire interior—walls, doors, counters and other fixtures—is finished in warm lacewood, which is soft reddish brown in color with delicate and intricate graining. The effect of friendly ease is heightened by the absence of partitions and cages. The fifteen receiving tellers will work with only a narrow lacewood counter separating them from depositors. The administration officers, instead of being cloistered by partitions, will have their desks out in the open.

From the founding of the bank in 1850, over 82 years ago, until June 1925, the entire business of the bank was conducted at its main office at 51 Chambers Street, opposite City Hall Park. On June 1st 1925, a mid-town office was opened with temporary quarters at 43rd Street and Lexington Avenue. About 2,800 depositors opened accounts at this branch on its first day of business. To-day, deposits at the mid-town office alone are in excess of \$125,000,000, making this office by itself equal in importance to many of the largest savings banks in New York City. In other words, in less than eight years, the mid-town office has grown to a point where its deposits are nearly one-third of the Emigrant Banks total deposits of over \$400,000,000.

This very rapid growth made it a plain necessity to offer even greater convenience of location and banking quarters to the mid-town depositors. Accordingly, the bank purchased the building at 5-7 East 42nd Street, and additional frontage on 43rd Street, and began the remodeling of the lower floors and the construction of a special building on the 43rd Street ground. This makes possible the transfer of the business of the Lexington Avenue office to the new quarters—with entrances on both 42nd Street and 43rd Street.

As a special convenience to commuters, late or early, to shoppers, and to office workers in the mid-town area, the banking hours have been extended. The mid-town office will be open daily from 8:30 A. M. to

6:30 P. M., except Saturdays. On Saturday, the bank will remain open until 3:30 P. M.

Effective Monday of this week, Nov. 7, John T. Brook has resigned as President of the Pelham National Bank of Pelham, N. Y., according to Pelham advices to the New York "Herald Tribune" on Nov. 4, which went on to say:

Clyde F. Brown, Vice-President for the last two years, will be elected President. Mr. Brooks will devote his attention to his large estate holdings in Pelham.

The Board of Trustees of the Buffalo Savings Bank, Buffalo, N. Y., on Nov. 7 announced the resignation of E. Corning Townsend as President of the institution and the appointment of Charles L. Gurney (heretofore First Vice-President) as his successor, and that of Seymour P. White and Edward L. Koons, as First Vice-President and Second Vice-President, respectively. Mr. Townsend will continue to serve on the Board of Trustees.

Relative to the affairs of the Inman Trust Co. of Cambridge, Mass., which closed its doors on Dec. 15 1931, it is learned from the Boston "Herald" of Nov. 5 that following approval of an agreement by the Supreme Court under which the Lechmere National Bank of Cambridge will purchase a portion of the assets of the trust company, Arthur Guy, State Bank Commissioner for Massachusetts, announced on Nov. 4 that a 25% dividend would be paid within the next few weeks to depositors of the savings department of the closed bank and a dividend of 10% to depositors in the commercial department. Continuing the paper mentioned said in part:

The National Bank has agreed to purchase approximately \$600,000 of the closed bank's securities and arrangements for the distribution of this amount are being made for immediately after the legal limitation of 21 days from the date of approval has expired.

Commissioner Guy said that the net earnings of the bank while in his possession amount to \$80,000 which shows that the closed bank is that much better off now than it was on the date on which it was taken over by him last December.

The offices of the closed bank will be used as a branch of the National Bank.

Following the announcement of the proposed dividends the reorganization committee of the Inman Trust Co. released this statement:

The purchase of certain assets of the bank by the Lechmere National Bank under the so-called Spoke plan is the culmination of 10 months of intensive work on the part of the bank department, the depositors' reorganization committee and the directors of the Inman Trust Company to effect a reorganization of the bank for the benefit of the depositors.

It had been the hope of the committee that the general financial condition would have so improved as to warrant the reopening of the bank itself but owing to the continued depressed condition of the real estate and securities markets resulting in a large percentage of the assets of the banks being in a frozen condition it was deemed unwise to attempt a reorganization within the bank.

The acquisition of certain assets of the Inman Trust by the Lechmere National with a contemplated opening of a branch in the quarters formerly occupied by the Inman Trust at Inman Square will give to the depositors of the Inman Trust immediate and substantial relief.

Under the plan, the Bank Commissioner will be able to credit immediately more than \$600,000 which will enable the depositors at this time to receive at least 25% in the savings department and at least 10% in the commercial department and from the liquidation of assets obtained by the commissioner additional credits will be released as rapidly as conditions will permit so that ultimately the committee believes that the depositors will fare as well as they would have under the original plan for the reorganization of the bank.

The Inman Trust depositors will become depositors in the Lechmere National and will be free to withdraw the money released to them under this plan without restriction.

The assets not now sold to the Lechmere remain in possession of the Bank Commissioner whose liquidating agent, Charles W. Mulcahey, will proceed with their orderly and careful liquidation subject to the right of the Lechmere to acquire these remaining assets for cash at face value as conditions warrant, thus enabling a more speedy and economical liquidation with a more rapid release of additional money to the depositors.

The Inman Trust Co. was taken over by the State Bank Commissioner on Dec. 15 1931 as a result of the failure on that day of the Federal National Bank of Boston, as noted in our issue of Dec. 19 last, page 4104. Reference to the company's affairs was made in the "Chronicle" of May 14, page 3581.

Plans for the reorganization of the Federal National Bank of Boston, Mass., have been abandoned and the subscription committee has been discharged. An announcement to this effect was made after a meeting of the re-organization committee, held Nov. 2. The Boston "Herald" of Nov. 3, in reporting the matter, furthermore said:

The subscription committee which solicited powers of attorney of the depositors reported to the re-organization group that it had decided by a unanimous vote that a re-organization of the bank, along the lines outlined in a letter to the depositors last Jan. 11, cannot be accomplished.

The full committee voted to accept the report of the subscription committee and discharged the members, with a vote of thanks for their work. Charles J. O'Malley was Chairman of the subscription committee, and the

other members were John N. Fulham and Daniel C. Mulloney, the latter formerly President of the bank.

The re-organization committee also voted that it will not under any circumstances use the warrants it has obtained and that they will be considered null and void.

Mr. Mulloney explained the causes leading up to the inability of the committee to re-open the bank, and the meeting then adjourned.

The Federal National Bank of Boston closed its doors in December 1931. Our last previous reference to its affairs appeared in our issue of Aug. 27, page 1424.

Further referring to the affairs of the defunct private bank of Pallotti, Andretta & Co., Inc., which was closed in December 1930 by the Connecticut State Bank Commissioner, the Hartford "Courant" of Nov. 5 carried the following:

Judge P. B. O'Sullivan of the Superior Court reserved decision Friday (Nov. 4) on an application by John L. Bonee, receiver of the Pallotti, Andretta & Co., Inc., private bank, for permission to pay a 4% dividend to depositors. He indicated, however, that he preferred the dividend payment plan to that advanced by a depositors' committee represented by Attorney Joseph Klau, which would have a liquidating corporation take over the affairs of the bank.

With \$114,957.92 on hand, Mr. Bonee and his counsel, Attorney Morris Older, said they believed this to be a good time to distribute 4% of the total deposits of \$2,451,216.74, amounting to about \$98,000.

Mr. Klau, in opposing this, said the receivership is running at a loss and pointed out that some depositors have as little as \$1 in their accounts and, therefore, a dividend would hardly benefit them. He urged the cancellation of these small deposits by paying those of \$100 or less in full. Most of the larger depositors, he said, favored joining the liquidation corporation which would be conducted by Attorney Guy Walker of New York. Mr. Walker was described to the court as having aided the Riverside Trust reorganization and now engaged in reorganizing the Mechanics Bank of New Haven.

Mr. Older said the receiver is not hostile to Mr. Klau's proposal but he declared that the committee engaged in having depositors assign their holdings to the proposed liquidating corporation has been guilty of misrepresentation. He said that depositors have been told that if the 4% dividend is paid it will be the only money they will receive. This is not the fact, Mr. Older said.

Attorney Harry L. Nair, of counsel for the Riverside Bank & Trust Co., urged payment of the dividend. He said the Riverside has \$190,000 on deposit with the Pallotti bank. Mr. Klau retorted that the Riverside is not a depositor, but a creditor of the Pallotti bank. Opposing the formation of a liquidating corporation, Mr. Nair said there are grave legal complications and doubts involved in the operation of such a company in this State.

Judge O'Sullivan expressed skepticism over the proposed liquidating corporation but he told Mr. Klau he would think it over before making his decision on the dividend application.

Our last previous reference to the affairs of this institution appeared in the "Chronicle" of Oct. 1 1932, page 2281.

The Philadelphia "Ledger" of Nov. 9 stated that E. E. Shumaker, who took an active part in the organization of the Merchantville National Bank & Trust Co. of Camden, N. J., and served as President of the institution since it opened for business on May 14 last, had been promoted to Chairman of the Board of Directors, according to an announcement made Nov. 8. Mr. Shumaker, it was said, had been succeeded in the Presidency by Perry L. Smith, Mayor of Merchantville, who is a director of the bank, and who was also largely instrumental in the establishment of the institution, and that T. Wilbur Evald, who had been acting Cashier, had been appointed Cashier.

Announcement was made on Nov. 4 by Dr. William D. Gordon, State Secretary of Banking for Pennsylvania, that a payment of 10% would be made to the depositors of the closed Hamilton Trust Co. of Philadelphia, on Nov. 15, as reported in the Philadelphia "Ledger" of Nov. 5. This is the second payment to be received by the depositors, an initial dividend of 10% having been made July 28 last. The present payment will total \$152,907 and will be distributed to 11,200 accounts, it was stated. Our last reference to the affairs of the Hamilton Trust Co., which was closed on Oct. 7 1931, appeared in our Nov. 5 issue, page 3106.

A new bank has been organized in Donora, Pa., under the title of the Union National Bank, to succeed the First National Bank and the Union Trust Co. of that place. The new organization is capitalized at \$200,000 and has surplus of \$100,000 and total resources of approximately \$3,500,000. Ben G. Bennis is President and H. O. Colgan, Cashier, while the Board of Directors is made up of the following members: J. F. Patterson, Paul Mellon, D. M. Anderson, Ben G. Binns, R. M. Ridgely and M. F. Rumbaugh.

Concerning the affairs of the Homewood People's Bank of Pittsburgh, which closed in October 1931 and was replaced Sept. 7 of the present year by a new institution, known as the Homewood Bank, the Pittsburgh "Post Gazette" of Nov. 5 stated that according to an announcement the previous day by Dr. William D. Gordon, State Secretary of Banking for

Pennsylvania, checks would be mailed on Nov. 7 to 226 out-of-town depositors. The checks, amounting to \$17,834.39, it was stated, would be drawn on the Real Estate Trust Co. of Philadelphia. The paper mentioned furthermore quoted Dr. Gordon as saying:

"The remaining 16,221 depositors have at their disposal in the new Homewood Bank, Pittsburgh, \$689,625.62, which may be withdrawn or continued in the form of a new account. On Sept. 7 the larger amount was transferred from the Homewood People's Bank, which closed Oct. 31 1931."

Regarding the above mentioned dividend, the Pittsburgh "Post Gazette" in its issue of Nov. 7 carried the following:

Clarifying his previous announcement with regard to an advance payment of \$707,460.01 to depositors of the Homewood People's Bank, State Banking Secretary William D. Gordon yesterday (Nov. 6), said \$689,625.62 of this amount was made available on Sept. 7 to 16,221 depositors, through the new Homewood Bank at Pittsburgh.

The remaining 226 out-of-town depositors would receive by mail yesterday (Nov. 6) their share of the 25% distribution, or \$17,834.39, Dr. Gordon stated, correcting "an erroneous impression that a second 25% was being distributed at this time."

Depositors of the defunct People's Trust Co. of Annville, Pa., were to receive a dividend of 10% on Nov. 7, according to the Philadelphia "Ledger" of Nov. 5, which stated that the dividend would total \$34,527 and be made to 1,400 accounts.

Samuel Caston Edmonds, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Company for Guaranteeing Mortgages, Philadelphia, Pa., died suddenly in that city on Tuesday of this week, Nov. 8. Death was attributed to acute indigestion, resulting in a cerebral hemorrhage. Mr. Edmonds, who was 63 years of age, was stricken while seated at his desk in his office in the Land Title Building. Dr. S. P. Ross, who has an office in the same building, was summoned and administered first aid and the patient appeared to respond to the treatment. He then accompanied the physician unaided to the latter's office where he suddenly collapsed and died in a few moments. Mr. Edmonds was born in Pottsville, Pa., but moved to Philadelphia when a boy. He was graduated from the Central High School in 1889. Early in his career, he joined the staff of this paper with which he remained for a period of some ten years or more, serving as head of one of the departments and proved one of the most efficient and capable men which it has ever been the good fortune of the paper to have in its service. Mr. Edmonds was in every way an exceptional man, and the highest type of a business executive. In 1907 Mr. Edmonds severed his connection with the "Chronicle" and returned to Philadelphia to enter the employ of the Philadelphia Company for Guaranteeing Mortgages, then just organized. After serving first as Secretary and Treasurer and later as Vice-President, Mr. Edmonds was promoted to the Presidency of the institution in March 1928, holding that position until the beginning of 1929 when he became Chairman of the Board of Directors, a new office especially created for him.

Initial dividends to depositors of three closed banks of the Turtle Creek Valley (Pa.), amounting to approximately \$400,000, will be distributed before Thanksgiving. These banks—the People's National Bank of Piteairn, Pa.; the First National Bank of Piteairn, and the First National Bank of Trafford, Pa. (the closing of all three of which on Feb. 3 last was noted in the "Chronicle" of Feb. 6, page 967), had deposits totaling approximately \$1,600,000. The Pittsburgh "Post Gazette" of Nov. 7, authority for the foregoing, went on to say:

Checks representing a 22% dividend are being paid to depositors of the People's National Bank of Piteairn. Checks for a 35% distribution to depositors of the First National Bank of Piteairn and 20% to depositors of the First National Bank of Trafford were in the hands of the Comptroller of the Currency at Washington for approval and are expected to be returned for distribution this week.

As of Nov. 1 1932, the Farmers' National Bank of Canton, Pa., with capital of \$50,000, went into voluntary liquidation. The institution was taken over by the First National Bank of Canton.

The Downingtown National Bank, Downingtown, Pa., capitalized at \$125,000, and the Grange National Bank of Chester County at Downingtown, capitalized at \$100,000, were consolidated on Nov. 5. The new organization which continues the title of the Downingtown National Bank is capitalized at \$140,000 with surplus of \$260,000. Reference to the proposed union of these institutions was made in the "Chronicle" of Oct. 1 last, page 2281.

The First National Bank of Richwood, West. Va., capitalized at \$40,000, was placed in voluntary liquidation effective Oct. 28 1932. It has been succeeded by the Cherry River National Bank of Richwood.

The National Bank of Martinsville, Martinsville, Ind., a new institution organized by a group of business men and farmers of Martinsville and Morgan County since the closing of two banks in that place some months ago, opened for business on Nov. 7, according to Martinsville advices on that day to the Indianapolis "News." The new institution, which is located in the building formerly occupied by the Citizens' Mortgage Co., is capitalized at \$50,000 and has combined surplus and undivided profits of \$12,500. Its officers, as named in the dispatch, are as follows: E. C. Shireman, President; F. T. Singleton, Vice-President, and M. R. Wilson, Cashier.

Acting under authority conferred by the stockholders last February, the directors of the United Labor Bank & Trust Co. of Indianapolis, Ind., announced in correspondence to depositors on Nov. 5 that liquidation steps would be taken beginning Nov. 7, with an invitation for all depositors to accept payment in full. The Indianapolis "News," from which the above information is obtained, continuing, said:

William Dobson, Executive Vice-President of the bank, announced that with approval of the State Banking Department, the institution would cease accepting deposits at 1 p. m. Saturday and thereafter for a period of 15 days, will leave its doors open so that all customers may withdraw their deposits 100 cents on the dollar.

Luther F. Symons, State Bank Commissioner, asserted that a recent rigid examination of the bank by T. G. Inwood, Examiner, had reported it to be fully solvent, and that the arrangements for liquidation, paying off of depositors and ceasing business were agreeable to the Department. "In taking this step," the letter of directors said, "we have sufficient cash to meet all our deposit liabilities. We therefore request that you arrange, as promptly as possible, to check out your account in full. In view of this assurance that your money will be refunded, 100 cents on the dollar, there need be no apprehension on your part concerning the liquid condition of our finances."

In its last statement of Oct. 6, the United Labor Bank & Trust Co. reported assets of \$412,738.85. Its paid-in capital and surplus was \$135,000. Total deposit liabilities, according to the latest report of examiners, amount to \$98,928.82.

Effective Oct. 24 1932, the Negaunee National Bank of Negaunee, Mich., was placed in voluntary liquidation. This bank, which was capitalized at \$100,000, was absorbed by the First National Bank of Negaunee. An item with reference to the merger of the institutions appeared in our issue of Sept. 3 1932, page 1602.

A dispatch by the Associated Press from Racine, Wis., on Nov. 1 reported that G. W. Weyland, formerly of Milwaukee, and William H. Bell had been appointed Chairman of the Board and President, respectively, of the reorganized Racine City Bank of Racine, at a meeting of the directors held Nov. 1. The dispatch added:

The bank was closed some time ago, but was reopened under a moratorium plan a week later.

That a new banking institution would open in Eau Claire, Wis., on Nov. 21 under the title of the American National Bank & Trust Co., was indicated in Associated Press advices from Eau Claire on Nov. 2. The new bank will be capitalized at \$100,000 with surplus of \$20,000, it was stated and will be headed by R. J. Lewis as President. The dispatch furthermore said:

Mr. Lewis was founder and head of the First National Bank at Moose Lake, Minn., which he sold a year ago.

Twin Cities bankers and Eau Claire citizens are stockholders, Lewis said.

Suspension of the Sawyer County Bank of Hayward, Wis., was announced on Nov. 2 by the Wisconsin State Banking Department, according to Associated Press advices from Madison, Wis., on that date.

Advices from Faribault, Minn., on Nov. 4, appearing in the Minneapolis "Journal," stated that less than five days after Mayor H. P. Bell of Faribault proclaimed a business holiday the Citizens' National Bank of Faribault and the Faribault State Bank reopened for business. The dispatch furthermore said:

The reopening was made possible through the signing of waivers by virtually all the depositors of the two institutions agreeing not to make large withdrawals. The waivers also assure protection of the depositors' funds.

The State Banking Department for Nebraska on Nov. 1 announced the payment of a dividend to the depositors of

the failed German Bank of Millard, Neb., according to Associated Press advices from Lincoln, Neb., which also said:

The dividend, from liquidated assets, amounted to \$14,031 and brought to \$70,157 the total returned to depositors. This is 50% of the deposits when the bank closed.

The Sturdivant Bank of Cape Girardeau, Mo., said to be the oldest bank in Southeast Missouri, failed to open for business on Nov. 7, according to a dispatch by the Associated Press from that city. The directors, in a statement, were reported as saying that they had asked the State Finance Department to take charge of the institution. "Frozen" loans, largely on real estate made in years back when farm property values were higher, caused the closing, the statement said. The bank is capitalized at \$200,000 with surplus of \$30,000 and had deposits at the close of business Nov. 5 aggregating \$697,000. Officers were named in the advices as follows: Charles L. Harrison, Chairman of the Board; Clyde A. Vandivort, President, and M. G. Bender, Cashier. The dispatch furthermore said:

The city's two other banks, the First National and Farmers' & Merchants', opened for business as usual, and there was no evidence of withdrawal of deposits.

Recent heavy withdrawal of public funds hastened the closing, the Board said. The bank within a period of four years has taken over three other banks here.

A. C. Long has resigned, effective Nov. 1, as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Shelby County Trust & Banking Co. of Shelbyville, Ky., after having rounded out 51 years of service with the institution, according to advices from Shelbyville to the Louisville "Courier-Journal."

Sale of the Greensboro, N. C., unit of the North Carolina Industrial Bank to the Morris Plan Bank of that place, effective Nov. 9, was announced in Greensboro on Nov. 7 by N. S. Calhoun, President of the North Carolina Bank & Trust Co., with which the North Carolina Industrial Bank had been affiliated. Associated Press advices from Greensboro on Nov. 7, from which the above information is obtained, continuing said:

Mr. Calhoun mentioned the North Carolina Bank & Trust Co. "previously initiated a program of concentrating our efforts on and activities in trust and commercial banking." The negotiations have been in progress quite a while, it was recalled. The other units of the North Carolina Industrial Bank have already been discontinued.

Although the consideration involved in the deal was not made public, it is known that it runs well in excess of half a million dollars.

Announcement has been made by Julian Hamilton, liquidating agent for the Bank of Pender at Burgaw, N. C., which closed its doors on Jan. 7 last, that the institution is expected to pay a third dividend of 10% before Christmas. Advices from Wilmington, N. C., on Nov. 7, reporting this, furthermore said in part:

The amount will total approximately \$15,000. Payment of the dividend is expected to be expedited through a request loan from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

The two previous dividends, both 10%, amounted to a total of approximately \$30,000.

A press dispatch from Corinth, Miss., printed in the Memphis "Appeal," reported that a new banking institution under the title of the Security Bank would open for business in Corinth about Nov. 10, and that officers for the same had been announced as follows: Dr. Robert C. Liddon, President; Walter W. King, Vice-President; W. F. Holder, Cashier, and Troy Maxedon, Assistant Cashier. The advices went on to say:

Mr. Holder has been in the banking business in Citronelle, Ala., for a number of years. Mr. Maxedon was connected with the First National Bank here for several years, and at one time was in the employ of Union Planters Bank & Trust Co., Memphis.

Announcement was made on Nov. 2 by Edward Rainey, State Superintendent of Banks for California, of the payment of a second dividend of 7½% to depositors of the closed Marine Bank of Santa Monica, Calif., and of an initial dividend of 7½% to depositors of the closed Venice Savings Bank at Venice, Calif., according to a press dispatch from Santa Monica, on that date, printed in the Los Angeles "Times." The dispatch added:

A total of 3,300 checks was mailed, the total amount being \$73,000.

The directors of the Provincial Bank of Canada (head office Montreal) have declared a quarterly dividend of 2%, payable on the 1st of December next to stockholders of record Nov. 15. The Montreal "Gazette," from which this is learned, continuing, said:

In doing so, this institution is therefore following the example of nearly all Canadian banks, which have recently decided to reduce their dividend rate; the quarterly payment of 2% authorized represents an annual dividend rate of 8% instead of 9% as formerly.

21ST ANNUAL CONVENTION

Investment Bankers' Association of America

HELD AT WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W. VA., OCTOBER 22 TO 26 1932.

INDEX TO REPORTS AND PROCEEDINGS.

	Page		Page
Annual Address of President of Association Col. Allan M. Pope	3280	Report of Federal Taxation Committee	3297
Address by Under Secretary of Treasury Arthur A. Ballantine	3281	Report of Committee on State and Local Taxation	3298
Address by E. G. Buckland	3283	Report of Sub-Committee on Trends of Business	3299
Report of Railroad Securities Committee	3284	Report of Business Problems Committee	3301
Report of Committee on Government and Farm Loan Bonds	3286	Report of Committee on Investment Companies	3302
Report of Foreign Securities Committee	3288	Report of Committee on Industrial Securities	3303
Report of Director of Institute of International Finance	3289	Report of Public Service Securities Committee	3304
Report of Real Estate Securities Committee	3292	Report of Oil and Natural Gas Securities Committee	3304
Report of Municipal Securities Committee	3294	Report of Special Committee on Aviation Securities	3307
Report of Legislation Committee	3296	Election of Officers	3308

Annual Address of President of Association, Col. Allan M. Pope—Asserts Conditions Would Have Been Worse if Flow of Excess Capital Had Not Gone Abroad Following War—Cites Care Exercised by Bankers in Flotations in Indicating Low Percentage of Defaults as Compared with Volume of Outstanding International, Foreign Dollar Bonds, &c.

In his annual address as President of the Investment Bankers' Association, at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., on Oct. 24, Col. Allan M. Pope, President of the First of Boston Corp. of New York, referred to the "inordinate inflation and speculation" following the World War, and noted that "one of the great effects of that speculative era was to shut off, almost to the vanishing point, the sale of that very commodity that was in most cases the sole stock in trade of the investment house, namely, long term bonds. I am definitely of the opinion," said Col. Pope, "if this flow of excess funds had not gone abroad, from whence millions of it were at once returned through increased trade and other repayments, the internal over-expansion in practically all lines of endeavor in this country would have been so increased above what it actually was, security prices would have been so raised above the point to which they actually rose, the conditions in Europe would have been so disastrously affected to our own economic detriment, that our present condition, bad as it has been, out of gear as it seems, would have been far worse to-day but for that world-wide distribution of the dollar that time."

Col. Pope pointed out that in spite of the world wide depression, the total collapse or revaluation in the values of internal currencies that have taken place within the last 10 years, &c., the following record of defaults "emphasizes the comparative safety of bonds and the care which must have been exercised by bankers."

Of \$7,500,000,000 of foreign dollar bonds outstanding, 19.4% are in default;

Of \$10,584,000,000 of industrial bonds outstanding, 7.2% are in default;
Of \$16,590,000,000 of public utility bonds outstanding, 5.4% are in default;

Of \$12,021,000,000 of railroad bonds outstanding, 3.5% are in default;
Of \$18,185,000,000 of municipal bonds outstanding, 1.8% are in default
of communities having a population of over 30,000. No records are available for communities of lesser population.

Col. Pope's address follows in full:

This marks the opening of the twenty-first annual convention of the Investment Bankers' Association of America, and I take great pleasure in officially welcoming you on behalf of this Association.

There is little that I can say to you who are assembled here regarding our past year's activities which you do not already know by virtue of having taken part in them or having directly benefitted from them. Never, I believe, have we experienced a year that has called for as much energy and devotion to the cause of investment banking by our members. As President of your Association, there has been given to me the privilege of working more or less intimately with all of your committees, and I would be remiss in my duties, I would be ungrateful for the unstinted help and support I have received, if I did not publicly acclaim the vast amount of time and labor which men in this Association have given for the good of all—time in so many instances which I know too well has involved a real sacrifice to their own personal affairs.

After having closely observed the operations and the results of the operations of the Association for a year, I can say to you that it is absolutely certain that the member of this Association who feels that his business derives little benefit from it does not know his own business.

At the January meeting of the Board of Governors this year, it was the very general opinion that the President and the Executive Vice-President

of this Association should visit as many of our groups throughout the country as might be possible, in conformity with previous custom. Most of the groups from coast to coast were visited in consequence. To me making this trip for the first time, it was a new and broadening experience. We were given the most cordial reception wherever we went, and practically all member houses in their respective groups were represented at many enthusiastic luncheons and dinners.

Aside from any personal element involved, I returned from these many interesting visits with the belief that a direct annual contact between the groups and the executive officers of the Association has much of genuine mutual value for the Association and its members. I know that the rare opportunity afforded me of meeting on their own home grounds not only representatives of our own member houses but many men outstanding in other walks of life related to ours, has placed me in a position of visualizing the investment banking business in a way that has been given to few of us this year. I shall, therefore, attempt to present to you some of the most important factors affecting our business that I have observed.

In the first place, I believe it is an indisputable fact that there is no other business wherein every phase of its operations is so absolutely dependent upon public opinion as is the investment banking business, and I do not have to remind you that public opinion is a most severe and critical task master. For this reason, in spite of statements to the contrary, the investment banker is far from being his own free agent.

The traditional silence of the investment banker before public criticism reminds me of a little boy who went to a Sunday School party. The Sunday School teacher had been asked by his parents to send him home immediately if he did not behave. Within fifteen minutes after leaving for the party, home he came. The angry father met him at the door and proceeded to give him a spanking, after which he said: "Now, tell me what you did." "I didn't do anything," said the boy, "the party was postponed!"

Every phase of investment banking involves the future. No other business on earth is so dependent upon that one definitely unknown quantity. Every class of security is, without exception, but in considerably varying degree, a risk on the future, and it is the function of the investment banker to marshal the available historic facts together on which judgment can be passed to determine the extent of the hazard. I am proud to say that investment bankers have lived up to established tradition to the great credit of the industry. That the public should in times of stress feel in some instances that investment bankers should have had a definite knowledge of the future is unreasonable but not unexpected.

The investing public is actually divided into two classes: that which represents either individual or institutional accumulated wealth in large amounts and that which represents the smaller investor. In general, the first class is naturally more experienced in the investment field. It is a definite part of their business to be so. Constructively critical as these custodians of great wealth properly are of investment bankers, welcome as such criticism is to this very association, and deserved as such criticism may have been in some instances, as you men who sit here to-day are quite well aware, and great as are the losses on the books of such experienced investors to-day in probably every instance, the business of investment banking is being carried on with these same institutions, these same large investors with the same degree of mutual confidence which must always characterize the investment banking business if it shall be successful.

It is this second class, the smaller investor, the less experienced individual and frequently the less experienced smaller institution, of which I desire particularly to speak.

In the first place, this inexperience of the smaller investor is no reflection upon his intelligence, his judgment, or his business acumen. In the vast majority of cases, this lack of experience is due solely to his preoccupation with his own business affairs, which to him are the more important and which as a rule are not productive of banking experience. As a class, therefore, such investors cannot be expected to know how we do our business.

I am to-day cognizant of the fact that this class of investor, for one thing, fails to realize the fundamental difference between commercial and investment banking practice and the necessary place each occupies in our whole economic fabric.

The commercial bank is engaged primarily in the business of investing its capital funds and its depositors' money. On account of the possible fluctuations in its funds available for investment, it primarily invests in securities of short maturity. In this way, it is the main factor in supplying the short-term financial needs of commerce, industry, and government.

Almost all classes of borrowers require at times money for fixed capital purposes, that is, for additions and improvements—in other words, for purposes of a lasting nature. Such requirements can properly be met through borrowing, with repayment to be made over a period of years. To improve conditions of manufacture, to purchase land for farming, to build homes, to extend the facilities of our public utilities and railroads, to pay the extraordinary expenditures of government, are among the countless reasons that such long term borrowing is essential. The great mass of such

long term funds falls to the lot of the investment banker to supply. If the investment banker fails, the wheels of progress are definitely slowed.

The investment banker, as such, has no huge reservoir of funds under his direct control for the purpose of investment as has the commercial banker. The handling of such funds is not his business now and never has been. The reservoir of funds available for long term commitments lies with the investing public, whose investment needs and capabilities it is the investment banker's function to know and to appraise.

In other words, the investment banker must be familiar with the available supply of funds throughout this nation and abroad that is seeking a more permanent investment than is represented by a deposit in a commercial bank or a thirty or ninety day obligation. These funds, which in the aggregate are vast to-day, represent investments as shown by the present outstanding dollar bonds of all classes of more than ninety billions of dollars. Into which of these classes available funds should be directed to-day is but another problem which the investment banker is called upon to face.

As the great proportion of the capital of the investment banker is invested in the very securities he sells, in common with all other investors he has therefore suffered in the last three years, but, in addition, in his early and natural efforts to protect the securities he has sold to investors, he has often suffered far more than the general run of such investors. The casualties in the last three years in the ranks of investment houses have been extremely large in comparison with those in almost any other field of business because of these losses and because of the economic upheaval which reduced the volume of security transactions.

Because the investment banker cannot possibly have sufficient capital of his own to supply the demand for long term loans, the business of investment banking must always be primarily that of distributing such loans as it may buy. I regret to say that this function of the business, perhaps too little understood, has given rise to the fallacious charge that if any losses are sustained it is the public alone which stands the brunt.

This charge overlooks the fact that, in every loan bought and issued to the public, the investment banker takes the initial risk and stands the greatest loss if the loan is not well received or if the price is not sustained. Again, it overlooks the fact that during the entire life of the loan the investment banker recognizes a moral responsibility to the holder which has necessitated the spending of hundreds of thousands of dollars in the last three years by such bankers on behalf of their clients' interests in securities in default or threatened with default through circumstances beyond the power of the banker to control.

In this connection, in spite of the world-wide depression, in spite of the total collapse or revaluation in the values of internal currencies that have taken place within the last ten years, in spite of the departure from the gold standard by the majority of countries, in spite of numbers of political revolutions, in spite of the headlong plunge of raw material values, in spite of the stagnation in trade here and throughout the world, in spite of the tremendous decrease in farm values and urban real estate values, in spite of the drastic reduction in earning power of our major industries, our railroads, and to a lesser degree our public utilities, the following record of defaults—a record which is the best obtainable and believed approximately correct, a record which, while it shows the greatest number of defaults in our history, nevertheless, in view of what we and the rest of the world have been through, emphasizes the comparative safety of bonds and the care which must have been exercised by bankers:

Of \$7,500,000,000 of Foreign Dollar Bonds outstanding, 19.4% are in default;

Of \$10,584,000,000 of Industrial Bonds outstanding, 7.2% are in default;

Of \$16,590,000,000 of Public Utility Bonds outstanding, 5.4% are in default;

Of \$12,021,000,000 of Railroad Bonds outstanding, 3.5% are in default;

Of \$18,185,000,000 of Municipal Bonds outstanding, 1.8% are in default of communities having a population of over 30,000. No records are available for communities of lesser population.

There are approximately \$6,000,000,000 of real estate bonds outstanding. No figures are available for issues below \$500,000 in default of the outstanding total. About 14% of the total, representing issues in excess of \$500,000, are in default. This percentage might be considerably increased by the defaults in small issues of bonds. There undoubtedly have been reorganizations not technically reported as defaults which would make the percentage of defaults of large issues greater than recorded herewith.

Since the World War, we have witnessed a period of industrial expansion that was halted, at least as a contributing cause, by inordinate inflation and speculation.

Even though we might not have realized it at the time, it would be ridiculous now for us as bankers to assert that we were not, as a class, drawn into that speculative maelstrom in common with the rest of the world, or that we had not contributed thereby to its evil effects by merely becoming a part of it. It is equally ridiculous to assert that, as a class, we caused it, willingly fostered or approved it, for one of the great effects of that speculative era was to shut off, almost to the vanishing point, the sale of that very commodity that was in most cases the sole stock in trade of the investment house, namely long-term bonds. Public sentiment, the ever present taskmaster of ours, decreed against the buying of bonds in favor of stocks. That period began in the spring of 1923.

In the few years preceding that period, the enormous export of gold to our shores and other causes produced a demand for bonds in unprecedented proportions. Surplus money had to be invested, and the normal channel for the employment of a very large part of such funds lay in bonds.

The great criticism to-day of the investment banker during this period of excessive bond buying, looked at through the magnifying glass of hindsight, lies in the re-exportation of capital brought about through the flotation of foreign loans. Cognizant as I am of the nearly 20% of defaults to-day in outstanding foreign dollar bonds (which includes many large loans issued before the war) a percentage which we have no right at this time to assume as meaning a similar percentage of permanent loss of capital, I am definitely of the opinion, and it can never be more than an opinion on anyone's part, that if this flow of excess funds had not gone abroad, from whence millions of it were at once returned through increased trade and other repayments, the internal over-expansion in practically all lines of endeavor in this country would have been so increased above what it actually was, security prices would have been so raised above the point to which they actually rose, the conditions in Europe would have been so disastrously affected to our own economic detriment, that our present condition, bad as it has been, out of gear as it seems, would have been far worse to-day but for that world-wide distribution of the dollar at that time.

I have represented this association in public hearings of Congress. As an individual I have also appeared. In this way and in others I have been brought into contact with national legislation designed to correct the abuses that speculation inevitably creates. You cannot legislate speculation out of existence—you can in some instances minimize its effect. I am impressed with the sincerity of purpose of most of the legislators I have met. I am impressed with their lack of knowledge of our business, which is inevitable, for few of them have had experience in banking fields. I am impressed with their general bitterness as a result of conditions is general but directed against bankers in particular with unprecedented unfairness. I am im-

pressed with the fact that such legislators are attempting to voice the opinion of the small investor who is more or less publicly inarticulate, this second class of investor to which I have referred.

This effort has apparently caused our legislators to produce, through the sponsorship of men of long legislative experience, dangerous bills, bills of which this association has publicly disapproved, bills some of which, if enacted, would have brought financial ruin upon our government, our people, our banks and bankers. Such bills have not been passed. It is true that they contained in part sound ideas with which this association is in hearty accord, yet in my opinion, where they were designed to affect the investment banking business, such as the Glass Bill in particular, in practically all instances they failed to reach the fundamental wrong, a wrong which since the War crept into the conduct of our business and which is to-day being steadily corrected from within our own ranks, to the benefit of the small investor and of the large, and hence to the benefit of ourselves. This wrong cannot be legislated out of existence. We alone control the power to correct it.

As inevitably as mass production and instalment buying became the slogan of manufacture, so did the practice of distributing securities through what might be called mass merchandising methods and so did the application of the principle of margin accounts, applied to a class of securities to which it should not apply, come into play.

Bonds are not merchandise. A bond is a piece of paper on which are written the terms under which the borrower agrees to pay the principal and interest. The holder of a bond can read the terms as he can look over any piece of merchandise, but he must also know in the case of a bond the credit position of the borrower, or know some banker whose knowledge can enlighten him. In the wild scramble for bonds in the few years preceding the spring of 1928, the public accepted and the investment banker in many instances instituted, the practice of merchandising securities in a manner only applicable to commodities. It may have been necessary under the circumstances, which apparently forced it on us, but that did not make it right.

Let me give you an instance of this, which is only one of hundreds of cases. A new issue of many millions of dollars of bonds was offered to the public early in 1928 at a price which was close to par. The statements in the prospectus were accurate then, and appear equally accurate to-day. Public subscriptions were received for the issue by the bankers far in excess of the bonds available for allotment. The bonds went up moderately in price, and then dropped, after the autumn of 1929, to a low point of 19. Inappropriate and inapplicable merchandising methods of distributing bonds had been at work. The demand, already unduly augmented by the thirst for such securities, reached inordinate bounds. When the turn came, there were not enough holders of such securities who had been properly informed of the credit behind this issue to prevent them dumping their bonds through fear in the general upheaval, augmenting their own losses and jeopardizing the public credit of the borrower. This is in spite of the fact that these very bonds have not been in default as to sinking fund or interest, and it is not expected that they will be.

It is with great satisfaction that I can say to you that my observation of the investment banker to-day, meeting him as I have on his own doorstep throughout the country, is that this method of selling securities has gone forever. I firmly believe, in addition, and as bordering on such merchandising methods, that the days of security salesmen on a commission basis are numbered. Already in many instances other methods of compensation have been substituted.

To-day bonds are being, and should be, sold in the way they always had been formerly sold, that is by men of experience who are, or are of the calibre to become, officers and partners of their own houses. To-day new issues are priced at a point which the banker and the investor alike agree to be justifiably considered below the ultimate free market price. We have only to look at recent issues for verification of this. This practice is, I believe, a fixture. Public sentiment demands it, and public sentiment in this case is right.

There is satisfaction of a substantial kind in the recollection that this Association, representing as it does the thought and ideals of its members, comprising the principal investment banking houses of this country, has stood for sound investment banking principles which alone can insure the stability of the function of investment banking, a business which is an absolute essential to the development of industry and commerce and the general public welfare of this and of any civilized country. The commercial welfare of our people, the sound development of manufacture, agriculture and banking is a sure way of contributing to general happiness, and now that the fever of speculation and easy profits and sudden riches are things of the past, and now that we see a glow that heralds the dawn of an era of reasonable profits, perhaps the significance of the old parable can be better appreciated to-day of the man who was told by a soothsayer that the way to obtain happiness was to find a completely happy man, then ask him for his coat and wear it. The world was searched from end to end, and at last a completely happy man was found, but he did not own a coat.

"Current Aspects of Federal Finance" Discussed by Under Secretary of Treasury Arthur A. Ballantine Before Investment Bankers' Association—Says Improvement in Position of Government Securities Augurs Well for Future.

Before the annual Convention of the Investment Bankers' Association of America, at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., on Oct. 26 Arthur A. Ballantine, Under Secretary of the Treasury discussed "Current Aspects of Federal Finance." He referred to the National Credit as having "withstood all of the shocks of the depression" and added that "United States Government obligations remain the world's best investment security." The amount of Government debt as it stood on Oct. 15 1932, at nearly \$20,800,000,000, is described by Mr. Ballantine as "still some 20% below the war peak." That total he said "includes a little less than \$6,000,000,000 short-dated debt, maturing within five years, which must be reduced or replaced. It also comprises the Fourth Liberty Loan of over \$6,000,000,000, callable after October 15 1933, due October 15 1938, which must be dealt with by the latter date." While acknowledging that "the amount of refunding in prospect is very large" Mr. Ballantine declared that "the operation can be satisfactorily carried out."

Mr. Ballantine referring to the new tax measure said that its full effects cannot be judged from its early operation. He reported receipts from the new miscellaneous taxes as showing a steady increase; for September and the first three weeks of October they aggregated \$131,736,560 as compared with \$76,870,296 in the corresponding period of last year. The returns under the new income tax rates he noted will not be reflected until March 1933, and no estate tax at the new rates will be payable until June 1933. Calls for advances by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to financial institutions, said Mr. Ballantine, have steadily diminished. He also noted that "during past months demand for United States Government securities has shown remarkable improvement." The address of Under Secretary Ballantine follows in full:

The national credit has withstood all of the shocks of the depression and United States Government obligations remain the world's best investment security. Government offerings are eagerly taken at interest rates lower than those available to any other government in the world. Prospects for the financial operations of the Government are increasingly favorable. What we need to maintain this position is not a new plan but all around co-operation in adherence to right principles of public finance.

Sound policies followed in the post-war years helped in the meeting of the Government's financial problems resulting from the depression. Chief among these was continuous reduction in the public debt. On June 30 1930, the debt was more than \$9,000,000,000 less than on June 30 1919. Reducing the debt by over a third within a single decade was a convincing demonstration of fixed determination to provide for the meeting of our national obligations. In addition, the fact that nearly \$3,500,000,000 of the reduction was accomplished by the accumulation and application of surpluses in good years, carrying retirement to that extent beyond the amount called for by sinking fund provisions, furnished in a sense a reserve which might be drawn upon in lean years.

Debt reduction in any such amount could not have been accomplished unless Federal expenditures after the war and up to the depression had been kept well within bounds. For the eight years from 1922 to 1929 they averaged \$3,640,000,000, in spite of the fact that expenditures for the service of the debt, for veterans, and for defense together constituted about two-thirds of the total expenditures.

The amount of the debt as it stood on October 15 1932, had risen to nearly \$20,800,000,000, and amount however still some 20% below the war peak. That total includes a little less than \$6,000,000,000 short-dated debt, maturing within five years, which must be reduced or replaced. It also comprises the Fourth Liberty Loan of over \$6,000,000,000 callable after October 15 1933, due October 15 1938, which must be dealt with by the latter date. The amount of refunding in prospect is very large but the operation can be satisfactorily carried out.

The financial operations of the Government have been and are facilitated by the development of Treasury methods for handling Government issues so that they can be made quickly and with a minimum of a strain upon the market. On telegraphed notice from the Secretary of the Treasury the Federal Reserve Banks issue the circulars which are sent to all financial institutions or others who may be interested in subscribing in the respective districts. It is thus possible to fix the final terms of an issue very close to the date of the public offering.

In taking payment for subscriptions the Treasury follows the helpful practice of permitting accredited banks to make payments by establishing deposits in favor of the Government. These are drawn upon by the Government only as funds are about to be paid out so that they will go back into the market. In recent years the Treasury has not employed selling drives such as were used during the war. This has been primarily because financial institutions had sufficient funds to enable them to become purchasers or distributors of Government issues in adequate volume and there was, hence, no need to run the risk of putting pressure upon bank deposits. To-day banks are even better able to take care of Government issues as member banks have decreased their borrowings from Federal Reserve Banks from \$350,000,000 to \$300,000,000 and are carrying excess reserves to the amount of not less than \$400,000,000.

Treasury operations are also at all times facilitated by the freedom which the law accords the Secretary of the Treasury to choose in his discretion the particular kind of security to be issued, whether bills to be sold on a discount basis, interest-bearing certificates maturing in not more than a year, notes of from one to five years, or bonds of any maturity of not less than five years. The Secretary is also free to choose the time for any financing. Quarterly financing on income tax payment dates is of course customary, but under the discretion vested in the Secretary all financing is timed so as to take advantage of favorable conditions and best meet the general situation in the investment and money markets.

The ability of the Government to place and refund its obligations depends essentially upon continued maintenance of the merit of the securities and limitation upon their amount. What gives United States Government obligations their distinctive investment standing is absolute confidence in the unwavering purpose of the Government to provide for the payment of principal and interest and in its capacity to do so. That purpose must be evidenced by so controlling expenditures and providing revenues that at least in the long run all of the Government's financial requirements, including debt requirements, will be met from revenues. It must also be evidenced by restricting the use of Government credit to objects which command general respect and support. There is an underlying requirement which in ordinary times does not need attention but which has called for much attention in the days of the depression. This is the requirement that the measures of the Government must be such as to preserve and strengthen the economic system of the country so as to insure the full utilization of our unrivalled resources in production and employment, thus affording an adequate base for the maintenance of our Government as well as of our people.

Under the leadership of the Administration our Government has in the main followed those policies in this time of trial and is making good the fundamentals upon which its credit depends. The story of the fight to rescue the Budget from the clutches of the depression falls at the moment in the field of political discussion and need not be told here. The expectation, based upon earlier indications of the effect of the depression upon Government revenues, that the storm might be weathered by drawing upon the reserves and without imposing new burdens upon taxpayers, was swept away by the intensification of adverse forces having their main origin abroad.

When the time came last fall to call upon the already harassed business institutions and all taxpayers of the country to assume larger burdens for the ultimate financial protection of the nation, the Administration initiated vigorous action. In spite of the vivid clearness of the need it took six months to secure the enactment of the revenue bill planned to yield over a billion of new revenue, including the increase in postal revenues. Notwithstanding the urgency of the need, measures for new economics in Government expenditures took an even more difficult course and only some \$150,000,000 of prospective additional economies was ultimately provided for. Yet the combined effect of reduction in the Budget as submitted by the President, new savings under the Economy Act, and the elimination of large non-recurrent emergency expenditures of last year, started us upon the current fiscal year with a prospect of expenditures which would be less than those of last year by a billion dollars.

In addition, measures passed by the House which would have added as much as three billion and a half to expenditures met defeat. The net result when Congress adjourned was that our financial defenses had held, great forward steps had been taken, and the program of reconstruction and recovery was under way. These accomplishments brought relief to the country, the restoration of confidence and hope, and a forward movement in business and industry that still continues.

From the amount of the deficit for the current year as appearing on the Daily Statement of the Treasury, it is argued that the Government's financial position to-day is disturbing. No such inference is warranted.

What the position of the Government will be at the end of the fiscal year 1933 depends upon the total of expenditures and revenues for the full twelve-month's period. Expenditures so far this year included an item of \$100,000,000 for Adjusted Service Certificates which was not included in the comparable period of last year. Expenditures later on in the past fiscal year included many large emergency items not to be repeated this year, such as expenditures for the capital stock of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the Federal Land Banks, together amounting to \$625,000,000.

The full revenue effects of the new tax measure cannot be judged from its early operation. New miscellaneous taxes, although effective for the most part from June 21 1932, have been slow in becoming reflected in the revenues. The large purchasers by dealers in June, made in anticipation of the imposition of taxes, cut down sales subject to tax in July and August. In some cases there was a two-months' lag in the collection of the tax. Receipts from the new miscellaneous taxes are showing a steady increase. For September and the first three weeks of October, they aggregated \$131,736,560 as compared with \$76,870,296 in the corresponding period of last year.

In addition it should not be forgotten that returns under the new income tax rates and provisions will not be reflected until March 1933, and that no estate tax at the new rates will be payable until June 1933. The new revenue measure will prove increasingly effective as time goes on and its full benefits will not be realized until next year.

In appraising the financial position of the Government it should be remembered that as the months pass funds that have been advanced to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, to take the place of private credit for a time, will be returned to the Treasury. Up to October 20th, the total of the amount paid in to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for its capital stock and of the net advances to the Corporation as public debt items in accordance with the law, was in excess of \$1,100,000,000. The providing of these funds added a corresponding amount to the public debt, but their expenditure furnished the Government with assets in the form of secured obligations which are already being repaid. Up to October 20th repayments of loans made by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation had amounted to about \$230,000,000.

Calls for funds for advances by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to financial institutions have steadily diminished. In April applications from banks aggregated 1,269. In August the number had fallen to 899, and in September fell to 515. Loan applications from other financial institutions fell from 239 in April to 171 in September. Total loans authorized by the Corporation aggregated \$230,000,000 in April and but \$138,000,000 in September. The use of funds for financing self-liquidating projects will increase, but those loans also will constitute assets and as normal security markets revive those loans can be placed in the markets and new projects will again be financed through private agencies, thus further releasing and reducing the demand for funds to be supplied by the Government.

During past months the investment demand for United States Government securities has shown remarkable improvement. If we go back as far as the latter part of January of this year we find that long-term Government bonds were selling in the market on a basis to yield from 4.20 to 4.75 as compared to yields of 3.24 to 3.57 on October 15 1932, or about a full point less. In December 1931, one-year obligations commanded as much as 3 3/4%. On October 15th they were selling to yield about 3% of 1%. In February 1932 the yield of 90-day Treasury Bills was upwards of 2%. On October 15th the yield had receded to the record low of one-fifth of 1%.

In December 1931 it was advisable to provide for Treasury financing on the basis of issues of not more than a year's maturity. In recent months it has become possible to increase the maturity of notes offered up to five years. It is of interest to trace this progress. In considering the amounts of Treasury obligations offered during the period, it should be borne in mind that about two-thirds of the financing was for meeting debt maturities.

In December 1931 all Treasury bonds bearing less than 4% were selling at a discount and it seemed clearly unwise to attempt to sell any long-term offering. \$600,000,000 of 3 1/4% one-year notes were the longest maturity included in a total offering of \$1,300,000,000, and the amount of subscriptions for these notes was only \$703,000,000.

On February 1 1932, the Treasury's requirements were about \$350,000,000. The situation as regards a long-term offering was even less favorable than in December and these adverse conditions until June. On February 1st the Treasury offered a combined total of \$350,000,000 in two issues, one 3 1/4% six months' certificates and the other 3 3/4% one-year certificates. Subscriptions for the two issues aggregated \$646,000,000, and allotment to each issue was made in the proportion that total subscriptions for that issue bore to the combined total of subscriptions. The six months' issue was allotted \$227,000,000 and the one-year issue \$144,000,000.

When the time came for the March financing the situation as to yield on Government issues was practically unchanged. To meet maturities and provide new money the Treasury required upwards of \$900,000,000. It offered \$300,000,000 3 1/4% seven-month certificates, and \$600,000,000 3 3/4% one-year certificates. Subscriptions for the short-term 3 1/4% certificates aggregated \$952,000,000 and those for the 12-months 3 3/4% certificates \$2,450,000,000.

When the Treasury was preparing for its May financing the situation was beginning to show signs of improvement. Long-term bonds had advanced and were selling from 3 3/4% to 3 1/2%. This was the first time since the previous Fall when the Treasury had felt that it would be justified in offering a security having a maturity of more than 12 months.

On May 2 1932, the Treasury offered \$225,000,000, 2% one-year certificates and a like amount of 3% two-year Treasury Notes. The Treasury's judgment as to the improvement in the Government market was confirmed by the fact that while \$1,700,000,000 was subscribed for the one-year certificates, subscriptions for the two-year notes aggregated over \$2,496,000,000.

On June 15 1932, to meet maturities and obtain new funds the Treasury offered \$400,000,000 3%, three-year notes with \$350,000,000 1½% one-year certificates. Subscriptions for the shorter term issue aggregating \$1,653,000,000 ran ahead of subscriptions for the three-year issue which aggregated \$1,143,000,000. In August the situation was much improved. The budget accomplishments which had been achieved, the defeat of dangerous legislative proposals, and the securing and operation of the reconstruction program had restored confidence and that confidence was promptly reflected in the Government security market.

On Aug. 1 the Treasury offered \$325,000,000 two-year 2½% notes and a like amount of four-year 3¼% notes. Subscriptions for the two-year notes aggregated \$1,706,000,000, while subscriptions for the four-year notes were in excess of \$3,800,000,000 clearly reflecting a demand for longer term issues.

Further improvement was registered in September. Refunding and financing needs were provided for by offering \$750,000,000 five-year 3¾% notes with \$400,000,000 one-year 1¼% certificates. The maturity of the notes was the longest and the rate on the certificates was the lowest which the Treasury had felt warranted in offering within a year. Subscriptions for the notes were over \$4,351,000,000 and for the certificates over three billions.

On October 15th the Treasury offered \$450,000,000 3% notes maturing in four and one-half years, and subscriptions aggregated over \$8,368,000,000. Except for the 3% and the 3¾% Treasury bonds, all Treasury bonds, notes and certificates are selling at premiums.

The financial problems ahead unquestionably require firm and intelligent handling and do not admit of any weakening in adherence to sound methods and principles. Yet the improvement in the position of Government securities augurs well for the future and rests upon a solid foundation. It reflects dangers avoided, the great progress made in budget legislation of last year, and draws support from large reduction in Government expenditure which is in process, and from a lessening of demands for Government funds. It rests also upon the substantial progress which is being reported in business and industry and which will be augmented as the program of recovery and reinvigoration goes forward.

Address Before Investment Bankers' Association by E. G. Buckland—"American Railroads—A Sound Investment."

"Changes in existing Federal legislation to permit railroads to make rates and adjustments thereof to the extent necessary to meet competition, however arising," were advocated before the annual convention of the Investment Bankers' Association of America, at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., on Oct. 24 by E. G. Buckland, Chairman of the Board of the New York New Haven & Hartford RR. Co. and President of the Railroad Credit Corporation. Mr. Buckland further advocated that the Inter-State Commerce Commission should not be permitted to suspend rates and interfere with the discretion of railroad management, at least so long as the railroads are earning less than a fair return upon the value of their properties. "Railroads," he declared, "should be permitted to engage in any and all kinds of transportation upon substantially the same terms as their competitors." "The Government," he said, "should retire from the operation of barge lines in competition with private enterprise." Mr. Buckland also said remedial legislation "should be applied to stop the useless expense in connection with the current valuation of railroads and law suits for recapture of income alleged but not proven to have been earned." Mr. Buckland in his address pointed to taxation burdens borne by the railroads, and in citing figures to show that \$56.69 in paid in taxes as compared with every \$100 earned of net income, he said "it may fairly be asked whether any other American institution is required to pay out in taxes so large a proportion of what would otherwise be net income." Mr. Buckland's address follows:

The American Railroads—A Sound Investment.

A discussion of the soundness of investments in securities of American railroads may appropriately begin with a text drawn from an Act of Congress and an opinion of the United States Supreme Court defining and fixing the Federal Government's policy respecting railroads engaged in inter-State commerce. The text is taken from two excerpts, one from the Inter-State Commerce Act, the other from an opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Paragraph (2) of Section 15a of the Inter-State Commerce Act (originally enacted as a part of Transportation Act, 1920) reads, in part, as follows:

"(2) In the exercise of its power to prescribe just and reasonable rates the Commission shall initiate, modify, establish or adjust such rates so that carriers . . . will, under honest, efficient and economical management and reasonable expenditures for maintenance of way, structures and equipment, earn an aggregate annual net railway operating income equal, as nearly as may be, to a fair return upon the aggregate value of the railway property of such carriers held for and used in the service of transportation."

United States Supreme Court in *Dayton-Goose Creek Railway v. United States*, in construing Transportation Act, 1920, used the following forceful language:

"The new Act seeks affirmatively to build up a system of railways prepared to handle promptly all the Inter-State traffic of the country. It aims to give the owners of the railways an opportunity to earn enough to maintain their properties and equipment in such a state of efficiency that they can carry well this burden. To achieve this great purpose, it puts the railroad systems of the country more completely than ever under the fostering guardianship and control of the Commission, which is to supervise their issue of securities, their car supply and distribution, their joint use of terminals, their construction of new lines, their abandonment of old lines, and by a proper division of joint rates, and by fixing adequate rates for inter-State commerce, and in case of discrimination for intra-State commerce, to secure a fair return upon the properties of the carriers engaged."

This part of the Inter-State Commerce Act and the judicial interpretation thereof are in a sense only declaratory of the constitutional right of each railroad to earn, if it can, by means of reasonable rates, fares and charges a fair return on the value of its property held for and used in the service of transportation. To this constitutional right possessed by each railroad, the quoted text adds the mandate to the Inter-State Commerce Commission to permit and aid the railroads to realize a fair return upon the value of their property devoted to the service. With this policy of Government clearly defined, investors in railroad securities may still inquire:

- (1) Whether the service upon which a return is sought is a necessary service.
- (2) Whether the value upon which the return is sought is a real value.
- (3) Whether the property is operated with such efficiency and economy as to produce an income assuring payment of interest and dividends.
- (4) Whether the management is of such character and morale as fairly to guarantee continued operating efficiency and economy.

It is by applying these tests that the American railroads have proved to be, and under "Equality of Opportunity," will continue to be sound investments.

(1) *Is the service performed by the American railroads a necessary service in the sense that no other agency can perform it as efficiently and economically?*

The facts are that in spite of the other methods of transportation, by water, by highway and by air, carriage by rail has been, is now, and bids fair to continue to be the principal method of transportation in the continental United States. As a proof, in the calendar year of 1931, 85% of the ton miles performed, other than traffic on the Great Lakes, moved over the railroads. The Association of Railway Executives emphasizes this in its statement, "To the American Public" of July 20, in the following language:

"It should not be forgotten that through a period of more than 100 years the railroads, when considered as a single system, as in effect they are, have grown to their present proportions responsive to the actual or potential demands of commerce. They could to-day with the existing plant carry the entire commerce of the country, while all other transportation agencies combined could carry only a small part of the reduced traffic now moving over the railroads. It follows, therefore, that the railroads will always be needed not only in time of peace, but even more in time of war. However much we may wish it were otherwise, the hazard of war cannot yet with safety be overlooked. In order to meet satisfactorily the demands that will be made upon them in the future, the roads must be kept at all times well and efficiently equipped both as to material requirements and as to personnel."

Professor Ripley, in his recent articles in the New York "Times," has shown the impossibility of the performance of this service over the highways. He points out that in 1929 the Class I railroads of the United States hauled 490,000,000,000 tons of freight one mile and shows how many motor trucks it would take to carry this amount of load moved by the railroads. The average run of a motor truck is 25,000 miles per year, two-thirds of this under load and the remainder empty. Proper allowance must be made for idle time, repairs, &c. It would, therefore, appear that about 6,250,000 five-ton trucks would have to be constantly at work to do this job. At an average length of 25 feet, 6,250,000 trucks would form a solid line 30,000 miles long. Picture that number of trucks almost 10 columns abreast, fenders touching all the way from New York to San Francisco. Upon the foregoing facts it may be stated without fear of successful contradiction that the railroad service is a necessary one, which no other agency can perform as efficiently or economically.

(2) *What is the value of the American railroads upon which they are entitled to a fair return?*

I again quote from a statement of the Association of Railway Executives:

"In 1920 the railroads of the United States were tentatively valued for rate-making purposes by the Inter-State Commerce Commission at \$18,900,000,000. Since then, and responsive to the insistence and even demands of shippers, officers of the Government and others, more than \$7,000,000,000 have been expended on these properties for additional facilities and equipment, so that to-day their value, based upon the Commission's finding in 1920, may be taken to be at least \$25,000,000,000."

In this connection it may be said that this value is ultra-conservative. The figure of \$18,900,000,000 was arrived at by the Inter-State Commerce Commission in 1920, in spite of undisputed testimony, fixing the value at approximately \$22,000,000,000. Bear in mind, this figure does not include any assets of a railroad corporation except those used and useful in the performance of transportation by rail. It does not include ownership in non-railroad property, such as water lines, timber lands, property lying outside the right of way and not used for railroad purposes and other miscellaneous investments. As against this asset value, the total funded debt of the railroads at \$12,300,000,000 is less than 50% of the valuation as shown above, while funded debt and stock combined, roundly \$19,500,000,000, are equal to about 78% of the total valuation based upon the Commission's tentative estimate. It cannot in fairness be claimed that collectively the railroads, from the standpoint of the investment, are over-capitalized.

The point made by the foregoing is emphasized by the aggregate investment in non-railroad properties which though not valued by the Commission, nevertheless appears upon the balance sheet and is properly reckoned as a part of the assets against which the evidences of indebtedness and stocks were issued.

If it be said that some part of these assets so valued have ceased to be useful in producing transportation, there is yet such a marginal surplus of asset value over the par of liabilities, as will justify the statement that as a whole the American railroads are under-capitalized rather than over-capitalized and that they have the right to earn a substantial surplus over fixed charges and reasonable dividends. This being so, the right of any governmental body may be sharply challenged to prevent, through the suspension of tariffs, the discretion still vested in railroad managers to fix and collect reasonable rates, fares and charges which they believe will promote the traffic which they are seeking to develop and carry.

The evidence of faith in this valuation is shown by the fact that more than one-third of the outstanding railroad bonds are held by insurance companies and savings banks. Add to these the holdings of probably \$2,250,000,000 in endowment funds by colleges, hospitals and institutions of a similar character and the result is that more than half of these bonds are held by institutions where safety first is sought.

Investment bankers will confirm the statement that the most conservative investors are the savings banks and the life insurance companies. A savings bank regards as a fairly conservative investment a loan for one-half the value of improved real estate secured by a mortgage thereon. The total railroad funded debt is less than half the value of the property securing it, and this funded debt constitutes all the evidences of funded indebtedness, senior, junior, first-grade and second-grade. The investments of the savings banks and life insurance companies in the railroads are generally in the highest grade of bonds, which it is safe to say represent a prior lien upon property of at least three times the par of the bonds. The payments, when due, of principal and interest of these bonds are to be relied upon as implicitly as are payments of loans upon real estate. Next to Government (and some State) bonds, they ought to be, and I believe are, among the safest and soundest of our investments. The savings banks and life insurance companies which have made these investments have no reason to apologize for them. They have every reason to defend them.

(3) Has the property of the American railroads been operated with such efficiency and economy as to produce an income assuring payment of interest and dividends?

The necessity for the service and the value of the property having been established, the third test is the economy and efficiency with which such property is operated and the income as a result thereof. Here again there is no need for oral assertion. Statistics derived from the standard accounting under the rules of the Inter-State Commerce Commission show the following operating indices of economy for the 10 years of 1921-1930, inclusive:

"For Class I carriers of the United States the net ton miles revenue and non-revenue per train hour increased from 7,506 in 1921 to 10,580 in 1929; for the year 1930 they were 10,839. The net ton miles per freight car day increased from 389 in 1921 to 547 in 1929; for 1930 they were 469.

Freight locomotive miles per locomotive day increased from 49.5 in 1921 to 65.1 in 1929; and in 1930 were 58.0. Passenger locomotive miles per locomotive day increased from 103.4 in 1921 to 120.3 in 1929; and in 1930 were 116.1.

The pounds of coal consumed per 1,000 gross ton miles decreased from 162 in 1921 to 125 in 1929; they were 121 in 1930. The pounds of coal consumed per passenger car mile decreased from 17.7 in 1921 to 14.9 in 1929; they were 14.7 in 1930. In these figures the consumption of all other forms of fuel used on steam locomotives is equated into coal. Based on these statistics it may be computed that fuel consumption for the year 1930 was 28,774,000 tons less than it would have been on the basis of the performance of 1921."

The average net income of Class I railroads in the United States for the 10 years ended Dec. 31 1930 was \$618,692,000. The average funded debt outstanding for these same railroads, covering the same period, was \$10,378,300,000. The annual average interest charges on both funded and unfunded debt was \$503,499,000. The income earned applicable to such interest charges averaged \$1,122,191,000, or 2.23 times this interest charge. During that period the average yearly tax accruals were \$350,733,000, or 5.88% of the gross operating revenues and 56.69% of the net income. Translated into the language of the "man in the street," this means that the American railroads during the 10 years ended Dec. 31 1930 paid out in taxes out of every \$100 which they earned \$5.88. In spite of this and after this payment, they earned almost two and one-quarter times their interest upon all their indebtedness consisting of senior bonds and junior bonds, debentures and bank loans, and they had left to apply to dividends upon \$7,200,000,000 of stock and surplus for future needs, \$618,693,000. This net income was realized after a prior payment of \$350,733,000, or \$56.69 paid in taxes, as compared with every \$100 earned of net income. It may fairly be asked whether any other American institution is required to pay out in taxes so large a proportion of what would otherwise be net income. The foregoing figures seem to demonstrate that during a period of normal business the American railroads have been honestly and efficiently operated and have earned, in spite of an extraordinary burden of taxation, two and one-quarter times the interest on their entire indebtedness.

(4) Is the management characterized by such integrity and morale as to justify the expectation of continuing efficiency and earnings under normal conditions of business?

The figures cited have borne witness to the increased efficiency and economy with which the American railroads were operated in the 10 years ending 1930. Speaking generally, the same men are now working for the same railroads as during that period and from top to bottom they have been, and continue to be, actuated by a morale extraordinary in the difficulties with which they have been surrounded. In speaking of management, I make no distinction of rank. Our railroad executives have mostly come in through the hawse hole—few through the cabin window, and the same standards which have brought the executives to their places in general characterize the entire body of employees.

The executives of the American railroads in 1917, upon the declaration of war, pooled their efforts and property so far as the law allowed (and as they were warned, beyond what the law allowed) to help our country win the war. For the remainder of the year, they established a War Board of their own members in Washington, to co-operate with the Government until the Government itself took over the railroads on Dec. 28 1917. The same men, in general, operated the railroads under Government direction, and while not free to obtain the economy of private operation, they did so perform as to keep the Allies supplied with the necessities for war beyond the capacity of the Allies' ships to transport.

When peace came and the railroads were returned to their owners, it was found necessary to obtain through loans the aid of the Government to rehabilitate the properties. In all, nearly \$1,116,000,000 were loaned. Of this amount, the railroads repaid to the Government almost \$1,077,000,000, leaving a balance outstanding of a little over \$39,000,000. In addition, they paid 6% interest upon the principal sum, or nearly \$180,000,000. The money which the Government loaned the railroads cost it about 4% during this period, and as it received 6% from the railroads, one-third of the interest received was profit, amounting to a little more than \$60,000,000, which represents an actual profit in cash to the Government of this amount less whatever of existing indebtedness of \$39,000,000 be uncollectible. In short, upon the Government loans made succeeding Federal control, the Government has already realized a net cash profit of \$21,000,000, and as much more as may be collected from debtor railroads. No further comment is needed to establish the financial integrity of the managers of the American railroads. The men who manage and the men who serve are of a rugged reliability, a genial comradeship and a keen loyalty unsurpassed by any other class of Americans. To be called a "railroad man" is to accord an honorable standing, likened only to the approbation which the term "soldier" means to a man in the army and "sailor" to the man in the navy. In each case, it means that the man is engaged in an honorable work and is doing his job well. This combination warranted recognition and received it in the report of the Secretary of Commerce (now President of the United States) in 1926. The results there stated have been progressively improved in subsequent years, as shown by the indices of operation which have been cited. The following is quoted from the report:

"Probably the most outstanding single industrial accomplishment since the war has been the reorganization of our American railroads. Our transportation service was not only demoralized by Government operation during the war but had suffered chronic car shortages and insufficient service, not only after the war but for many years before. The annual loss from this periodic strangulation in transportation was estimated in the Department's annual report of 1925 to amount to hundreds of millions a year. The insufficiency of transportation interfered with steady industrial operations, created intermittent employment, increased the cost of production and, through periodic strangulation, caused high prices to the consumer. Manufacturers and distributors were compelled to carry excessive inventories as a protective measure, thus not only increasing the amount of capital required in the business but multiplying the danger of loss by price fluctuation.

"The railroads, during the past five years, not only have built up adequate services and given complete correction to those ills, but they have, by great ability of their managers, greatly reduced transportation costs and thus made rate reductions possible which would not have been otherwise the case. The result of this great reorganization upon the whole economic fabric of the country has been far-reaching."

As a further earnest of continuing efficiency and earnings under normal conditions of business, is the following declaration of the managements with respect to preventable waste:

"The railroads are utilizing, and propose to continue to utilize even more extensively, their organizations in the field of research and experimentation and take all other available measures in order to secure the utmost in operating efficiency. They pledge themselves to avoid all preventable wastes in the competitive rela-

tionships between themselves and to devise and apply the most feasible methods for meeting new competitive conditions. This is their part in the solution of the transportation problem."

Upon the foregoing facts, there may be fairly claimed to have been established the necessity of the American railroads as a transportation agency, the intrinsic value of the property, the efficiency and economy of their management and their earning capacity in normal times, and the integrity and morale of the men engaged in the service.

What is the reason then that the market quotations on railroad securities do not reflect their real value as investments? Why is it that first-grade railroad bonds are selling upon a 5½ to 6% yield and second-rate bonds on a much higher yield? The principal reason is, of course, the present depression in business. The Association of Railway Executives says that:

"While the present financial condition of the railroads is due in large part to the prevailing depression in business, the steam carriers have also felt in constantly increasing measure during recent years the competition of other transportation agencies, including the motor-driven vehicle operating on the greatly improved highways and transportation by water.

"It is evidence of the inherent strength of the railroads that they have been able to support as well as they have this double burden of the depression and the increased competition of other forms of transportation.

"The public is entitled to have and should have the most efficient system of transportation that it is possible to create, including all available agencies, and to use each agency in the manner and to the extent justified by its effectiveness and economic cost, but only upon terms just and equitable to all."

The American railroads are entitled to this "Equality of Opportunity." They ask for "a fair field and no favor." They do not believe that transportation agencies should be free from all regulation. They believe it in the public interest that reasonable regulation of these agencies should continue, but that it should be applied to all alike and not confined to rail carriers. I advocate changes in existing Federal legislation to permit railroads to make rates and adjustments thereof to the extent necessary to meet competition, however arising; that the Inter-State Commerce Commission should not be permitted to suspend rates and interfere with the discretion of railroad management, at least so long as the railroads are earning less than a fair return upon the value of their properties. Railroads should be permitted to engage in any and all kinds of transportation upon substantially the same terms as their competitors, and among their competitors should be included the United States Government directly or indirectly. The Government should retire from the operation of barge lines in competition with private enterprise. It should stop improvements in inland waterways which cannot when made be operated without a continuing loss payable out of general taxation. Remedial legislation should also be applied to stop the useless expense in connection with the current valuation of railroads and law suits for recapture of income alleged but not proven to have been earned.

All common and contract carriers engaged in inter-State commerce by highway should be placed under the jurisdiction of the Inter-State Commerce Commission or other Federal tribunal. The same regulations should be imposed upon them as upon the railroads as to publishing and adhering to just and reasonable rates. The railroads should be allowed to perform highway service and to co-ordinate the same with their rail service wherever in the opinion of the management of these railroads the public can so be better served. Legislation by the States should, in general, follow the same line as by the Federal Government with respect to inter-State commerce, but, in addition, State legislation should distribute more equitably the cost of constructing and maintaining highways upon the users of such highways. To the extent that commercial vehicles are failing to share the burden of such construction and maintenance, they are currently receiving a subsidy paid at the expense either of the general taxpayer or of the users of private automobiles, especially of the less expensive type, which are paying taxes all out of proportion to the wear and tear which they impose upon the highways. There should be a more equitable distribution of license taxes based upon the concentrated weight imposed upon highways by heavily-loaded vehicles, and this burden should be maintained by those that operate the heavily-loaded vehicles, the railroads taking their share of the burden if they are permitted to operate highway trucks. There should be relief from the burden of taxes currently being paid. In the depression of 1931 the ratio of taxes paid by the railroads out of their operating revenue was raised from the average of 5.88% herein above quoted for the 10-year period to 31%, in other words, in the year 1931, out of every \$100 earned from operation, the railroads paid \$31 in taxes. Almost one-third of the railroad plant was operated to support the Federal, State and local governments. This crushing burden of taxation is, of course, due to the fact that generally speaking railroads are taxed on their gross earnings rather than upon the value of their property or upon their ability to pay. There should be some more equitable form whereby all transportation agencies shall be similarly taxed and at such a rate of taxation that none shall be required to bear an undue share of the support of Government. The railroads seek "a fair field and no favor"—"Equality of Opportunity." They ask for no more. They are entitled to no less.

Report of Railroad Securities Committee by Earle Bailie, Chairman—Temporary Measures in Behalf of Roads Must Be Extended Pending Effectiveness of Constructive Forces—Association Asked to Refrain from Joining Those Deluging National Transportation Committee with Suggested Remedies.

According to the report of the Railroad Securities Committee of the Investment Bankers' Association of America, "the temporary measures put into effect this year [in behalf of the railroads] must be extended unless we are to lose the benefits which they have provided. The whole structure of temporary relief must be continued until the constructive forces now under way can become effective." Preceding this statement the Committee said: "There seems good reason for believing that the worst of the depression has been seen, and that an improvement, even though slow and gradual, is in the making. However, unless the rate increase and wage decreases are carried forward, it is estimated that a 10% increase in traffic in 1933 over 1932 would still show the railroads as a whole falling far short of meeting their fixed charges, to say nothing of the heavy maturities to be met in the coming year." The Committee notes that "it is an important and difficult task which the National Transportation Committee undertakes," and it makes known its

intention to present a report of analysis and recommendations as soon as the Transportation Committee's findings are made public. In the interim the Association is asked to assist the Transportation Committee in any way it may suggest, but to refrain from joining the host of those who will deluge it with suggested remedies and ready-made solutions of the problem." Earle Bailie, of J. & W. Seligman & Co., is Chairman of the Railroad Securities Committee, whose report, as presented at the annual convention of the Investment Bankers' Association, follows in full:

In presenting the report of the Committee on Railroad Securities, I shall attempt to outline the results of railroad operations in the present year, review the measures which have been taken to deal with the emergencies that arose, examine the present situation of the railroads and the outlook for the coming year, and present certain recommendations to the Association.

Railroad Operations in 1932.

The report of your Committee, presented at the February meeting of the Board, included an estimate of probable 1932 earnings which indicated that net income of Class I railroads as a whole would show a deficit after charges of about \$200,000,000. Now, with more than three-fourths of the year behind us, it appears that this figure is approximately correct. For the purpose of comparison there is set down the estimate of income this year as made in February and as of to-day contrasted with the actual income accounts of 1931, 1930 and 1916:

(In Millions of Dollars.)

	February Estimate* 1932.	Present Estimate* 1932.	1931.	1930.	1916.
Operating revenues-----	3,660	3,200	4,188	5,281	3,596
Operating expenses-----	2,920	2,500	3,225	3,931	2,357
Net revenue from operations..	740	700	965	1,350	1,239
Taxes-----	300	295	304	350	158
Rentals-----	140	120	135	131	41
Net from operations-----	300	285	526	869	1,040
Non-operating income-----	200	210	298	349	210
Total income-----	500	495	824	1,218	1,250
Fixed charges-----	700	700	683	691	603
Net for corporation-----	-200	-205	141	527	647
Rate of return on investment---	1.1%	1.1%	2.0%	3.3%	5.9%

* Estimate prepared under supervision of the Chairman.

Reflecting the seriousness of the business recession, estimated total gross revenues for this year will fall \$460,000,000, or 13% below the figures which seemed possible of attainment last February, and nearly \$1,000,000,000 below those of 1931. Fixed charges have increased slightly due to the building up of floating debt; and the burden of taxes remains practically unchanged. It is interesting to note that with operating revenues in 1932 about \$400,000,000 less than in 1916, it will cost the railroads, in expenses, rentals and taxes, about \$360,000,000 more to operate their properties, of which \$140,000,000 represents an increase in taxes. The ability to obtain even the results shown in the face of a drastic further decline in traffic, and to operate throughout the year without the financial breakdown of a major railroad, has been due first and foremost to operating economies effected by the managements during 1932 to the extent of over \$600,000,000, or 60% of the loss of gross revenue as shown above and, secondly, to the following emergency measures:

- (1) 10% reduction in wages of organized labor.
- (2) Rate increases.
- (3) The Railroad Credit Corporation.
- (4) The Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

Each of these deserves a word of comment.

(1) Wage Reductions.

A 10% deduction from the wages earned by organized railroad labor became effective Feb. 1. This is not a new wage scale, but merely permits the railroads for one year to pay 90% of the payroll. Working agreements were not altered and no changes were made in the basic rates. On the basis of the payroll in effect at the time of the agreement, this 10% deduction would have produced a saving of about \$120,000,000. The wage reductions now in effect terminate Feb. 1 1933.

(2) Freight Rate Increase.

On Oct. 16 last year the Inter-State Commerce Commission authorized an increase in freight rates of approximately 3%, which, it was then estimated, would provide the railroads with \$100,000,000 to \$125,000,000 additional revenues for the effective period of 15 months. A condition was imposed to the effect that the revenues from the increased rates be deposited in a common pool from which roads not earning interest could withdraw such funds as were needed for this purpose.

The railroads found themselves unable to accept this condition, but, in order to take advantage of the increased rates, proposed that the moneys in the pool should be utilized for loans to railroads not earning their charges and submitted a proposed form of organization that would administer the funds. The Commission, on Dec. 5, accepted the railroads' plan and the rates became effective Jan. 4 of this year. The organization set up by the railroads is the Railroad Credit Corporation.

(3) Railroad Credit Corporation.

The Railroad Credit Corporation, a voluntary association, may make loans at the prevailing discount rate so solvent railroads for the purpose of allowing them to pay interest on their obligations to the extent that its resources are available. It may not obligate itself beyond the total of its estimated receipts. Total loans of the Railroad Credit Corporation to Oct. 1 amounted to \$32,000,000, its receipts in this period being \$36,000,000, and it is estimated that total receipts to March 31 1933 will be some \$75,000,000. The successful administration of the affairs of this Corporation is due largely to the courage, resourcefulness, initiative and imagination of its Chairman. The increased freight rates cease on March 31 1933. No loans may be made after May 31 1933. Thereafter the work of the Railroad Credit Corporation until Dec. 1 1937, which is the period of its chartered existence, will consist chiefly of collecting the loans made and distributing the receipts therefrom to the contributing carriers.

(4) Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

As the resources of the Railroad Credit Corporation were limited in amount and restricted in application, the Administration, in planning the

Reconstruction Finance Corporation, provided for the giving of additional assistance to the railroads as one of its functions. Under the legislation creating the Corporation, it is empowered to make loans to railroads, or receivers of railroads, without restriction as to the amount, excepting that not more than \$100,000,000 may be advanced to any one property. All loans must be approved by the Inter-State Commerce Commission, and must be adequately secured. To Oct. 1, applications for loans totaling approximately \$432,000,000 have been made, of which approximately \$333,000,000 to 66 roads were approved by the Inter-State Commerce Commission. The funds loaned by the Corporation have been used to pay, in whole or in part, bank loans, taxes, overdue vouchers, and other unfunded indebtedness, to meet in whole or in part maturities of funded debt and equipment trusts, and to finance improvements that had been interrupted. Advances also have been made to meet interest payments when it became evident that the revenues from the freight rate surcharge deposited with the Railroad Credit Corporation would be inadequate for this purpose.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation has been of major importance in assisting the carriers to meet the overwhelming financial problems that have confronted them and averting the financial breakdown of important systems. While the resources and machinery of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for extending further aid will continue to be available provided the necessary order is issued by the President next January, it will become increasingly difficult, under the definition of "adequate" security, for many railroads to secure further assistance because most, if not all, of their free assets are already pledged under existing loans.

These wise and timely measures have been effective but they are wholly and avowedly temporary measures, designed for the period of emergency and, unless extended, will shortly cease to operate. The wage decrease ends on February 1 1933; the rate increase ends on March 31 1933; the present Railroad Credit Corporation can make no loans after May 31 1933; and effective further assistance of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation will become increasingly difficult unless its present requirements concerning adequate security are amended and relaxed.

So much for the present situation. The question arises as to what is the reasonable prospect of earnings for the railroads for 1933, and how their needs can be met during that year.

Outlook for 1933.

A continuation of the 1932 level of business obviously will not furnish adequate income for the railroads in 1933. The stabilization of traffic in recent months, however, gives some hope that the long decline since July 1929 has been checked and the more than seasonal gains of this autumn indicate the possibility of at least seasonal improvement. There seems good reason for believing that the worst of the depression has been seen and that an improvement, even though slow and gradual, is in the making. However, unless the rate increase and wage decreases are carried forward, it is estimated that a 10% increase in traffic in 1933 over 1932 would still show the railroads as a whole falling far short of meeting their fixed charges, to say nothing of the heavy maturities to be met in the coming year.

The question therefore arises as to what is to be done. Can the railroads be expected to make further substantial savings without further capital expenditures? In their retrenchment program, the railroads have made notable progress in the development of more economical methods which will be of lasting benefit. However, there is doubt as to how far further retrenchment can be carried. In some instances the necessities of the year have required a deferment in maintenance expenses of considerable proportion. Service has not been interrupted thereby and nothing has been done to impair the safety of operations. These accruals of maintenance, however, must be becoming a real handicap to near term earning power and upon many roads deferments are undoubtedly such as presently to require an increase in maintenance cost. It is doubtful, therefore, that the near term offers a real opportunity for the railroads, as a whole, to achieve further substantial savings in operating expenses.

It thus becomes apparent that the temporary measures put into effect this year must be extended unless we are to lose the benefits which they have provided. The whole structure of temporary relief must be continued until the constructive forces now under way can become effective.

(1) Wage Reductions.

This Committee does not feel that it is within its province to make any recommendations at this time in regard to the continuation or alteration of the present wage agreements. It would appear, however, that a continuation of the present reduction in wages is necessary in view of the financial situation of the railroads, and, in the light of the reductions to which wage groups in other industries have agreed, it would seem that the further reduction recently proposed by the railroads must of necessity be very carefully and sympathetically considered by the railroad labor organizations.

(2) Rate Increases.

A continuation of the present rate increases seems essential in the period that is immediately ahead, if only because it forms an integral part of the present structure of temporary relief.

(3) Railroad Credit Corporation.

Whatever one may think of the principle of forced loans from profitable systems to unprofitable ones, it would appear that, if a continuation of a wage reduction is agreed to and a continuation of the increased freight rates is granted by the Inter-State Commerce Commission, it is important for the carriers to extend the same assistance to the weaker railroads as has been extended this year, either through the Railroad Credit Corporation or a new agency.

(4) Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

Large sums have been advanced by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and it is undoubtedly necessary that further large sums be advanced during the coming year to tide the railroads over the present crisis. The debts contracted by the railroads in the past two years, although substantial in amount, are not a burden that cannot be discharged when railroad credit is restored. At the end of 1920 short term loans, mostly from the Government, amounted to about \$300,000,000, most of which were repaid within three years. At the present time loans of \$333,000,000 from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation have been authorized by the Inter-State Commerce Commission (of which about \$225,000,000 are for refunding or capital purposes), loans of \$32,000,000 have been authorized by the Railroad Credit Corporation, and there are outstanding in bank loans some \$200,000,000—a total of about \$555,000,000.

The amounts which the National Treasury have made available to the railroads are patently large. It seems only fair, however, that the public, which, in the past and in their own interest, have insisted on the regulatory measures which have prevented the railroads from adequately preparing themselves for a period such as they are passing through, and which have hampered their adjustment to the radically reduced volume of traffic—

ould again in their own interest, in an emergency of the present magnitude, assist the railroads in meeting their temporary situation until a more permanent remedy can be devised and applied.

Even with a sustained improvement in the results of operations, the railroads will need additional assistance from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in meeting current interest charges and maturity payments. It must be recognized, however, that many of the carriers which most need help face 1933 with a considerable portion of their free assets pledged under existing loans. A more liberal method of appraising "adequate security" undoubtedly will have to be adopted, and the requirements of the Reconstruction Finance Act in this respect modified and relaxed, if the railroads are to be enabled to take advantage of the resources provided. It is suggested that perhaps the test of eligibility for assistance should be not the "adequacy" of the security but consideration of the fact whether, under minimum normal conditions, the railroad requesting the loan is a solvent working enterprise.

Conclusion.

The above temporary measures, the continuation of which is urged, are obviously palliatives which would not and should not have been necessary if a real solution of the railroad problem had been reached before this. However, they are of the utmost importance in permitting the carriers to carry on until such time as a permanent solution can be worked out.

Now as to the permanent solution:

As a result of a co-operative effort on the part of insurance companies, mutual savings banks, some of the great universities, and other organizations, of which your Association was one, a group of distinguished men have agreed to serve on a National Transportation Committee to examine the railroad problem in its relation to the entire transportation problem of the United States, and to recommend a permanent solution.

This committee consists of Calvin Coolidge as Chairman, Bernard M. Baruch as Vice-Chairman, Alfred E. Smith, Alexander Legge, and Clark Howell, Sr.

The willingness of this National Transportation Committee to undertake the vital task of outlining such a solution gives real hope that the present railroad crisis will be met on sound principles. Never has the country been able to command the services of a more able and distinguished group to assist it in coping with a major economic problem. As outlining the problem which the Committee faces, and the basis on which it will be approached, I think I can do no better than quote in full the letter of invitation extended to the Committee, to which your Association was one of the signatories.

"The present financial position of the railroads of the United States is a matter of grave concern. Collectively the greatest and most important industry of our country, the railroads have operated in this year at staggering deficits. Only wise and timely Federal aid has averted the financial breakdown of important systems.

"This situation touches every citizen. It affects directly the security of wage and employment of the 1,500,000 railway workers. It affects equally the many and important industries supplying railway equipment and supplies. It touches the financial problem of local, State, and National Government, to the support of which the railroads contribute over \$300,000,000 annually in taxes. It has given rise to a severe decline in the value of the \$19,500,000,000 of railroad obligations and shares, and has occasioned concern to institutions which hold such obligations among their assets, representing in part the savings of that thirty portion of our population which is to be found among the policyholders of insurance companies and the depositors in savings banks. The relief that the present emergency has made it necessary to grant to the railroads is a drain on the Federal Treasury, and any ultimate loss will constitute a burden on every taxpayer.

"The present deplorable position of the railroads is not due wholly to the stagnation of traffic resulting from the long-continued depression. Many of the present ills are due to Governmental, financial, labor, and management policies, some wrong in conception, some wrong in application, and others rendered obsolete by radically changed conditions. As a result, the railroads have not been in a position to adjust themselves, as well as have other industries, to present conditions.

"There are many disagreements as to causes, many disagreements as to remedies; but unanimous agreement as to the urgent necessity of some thorough-going solution of the problem. No solution, however, will be effective unless the problem of the railroads is considered as an integral part of the entire transportation problem of the United States, whether by rail, highway, waterway, pipeline, or air.

"Every industry in the country is entitled to fair treatment—the railroads no less than the others. The public interest must certainly be protected, but regulation should not place the railroads at a hopeless disadvantage with competing agencies and destroy flexibility of operation and management initiative. The railroad workers are entitled to a fair wage and the greatest possible security of employment. The holders of railroad securities are entitled to a fair and stable return on the true value of their investment.

"But more important than the interests of any one group, the people of the United States are entitled to the most effective and economical form of transportation to meet their various needs, whether by land, water, or air. Each form of transportation should be unhampered to provide effectively at a reasonable cost and at a fair profit the service for which it is best fitted. No form of transportation should be favored either at the expense of another agency or at the ultimate expense of the people of the United States.

"We, the undersigned organizations, representing many of the interests concerned, believe that there is no more important present task than a thorough and satisfactory solution of the railroad problem, as an integral but the most urgent part of the entire transportation problem. We beg that you examine all phases of the problem and recommend a solution which, with due regard for the public interest, will ensure an opportunity for the railroads of this country to operate on a business basis, to the end that there may be a stabilization in unemployment of wage-earners and in the values of investments made in behalf of insurance policyholders and savings bank depositors, and a general enhancement of the prosperity of the country which to so great a degree depends upon the prosperity of the railroads and of the many lines of business which in turn depend upon them."

It is an important and difficult task which the National Transportation Committee undertakes. It is obvious that in view of the scope of its task, it cannot be expected to make known its findings and recommendations for several months. It is equally obvious that even with unanimous public support it will require time to give effect to the suggested remedies and further time before their beneficial effects will make themselves felt. Therefore, it is neither fair nor possible to look to that Committee for a prompt solution of the general problem which would render unnecessary further temporary aid.

When the National Transportation Committee has made public its findings and recommendations, your Committee will present to the Association a report of analysis and recommendations. In the interim, it is our recommendation that the Association offer to assist the National Transportation Committee in any way it may suggest, but that we refrain from joining the host of those who will deluge it with suggested remedies and ready-made solutions of the problem. We couple with this suggestion an urgent recommendation that this Association utilize every possible means and every appropriate opportunity to urge the continuation of the present program of temporary assistance to the railroads. In order that the great good which has been done during the past year many not be dissipated, every effort should be made to keep the situation intact until a permanent solution of the railroad problem shall have been achieved.

Earle Baillie, Chairman	John A. Clark
Arthur M. Anderson	Lee L. Daly
George W. Bovenizer	Pierpont V. Davis
Robert K. Cassatt	Henry S. Sturgis
George C. Clark	

Report of Committee on Government and Farm Loan Bonds by Chairman F. Seymour Barr—New Government Securities Approximating \$8,900,000,000 Put Out Between Nov. 2 1931 and Oct. 19 1932—About \$5,500,000,000 Government Issues Refunded Making Total of "New Money" About \$3,400,000,000—Demoralizing Influence on Joint Stock Land Bank Borrowers of \$25,000,000 Appropriation by Congress to Federal Land Banks.

The sale by the United States Government of new securities approximating \$8,900,000,000 between November 2 1931 and October 19 1932 is noted in the report of the Government and Farm Loan Bonds Committee, presented by its Chairman, F. Seymour Barr, of Barr Brothers & Co., Inc., of New York, at the annual convention of the Investment Bankers' Association of America, at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., on Oct. 24. During this period, said the report "a total of about \$5,500,000,000 United States Treasury Certificates, notes and bills matured which were refunded," this, said the report, making a total of "new money" of approximately \$3,400,000,000. The report points out that during the past year there has been no public financing done by the Federal Land Banks, the \$25,000,000 appropriation this year by Congress to the Federal Land Banks is referred to in the report as to which it says the appropriation (to the Land Banks), according to officials of the Joint Stock Land Banks, "has had a demoralizing influence on a comparatively large number of Joint Stock borrowers who in some manner have gained the impression that the Government will also come to their aid and are showing a tendency of refusing to meet their interest instalments." "Unlike the Federal system" says the report "there has been no appropriations by Congress to help the Joint Stock Land Banks either in extending time to worthy borrowers or in building up their capital structure." "Ostensibly, the Joint Stock Land Banks can borrow from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation" says the report, which comments on the several receiverships of several of the Joint Stock Land Banks (including the Chicago Joint Stock Land Bank) and says "the three receiverships occurring this year indicate very clearly that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation has not proven to be the practical help to the Joint Stock Land Bank System as was originally believed." The report follows:

Between November 2 1931 and October 19 1932 the United States Government sold new securities approximating \$8,900,000,000. These new issues included about \$2,400,000,000. Treasury bills which ran approximately 90 days and were sold at various times on an average discount basis ranging from 3.29% down to 0.14%. These bills were offered at frequent intervals to meet Government expenses between tax dates and to supply current funds. The last issue, dated Oct. 19, carried this low rate and consisted of \$75,110,000, maturing Jan. 18 1933.

There were sold by the Government during this period United States Treasury notes about \$3,250,000,000, having maturities of one to five years, and carrying rates of 3¼% to 2½%. The Government also sold, during this same period, United States Treasury certificates approximating \$3,177,450,150, having maturities of six months to one year, and bearing interest rates of 3% @ to 1¼%. The rates of interest on these certificates were higher than those for certificates issued during the preceding year during which period the rates ran from 2% to 1½%, but it is interesting to note that two of the most recent issues were brought out, one on June 15, at the rate of 1½%, and on Sept. 15, at the rate of 1¼%. The Government sold issues of certificates and notes on four occasions between tax periods, once on Feb. 1 1932, when an issue of \$227,000,000 3½% six months' certificates and \$144,000,000 3% one-year certificates were brought out, again on May 2, when an issue of \$239,000,000 2% one-year certificates and \$224,000,000 3% two-year notes were brought out, again on Aug. 1 1932, when an issue of \$345,000,000 2½% two-year notes and \$365,000,000 3¼% four-year notes were brought out, and again on Oct. 15 1932, when an issue of \$500,000,000 3% five-year notes were brought out. These short-term securities constitute the total borrowing of the Government for this period as no long financings were resorted to.

During this period a total of about \$5,500,000,000 United States Treasury certificates, notes and bills matured which were refunded. This makes a total of "new money" of approximately \$3,400,000,000, all of which was needed to meet current expenses. As a consequence, the total gross debt on Sept. 30 1931 of \$17,320,606,657 increased to \$20,810,000,000 on Oct. 19 1932. On June 30 1932, at the end of the last fiscal year, the total gross debt amounted to \$19,487,000,000, an increase of \$2,686,000,000 since June 30 1931.

The Government must meet about \$600,500,000 Treasury notes which come due on Dec. 15 of this year. Additional financing will probably be required to provide "new money" as the receipts for the first two months of the present fiscal year (July 1 to Aug. 31) were about \$141,600,000 compared to about \$142,600,000 in the same period last year. The Government deficit at the end of its fiscal year was in excess of \$2,855,000,000.

The Government short-term debt shows a substantial increase, and it now has obligations aggregating approximately \$5,850,000,000 maturing within five years. Included in this figure are amounts totaling about \$3,150,000,000 which must be met within one year from date.

On June 1 1932 \$535,983,800 First Liberty 4½s and \$1,392,228,350 First Liberty 3½s were redeemable at the option of the Government, and can be redeemed at any interest date upon three months' notice to the bondholders. While it does not come within the present fiscal year, it is interesting to note that \$6,268,100,450 Fourth Liberty 4½s are redeemable at the option of the Government on Oct. 15 1933.

It was pointed out in the interim report that long-term Government bonds were selling at extremely low prices, about the middle of January this year,

and these prices on these issues sold within the last few years were the lowest on record.

Your Committee wishes to call attention to the notable work done by President Pope at this time. Through many conferences with Treasury and Federal Reserve officials, he assisted materially in the establishment of the policy which practically limits Government financing to short-term obligations for an indefinite period. This policy has resulted in a sustained rise in the prices of long-term Government bonds. For instance, in January 1932 long-term Treasury 4½s sold under 99; at the middle of April at 106½, and on Oct. 19 at 108. Treasury 3½s sold in January at 87½; in April at 99½, and on Oct. 19 at 101 6/32. Treasury 3s, which was the last long-term issue to be put out by the Government, sold as low as 82 3/32 on Jan. 12 last; on April 15 at 95½, and on Oct. 19 at 96 20/32.

Purchases during the year by the Federal Reserve Bank of short-term Government obligations naturally contributed to some extent to this rising price trend.

Federal Land Banks.

During the past year there has been no public financing done by the Federal Land Banks, the last offering by the System being the short-term 4½s of 1933, callable in 1932, which were marketed in November 1930. The banks, however, during this period, have been able to make limited advances to farmers. There has, however, been a small net decline in loans in force. Since the last report of your committee the marked increase in delinquent installments has continued, and real estate taken over under foreclosure is a very important item. During the past year the Federal Land Banks have been able to dispose of increased amounts of real estate holdings, and your committee is informed that at present depressed prices, real estate, while not readily salable, is being moved to an encouraging degree. Directly following your committee's annual report President Hoover asked Congress to substantially increase the capital of all the Federal Land Banks. It is important to record that his recommendation was promptly complied with, and \$100,000,000 additional capital has been advanced to the 12 banks in varying amounts.

This action by the Congress in appropriating these funds to increase the capital of the banks has been interpreted by the public as sufficient indication of the Government's attitude in relation to the Federal Farm Loan System, and the bonds have enjoyed a much improved market, with prices considerably up from the low point. Naturally, additional loans were made available to farmers as a result of this advance of funds.

The Government received stock in these banks against this advance, on which it receives no dividends or interest. This stock may be retired in whole or in part at any time the banks have funds available for that purpose, and the money so repaid to the Government is to be held in the Treasury for the purpose of further advances to the banks should such necessity arise. This, in a sense, creates what amounts to a valuable revolving fund available to meet contingencies. You will recall in your committee's interim report rendered last May that there was an additional authorization made by the Congress of \$25,000,000 which was earmarked for distribution to such banks that felt obliged to grant extensions to farmers who had tried to do their best to meet interest and principal installments, and who proved to be desperately in need of such extensions. This money was allocated among the 12 banks in proportion to their delinquent loans to the date of distribution, and was only to be drawn from the Registrar's account as the individual Land Banks confirmed such worthy extensions with the Federal Farm Loan Board. Your committee understands that as of June 30 this year extensions of over \$10,000,000 have been granted out of the \$25,000,000 provided for borrowers meriting time.

At the time the above-mentioned \$25,000,000 appropriation was made practical bankers of both the Federal and Joint Stock Land Banks advised your committee that they feared a situation had been created which might amount to a moratorium for a favored few and it would probably be a distinct influence in the slowing up of interest and principal installment payments generally. As a matter of fact, practically all the Federal Land Banks, foreseeing this condition, were definitely against this particular appropriation, and so stated at the hearing. Your committee feels that the original \$100,000,000 appropriation for stock in the Land Banks has put each Federal Land Bank in a much stronger financial position and has materially strengthened the collateral behind the Federal Land Bank bonds.

A review of the position of the banks from Sept. 30 1931 to July 1 this year reflects pronounced difficulties in the collection of installment payments which is perfectly consistent with existing general economic conditions, and delinquent accounts have increased after crediting partial payments, from \$10,762,918 to \$18,138,945. These total delinquencies are, of course, in addition to the extensions totaling over \$10,000,000 previously mentioned, and it is pleasing to report that recent advices indicate a slight improvement in collections during the past month or so. So far this year there has been a net increase in the amount of real estate owned of approximately \$9,000,000. In the aggregate the total amount of owned properties represents about 3% of the total assets, and an even lower percentage after allowance for the reserve provided. An increase during the same period in sheriffs' certificates, &c., was also about \$9,000,000, and it is understood that something over 1% of the mortgages held by the banks are under foreclosure.

The banks have consistently followed the practice of setting up reserves against various asset accounts, and these specific reserves are substantial and are in addition to legal reserves and other items of net worth.

By amendments to the Act, which became effective July 1 this year, reserve requirements were more than doubled. It will be recalled that formerly the banks carried to the reserve account, semi-annually, 25% of net earnings until the account reflected a credit balance equivalent to 20% of the outstanding capital stock of the bank, and thereafter 5% of net earnings were added. These reserve account credits have by the amendment been increased to 50% of such net earnings until the account equals the outstanding capital stock and thereafter 10% of the net earnings are to be added semi-annually. These reserve requirements, normally, should in time greatly strengthen the System.

From recent published statements of President Hoover it is apparent that he intends to make additional recommendations to Congress toward further strengthening and broadening agricultural credit facilities. During the past six months a great deal has been broadcast in the press concerning unreasonable foreclosures of mortgages on farms by the Federal Land Banks, but the fact of the creation of the \$25,000,000 fund, above referred to, to grant extensions where borrowers were considered worthy, substantially refutes any motive of unreasonable foreclosures.

Federal Intermediate Credit Banks.

The Federal Intermediate Credit Banks had outstanding on Oct. 8 of this year about \$68,000,000 of their debentures as compared with \$87,380,000 outstanding on May 18, when your Committee's interim report was rendered. The peak of such outstanding debentures was \$112,000,000, which was reached during the summer of 1931. During the latter part of 1931 and the early part of this year the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks had extreme difficulty in marketing their debentures. The market since

then has strengthened materially and has broadened to a great degree. One reason for this is that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation underwrote the first four issues this year totaling approximately \$80,000,000, and although such issues were underwritten they were all distributed quickly to the public and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation was not called upon to take any whatsoever. In May your Committee reported a bill, which had passed the Senate and was at that time before the House, to make these debentures eligible at the Federal Reserve Bank for fifteen (15) day loans by member banks, if running not longer than six (6) months. This bill was passed and these debentures are now so eligible. These features, combined with the fact that present outstanding debentures total only about 60% of their peak, have enabled the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks to borrow money at very low rates. Ninety-day maturities are selling freely on a 1% basis, six months' maturities on a 1¼% basis, and one-year maturities on a 2% basis.

Joint Stock Land Banks.

Since your Committee's report to the 1931 convention the Joint Stock Land Banks have been unable to do any public financing, and as a result they have made practically no loans to the farmer. During this period the prices on Joint Stock Land Bank bonds have shown a steady and substantial decline, and at the time of this Committee's interim report last May these bonds were selling at the lowest figures in the history of the Joint Stock Land Bank System. During the sharp upturn in general securities, which started about July 15, the market on Joint Stock Land Bank bonds had a rise of about 8 to 14 points. This rise was not caused by any great buying power, but as securities in general looked as though they would go materially higher the holders of Joint Stock Land Bank bonds withdrew their offerings from the market. Beginning about Sept. 30 prices began to recede again, and at the moment of writing they are only slightly higher than their all-time lows, which, as above mentioned, were reached during the month of May. Delinquencies have increased substantially during the past year, and Farm Loan statistics indicate that holdings of real estate taken over under foreclosure, sheriffs' certificates, &c., are the greatest on record. The officials of various Joint Stock Land Banks have stated that the \$25,000,000 appropriation by Congress to the Federal Land Banks, above referred to, has had a demoralizing influence on a comparatively large number of Joint Stock borrowers, who in some manner have gained the impression that the Government will also come to their aid and are showing a tendency of refusing to meet their interest installments. An extremely unfortunate development in the Joint Stock Land Bank situation has been the appearance, recently, of numerous articles here and there in the press, and various magazines, giving definite impressions to the reading public that Joint Stock Land Banks, generally, are ruthlessly foreclosing on farm properties and dumping them overboard at unreasonable prices in order to obtain money to buy back their bonds at present depressed figures, thereby making a big profit for their stockholders. This impression, of course, is entirely erroneous. In a great many instances funds received from the sales of real estate have been necessarily used to pay bond interest and operating charges. Upon investigation your Committee has come to the definite conclusion that Joint Stock Land Banks have barely broken even as a result of their bond purchases, and that few, if any, of the banks are desirous of obtaining farms. Had profits been made to the degree indicated by uninformed writers, the stocks of the various banks would undoubtedly reflect this. For the stock of some banks there is no bid whatever; a great many of them are selling below \$5.00 a share, and your Committee has ascertained from a prominent specialist in these securities that no stocks, selling in the open market, are selling above \$10.00 a share. This, of course, does not apply to the stocks of Joint Stock Land Banks that are closely held by a small group of individuals or institutions. Without Government aid the buying back of bonds referred to is absolutely essential to avert receiverships. Such buying by the banks makes a market for the bondholders who desire to, or are forced to, sell bonds, and without such buying by the banks the markets would be either non-existent or at far below prevailing levels. To the extent that bonds are purchased by the banks the remaining bondholders benefit through a reduction of the total outstanding indebtedness, and the banks, themselves, are saved the necessity of forcing land on the market at even lower levels than now exist.

It is interesting to note that the Federal Land Banks have also purchased large quantities of their bonds.

There were innumerable bills introduced at the last session of Congress affecting practically every phase of Joint Stock Land Bank operation. It is impossible to record these bills in this report, but your Committee has copies of practically all of them. They can be examined upon request. A great many of these bills will be re-introduced at the next session, and there will probably be many additional. You will recall at the last meeting of the Board a resolution was passed opposed to the enactment by Congress of House Bill 8167, called the "Hare Bill." This bill provides:

"That any borrower from Federal or Joint Stock Land Banks may tender bonds issued by the mortgage bank at par value in payment of any installment or in full satisfaction of a mortgage after it has been in force for a period of five years."

At the last session hearings were held by the House Committee on Banking and Currency. The Joint Stock Land Banks and also the Federal Land Banks opposed this bill strongly, and your Committee feels that it would have been reported favorably had it not been for such strong opposition. Your Committee also feels that the enactment of this bill would undoubtedly cause immediate receiverships to a large number of Joint Stock Land Banks. We are informed, unfortunately, that this bill will probably be re-introduced at the next session.

In the report of your Committee, Nov. 6 1931, it was stated that the bill dealing with the power to enforce the double liability of stockholders of banks in receivership passed the Senate and was reported favorably in the House, and was on the calendar at adjournment. Apparently nothing further was done with this bill during the last session, although the Board of Governors of the Association passed a resolution at the meeting held May 1932 recommending:

"That the legislation be adopted by the Congress for the purpose of having the Double Liability of shareholders of joint stock land banks enforced by the Federal Farm Loan Board in the same manner as the Comptroller of the Currency enforced the shareholders liability under the National Banking Law."

Your Committee believes this bill to be a good one, and its passage would undoubtedly clarify the relationship of Joint Stock Land Bank stockholders to the bondholders.

There are a number of bills, substantially alike in principle and differing slightly in detail, to reduce, over a comparatively short period, amortization and interest charges from the farmer and to provide the necessary funds to pay interest on outstanding bonds by advances by the Treasury. Some of these bills affect Federals only, and others Federals and Joints.

Unlike the Federal System, there has been no appropriations by Congress to help the Joint Stock Land Banks either in extending time to worthy borrowers or in building up their capital structure. Ostensibly, the Joint Stock Land Banks can borrow from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

It is interesting to note in this connection that the Southern Minnesota Joint Stock Land Bank, which defaulted on its coupons on May 1 this year,

could have borrowed from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation the amount necessary to meet such May interest. The bank had applied for a loan, said application had been approved, and funds were made immediately available. The directors of the bank, however, after careful deliberation, decided that such a procedure would not be to the best interest of the bondholders. The Federal Farm Loan Board was advised of this decision, and upon default of payments promptly declared the bank insolvent and appointed Mr. R. A. Nelson, Vice-President of the bank, as receiver.

In your Committee's interim report you were advised that a Bondholders' Protective Committee had been formed in relation to the St. Louis Joint Stock Land Bank. This Committee was an extremely strong one and was endeavoring to work out a plan that would avert an actual receivership, involving the issuance of new bonds in an amount which would be soundly secured by interest-bearing assets and the issuance of participation certificates in a liquidating company which would carry the frozen and doubtful assets. It is understood that this Committee never submitted this plan to the Federal Farm Loan Board, and the bank was put into receivership on June 2 of this year. Mr. Mark Martin, President of the bank, was appointed receiver, but has since been succeeded by a Mr. S. L. Cantley. It is interesting to note that the same Protective Committee who attempted to reorganize this bank without receivership is now functioning in the interest of the bondholders.

On Oct. 1 of this year the Chicago Joint Stock Land Bank, which was originally the First Joint Stock Land Bank of Chicago, and was at one time the largest in the System, did not meet its interest payment due Oct. 1, resulting in the Federal Farm Loan Board declaring the insolvency of this institution and placing it in receivership. Mr. John B. Gallagher, who has been for many years President of this bank, was designated as receiver. It is interesting to note that there are two Bondholders' Protective Committees formed in this connection.

It is understood by your Committee that this October payment, which was a comparatively small one, could have easily been met. The November payment was substantially larger, and adequate financial aid being unavailing from any existing agencies the directors decided that an immediate receivership would be the most advantageous course to pursue for the benefit of the bondholders.

It is interesting to note the effect in bond quotations occasioned by Government assistance to the Federal Land Banks. In August of last year the bonds of these banks were selling at their lows, but, confidence being restored, in the investors' minds, by the additional stock appropriations of the United States Government hereinbefore referred to, has caused a marked rise in Federal Land Bank bonds. The present market shows increases of from 16 to 19 points from the August 1931 prices. In comparison with these figures the Joint Stock Land Banks, receiving no such aid, now see their bonds at almost their record low prices and having an extremely narrow market, such markets in almost all cases being the banks themselves.

The three receiverships occurring this year indicate very clearly that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation has not proven to be the practical help to the Joint Stock Land Bank System as was originally believed, and your Committee feels that without help which will strengthen the capital position of these banks such as has been accomplished with the Federal Land Banks many more receiverships will inevitably result.

Your Committee would like to quote a thought contained in the Whaley Eaton Service of Oct. 8:

"The effort to co-ordinate relief for farm mortgages has developed two main problems requiring different treatment, the easing of pressure towards foreclosure and the provision of new money for loans on un-mortgaged farms."

According to responsible advices, your Committee understands that up to the first of last year about 50% of all farm land in this country showed no encumbrances. An encouraging note was sounded by the "Wall Street Journal" who on Oct. 12 this year published the following:

"An amendment to the Farm Loan Act to permit Federal Land Banks to absorb Joint Stock Land Banks, with the approval of the latter, and a provision for refinancing delinquent mortgages probably will be incorporated in President Hoover's plan to ease the farm mortgage situation. The cases where Joint Stock Land Banks prefer to continue to operate individually financial aid would be given by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to avert foreclosure."

In President Hoover's Des Moines speech of Oct. 4 he stated:

"The character of the organization of the Joint Stock Land Banks, whose business methods are not controlled by the Federal Farm Loan Board, has resulted in disastrous and unjust pressure for payments in some of these banks. The basis of that organization should be remedied. We have sought to further aid the whole mortgage situation by loans from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to banks, mortgage companies and insurance companies, to enable them to show consideration to their farmer borrowers. As a result of these actions hundreds of thousands of foreclosures have been prevented."

"But despite the relief afforded by these measures the mortgage situation has become more acute. There must be more effective relief. In it lies a primary social problem. I conceive that in this civilization of ours, and more particularly under our distinctive American system, there is one primary necessity to its permanent success. That is, we must build up men and women in their own homes, on their own farms, where they may find their own security and express their own individuality. A nation on such foundations is a nation where the real satisfactions of life and happiness thrive and where real freedom of mind and aspiration secure that individual progress in morals, in spirit and accomplishment, the sum of which makes up the greatness of America. Some will say this is a mere ideal. I am not ashamed of ideals. America was founded upon them, but they must be the premise for practical action."

"And for prompt and practical action I have, during the past month, secured definite and positive steps in co-ordination of the policies not only of the Federal agencies but the important private mortgage agencies as well. These agencies have undertaken to give their help."

The above expression indicates to your Committee that careful governmental consideration will be given the present agricultural situation, and particularly the institutions created under the Federal Farm Loan Act. Your Committee believes that at this particular time it is of vital importance that the Investment Bankers' Association go on record by adopting the following resolution:

WHEREAS, It appears that due to the continued difficulty of agricultural borrowers in paying their mortgage obligations, strengthening of the entire Land Bank System is imperative and appears to be under consideration by the Administration at this time, and

WHEREAS, All Land Bank bonds were issued under authorization of the Federal Farm Loan Act and all Land Bank bonds contain the inscription "That Farm Loan bonds issued under the provisions of this Act shall be deemed and held to be instrumentalities of the Government of the United States."

BE IT RESOLVED, That it is the expression of the Investment Bankers' Association of America that all Land Bank bondholders, including Federal Land Bank and Joint Stock Land Bank bondholders, shall receive equal consideration in any constructive legislation by the Congress of the United States.

Respectfully submitted,

F. SEYMOUR BARR, *Chairman*,
JAMES H. DAGGETT,
B. J. LARKIN,
T. RAYMOND PIERCE,
DUDLEY C. SMITH,
CLARENCE B. JENNETT.

Report of Foreign Securities Committee—Question of Establishment of Central Body to Act in Cases of Foreign Defaults—Brazilian Defaults.—

According to the report of the Foreign Securities Committee of the Investment Bankers' Association "the Committee has been concerned with the default problem as a whole, and the advisability of the establishment in this country of some central body to act in all cases of foreign defaults in a manner similar to the Council of the Corporation of Foreign Bondholders in England. Consideration had been given to this problem," said the report, "and steps had been taken to the formation of such an association by the 1931 Foreign Securities Committee." The report dealt with the work of the Institute of International Finance and stated that in the opinion of the Committee "there is greater need than ever for the continuance of the Institute." The report was presented to the convention as follows by the Acting Chairman, Nevil Ford:

It is with feelings of the deepest regret that I find myself the vehicle for bringing this report to you, as the reason for my presence is the grave illness of the Chairman of the Foreign Securities Committee, Mr. Ellery S. James. To his interest, energy and devotion is due much of the accomplishment of the committee during the past year, and we desire to express our very real regret that he has not been able to carry through to conclusion the work of the committee which he has so ably conducted.

The past year has been one of diverse and unusual problems for your Committee. Its members have been called upon to give freely of their time and have generously loaned members of their organizations to the various branches of endeavor conducted by the Committee.

The work of the Committee has divided itself roughly into three main categories; firstly the immediate problems arising from the default of specific issues of bonds entailing in some cases the provision of proper committees to protect the interests of bondholders, and the arrangement of disputes between committees when rival interests were involved.

For example, in the case of Brazilian defaults, a study of the situation made it evident that there were certain common factors involved in the defaulted state and municipal issues. Through the medium of the Institute of International Finance a committee representative of the major portion of the houses of issue concerned was formed, and cooperative action thereby secured. Through this joint action assistance leading to the settlement of the problems involved has been obtained which could not be made available to individual houses or committees.

In the case of Salvador separate committees were formed by interests involved on one of which was represented the house of issue, and upon the other of which was represented the trustee. Through the intervention of your committee unified action was obtained through the consolidation of the rival committees.

Secondly, your committee has been concerned with the default problem as a whole and the advisability of the establishment in this country of some central body to act in all cases of foreign defaults in a manner similar to the Council of the Corporation of Foreign Bondholders in England. Consideration had been given to this problem and steps had been taken leading to the formation of such an association by the 1931 Foreign Securities Committee.

With the growing interest in this question, arising from further defaults during the latter months of 1931, many suggestions were forthcoming from both public and private sources for the formation of such an association, and certain organizations sponsored by various individuals purporting to offer facilities along the lines of the British association appeared and sought public support. Your committee investigated most carefully each of these organizations and came to the conclusion that none of them was possessed of the necessary qualifications. The advent of these various organizations attracted the attention of the authorities in Washington and informal conversations were held by them with various members of your Committee as well as with various prominent individuals in other lines of business.

As a result of these conversations an informal committee was created consisting entirely of gentleman not involved in the problem and yet fully conversant with it and by experience qualified to deal with it. Your committee recommended that the Investment Bankers' Association of America offer the fullest cooperation to this committee and this has been extended. This committee is formulating plans for the organization of an association along lines which appear to offer a satisfactory solution to the problem of providing proper protection to American holders of defaulted foreign securities, and we understand are now engaged in attempting to secure the financial support necessary to the conduct of such an association.

The third branch of your committee's work has been the dissemination of accurate information to members of the Association and the general public in regard to conditions surrounding American foreign investments. This work has been carried on as in the past largely through the medium of the Institute of International Finance which, as you know, is conducted by the Association in conjunction with New York University. As the Director of the Institute states in his current annual report, this year has marked a turning point in the development and operation of the Institute. At the meeting of the Board of Governors of the Investment Bankers' Association of America in November, 1931, the following resolution was passed:

"That the Institute of International Finance be instructed to have records kept of foreign external securities in default, together with a record of the progress made towards the payment in full of past due obligations; that members of this Association be advised that this record is available to anyone; that in the future it will be the function of the Institute to use its good offices, through the dissemination of information and other suitable methods, to oppose the issue of securities on the credit of a country or its subdivisions involved in an existing default when the issuing of such would be to the disadvantage of the holders of such securities in default."

This resolution comprised a significant change in the scope and character of the work of the Institute. Under the previous arrangement the Institute had confined itself to furnishing factual information. The new arrangement extended its functions to include in some instances an expression of opinion and active participation in the problems involved by the default of foreign loans.

This important change of policy involved the relation of New York University to the Institute. The concurrence of the University was readily obtained and an executive committee consisting of Dean Madden and Mr. Benjamin Strong Jr. representing New York University, and Mr. Ellery S. James, Mr. Robert O. Hayward and Mr. Nevil Ford representing the Foreign Securities Committee, was appointed and has conducted the Institute in accordance with the instructions contained in the resolution of your Board of Governors.

A careful record of foreign external securities in default has been compiled and kept up to date. During the fiscal year 12 special bulletins have been published by the Institute, as well as the usual statistical quarterly bulletins. These bulletins, with one exception, dealt with countries in default, and, while strict attention has been concentrated upon accuracy and detail of information, it has been the endeavor of your Committee to make these bulletins readable and easily understandable to the layman. It is apparent from the demand for these bulletins that they fill a widespread want, as there has been a heavy demand over and above the number required by regular subscribers. In the case of Chile, this amounted to 9,500 copies, and in the case of Brazil, 6,500. Through the cooperation of the publicity department of New York University and the Investment Bankers Association of America press releases and advance copies of bulletins were issued to the press who commented at length favorably upon the bulletins. Requests for bulletins were received from all parts of the world.

Preparation of these bulletins has involved a vast amount of work by the staff of the Institute and it is only through the cooperation of public and private bodies throughout the world, including many members of the Investment Bankers Association of America, that the information contained in them has been assembled. The staff of the Institute has also been assisted by a newly created research committee consisting of men drawn from the foreign departments of various institutions in New York whose services have been loaned by their organizations to the Institute. These gentlemen have labored seriously and faithfully, and the acknowledged excellence of the Institute bulletins is due in considerable measure to their efforts.

In addition to the work entailed in the compilation and publication of these bulletins the labor involved in the supplying of other services rendered by the Institute has increased tremendously. During the past year the Institute has handled on an average of 100 to 150 letters per week in answer to inquiries from corporate and individual holders of foreign bonds. In addition to these written inquiries, the Institute daily has handled large numbers of telephone inquiries from New York and nearby cities, and from visitors to the offices of the Institute. Favorable comment has come to the Institute from many sources upon its service.

A close relationship has been maintained by the Institute with similar bodies in other parts of the world, and there is a constant interchange of information between the Institute and these bodies.

At the beginning of the fiscal year there was a marked falling off in the number of subscribers to the Institute due to the merging of a number of institutions and retirement from business of others, and general cancellation of services of this kind for economic reasons. As the year progressed it has been gratifying to note that the number of subscriptions from individuals, libraries and universities, as well as financial institutions, has steadily increased. The number of foreign subscribers has also increased and many countries are represented among the Institute's subscribers.

The Institute has been conducted with the most rigid economy and has been able to return to the treasury of the Investment Bankers' Association of America \$8,000 of the \$20,000 subsidy granted the Institute by the Association, for the fiscal year 1931-32. This has been possible in large measure due to the generous co-operation of various members of the Association and of New York University in supplying personnel and other services to the Institute without charge. The annual report of the Director of the Institute is appended to this report and gives in detail the activities which have been touched upon above. Dean Madden and Dr. Nadver, the Director and Associate Director, and their staff have worked long hours daily and deserve the highest commendation.

It is the opinion of the Foreign Securities Committee that there is greater need than ever for the continuance of the Institute, as is proved by the ever widening recognition accorded it both in this country and abroad, and the steadily increasing demand for its services. Under existing conditions your Committee does not feel it can call upon the Investment Bankers' Association of America for increased financial assistance however justly deserved. It does strongly recommend that the Association grant the Institute an underwriting for the current year not less than the amount availed of by the Institute during the past year, namely, \$12,000, and offers a resolution to this effect. It also asks that all members of the Association support the Institute to the fullest by subscribing to its services and by recommending that institutions and individuals outside the Association make use of its services. During the past year much has been done to make the Institute known to the general public and through courtesy of a member of the Association your President was enabled to broadcast a description of the Institute and its activities over a nation-wide radio hook-up. Your Committee begs further support of this nature for the Institute.

As a result of its experience of the past year in considering the problems involved in the field of foreign financing your Committee has come to the following conclusions, and recommends them as the basis of policies to the Association and its members:

1. That in principal the formation of a council of foreign bondholders in the United States, along the lines of similar bodies existing in Europe, is advisable provided, firstly, that such an association is formed and conducted under the proper auspices and is composed of individuals of unquestioned standing. Due regard should be given for geographical representation and the members must be thoroughly conversant with the problems involved in foreign finance yet not directly representing any one class having to do with foreign finance. Secondly, the council must have at its disposal a sufficient fund to insure its financial independence.

2. That in most cases of foreign bond defaults it is advisable to delay the formation of bondholders protective committees, as the reasons existing securities are not pertinent in the case of foreign loans. The cost to bondholders involved in the formation of a committee usually is not warranted by the results that can be obtained until much preliminary work has been accomplished and a reasonably definite plan for the amelioration of the default has been conceived. It is the feeling of your committee that this preliminary work should be and can best be conducted by the original underwriters of the loan in conjunction with the governmental authorities involved. It is the duty of the underwriting houses to recognize this responsibility.

3. That the revision of public debts other than war debts owing by foreign governments or their political subdivisions to American investors at this time is premature and that consideration of the alteration of existing contracts should be deferred until economic conditions return more nearly to normal. It is the belief of your committee that with a return to more normal levels of commodity prices in most cases debts will prove to be not unduly burdensome upon the debtor and that they can ultimately be paid in full.

Your committee considers that many foreign securities are selling at prices which do not represent the real and ultimate value of these securities and recommend that members of the Association guard their clients against the unwarranted disposal of foreign securities. It urges they be guided by facts rather than hysterical utterances of a type frequent during the past year. It appears that there is a wide-spread ignorance of the true facts not only among the general public but in supposedly well informed quarters. Your Association has, through the Institute of International

Finance, made it possible for anyone to obtain the facts accurately and at slight cost. We urge that for the benefit of the general public you make full use of this facility and in turn persuade others to do likewise.

Elery S. James, *Chairman* Donald Durant
Nevil Ford, *Acting Chairman* John A. Fraser
Harry M. Addinsell Robt. O. Hayward
Hugh B. Baker John J. Rudolf
T. J. Bryce Joseph R. Swan

B. A. Tompkins.

Report of Director of Institute of International Finance J. T. Madden—Records of Foreign External Securities in Default.

In his annual report as Director of the Institute of International Finance, J. T. Madden noted the adoption of a resolution by the Board of Governors of the Association at its fall meeting instructing the Institute "to have records kept of foreign external securities in default, together with a record of the progress made towards the payment in full of past due obligations." The report observes that the resolution proposed "a significant change in the scope and character of the work of the Institute"—the new arrangement changing the character of the Institute "from a fact-finding body into one which was to express its opinion concerning bonds in default and the advisability of forming protective committees." Statistics of foreign dollar bonds in default as of Sept. 1 1932 are made available in the report which follows:

To the Members of the Executive Committee:

I have the honor to submit my annual report as Director of the Institute of International Finance for the fiscal year ended Aug. 31 1932.

This year has marked another epoch of achievement in the joint venture of the Investment Bankers' Association of America and New York University. It has also marked a turning point in the development and operation of the Institute. At the fall meeting of the Board of Governors of the Association, the following resolution was passed:

That the Institute of International Finance be instructed to have records kept of foreign external securities in default, together with a record of the progress made towards the payment in full of past due obligations; that members of this Association be advised that this record is available to any one; that in the future it will be the function of the Institute to use its good offices, through the dissemination of information and other suitable methods, to oppose the issue of securities on the credit of a country or its subdivisions involved in an existing default when the issuing of such would be to the disadvantage of the holders of such securities in default.

This resolution proposed a significant change in the scope and character of the work of the Institute. Under the existing arrangement the Institute had confined itself to the publication of bulletins and information on foreign public securities outstanding in the American market but limited itself wholly to official sources of information. The new arrangement proposed an expression of opinion on the part of the Institute thereby changing its character from a fact-finding body into one which was to express its opinion concerning bonds in default and the advisability of forming protective committees. This important change in policy involved a change in the relation of the University to the Institute, and accordingly the Director sought the advice of the Chancellor of the University and the President of the Council of the University. It was decided to appoint a member of the University Council on the executive committee of the Institute and Mr. Benjamin Strong Jr., has served in this capacity. Mr. Elery S. James acted as chairman, and under his able guidance, in addition to Mr. Strong, Mr. Nevil Ford, of the First of Boston Corp., Mr. Robert O. Hayward of Dillon, Read & Co., and the Director served as members of the executive committee. Dr. Nadler, Director of Research, also attended all meetings.

The Director cannot express adequately in words, his appreciation of the value of the services rendered by the executive committee during this year. The preparation of the foreword of each bulletin was an important task because it would serve as a basis of judgment and action on the part of bondholders who would read either the bulletins or the full and complete press summaries which appeared upon publication. The formal meetings of the committee were more numerous than usual and many informal conferences were held in addition. On every occasion the members of the committee responded to the call and the success of the year's work is due in no small measure to the careful consideration which these gentlemen gave to the difficult problems which arose.

The Investment Bankers' Association and Foreign Bonds.

The numerous attacks made upon the members of the investment banking fraternity during the year by persons who were not familiar with the activities of the Association suggested the advisability of preparing a statement of facts. Accordingly the Institute prepared for use of the committee a memorandum outlining the efforts of the Investment Bankers' Association from its very inception in establishing measures for the protection of investors in foreign bonds. Not the least noteworthy of these steps was the establishment of the Institute of International Finance in 1926.

During the past two years several associations or groups have been formed or projected which announced their various purposes some of which were duplications of the work which the Institute had been carrying on for many years. Practically all of these associations were organized as business enterprises and for one reason or another most of these efforts seem either to have been abandoned entirely or greatly curtailed.

Publications.

During the fiscal year 1931-32, the Institute published the following bulletins:

- No. 46—Credit position of Yugoslavia.
- No. 47—Securities in default—Chile.
- No. 48—Securities in default—Peru.
- No. 49—Securities in default—Brazil.
- No. 50—Securities in default—Bolivia.
- No. 51—Securities in default—Supplementary bulletin on Chile, Peru, Brazil, Bolivia.
- No. 52—Securities in default—Hungary.
- No. 53—Securities in default—Colombia.
- No. 54—Securities in default—Sao Paulo.
- No. 55—Securities in default—El Salvador.
- No. 56—Securities in default—Greece.
- No. 57—Securities in default—Bulgaria.
- Statistical Quarterly—Vol. II, No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4.

It will be noted that 11 bulletins dealt with countries in default and only one bulletin, published prior to the passing of the above mentioned resolution, was along the lines of the bulletins previously published.

Distribution of Bulletins.

The bulletins were widely distributed as may be seen from the following table:

which has been initially set at \$134,000,000 and which will largely be furnished by the Government. The bonds will have the same tax exemption as Federal and Joint Stock Land Bank bonds and they will be legal investments for the same character of trust funds. The notes, bonds or debentures issued by any bank will have a new and heretofore untried market, which might develop into a large one because the law declares those obligations legal tender at par in payment of or as a credit against the obligation of any home-owner debtor of such bank. The Act does not provide for double liability of stockholders, nor are the obligations designated as "instrumentalities of the United States Government." In fact the Act specifically states that each bond must plainly state that they are not the obligations of the United States and are not guaranteed by the United States. The Act is still in its infancy and not as yet in practical operation. It therefore seems doubtful if any Federal Home Loan Bank securities will be offered until 1933.

REAL ESTATE SECURITIES COMMITTEE.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Louis K. Boysen, <i>Chairman</i> | Edwin K. Hoover |
| William C. Bitting Jr. | Earl W. Huntley |
| Charles B. Crouse | Norman Nelson |
| W. F. Finley | C. B. Stuart |

Report of Municipal Securities Committee, by Henry Hart, Chairman—No Default in Bonded Indebtedness of Any State—Of 309 Cities of Population of Over 30,000, Only 3.5% Reported in Default.

The status of municipal credit was dealt with in the report of the Municipal Securities Committee of the Investment Bankers' Association, which, taking cognizance of the fact that "in the minds of some people the stability of municipal credit has been challenged," submitted a limited survey of such credit to give "a more accurate picture of the standing of this class of investment." The report indicates that "no default is reported in the bonded indebtedness of any of the 48 States aggregating approximately \$2,400,000,000. In the case of cities and overlapping school districts with a population of over 30,000, the Committee says that "out of the 309 cities in this class, 11, or 3.5%, are reported to be in default; six of the overlapping school districts are also reported in default." The report states that notwithstanding "this remarkable record in the prompt payment of municipal obligations during this period of adversity . . . the members of the Association . . . have been cognizant of a certain degree of responsibility to protect the interests of their customers, and it has been the aim of this Committee at all times to assist in the exercise of that responsibility." The following is the report in full as presented by the Chairman of the Committee, Henry Hart of the First Detroit Co.:

STATUS OF MUNICIPAL CREDIT.

In the minds of some people the stability of municipal credit has been challenged. The problems confronting municipalities in various parts of the country under present conditions have been given wide publicity in the press. This is inevitable by the very nature of the fact that municipalities are public bodies. Private credit does not share the same spotlight of publicity. Recognizing that unfavorable developments usually receive undue prominence, the Municipal Securities Committee considered it in order to make a limited survey of the present status of municipal credit in order to give its membership a more accurate picture of the standing of this class of investment.

With the co-operation of the 17 members of the Municipal Securities Committee located in various parts of the country, the bond buyer and others, we have been able to gather the significant facts regarding the default status of States, and of cities and overlapping school districts having a population in excess of 30,000. It is estimated that the bonded indebtedness represented by this latter group comprises about 75% of the municipal indebtedness of the country. We have also been able to determine which States stand out as practically free from default. The probable existence of over 150,000 taxing districts, and the constant changes in the debt-paying status of many, renders impossible a more detailed study by the committee. We submit the figures as of approximately Oct. 15 1932 with reservations as to their complete accuracy.

State Indebtedness.

No default is reported in the bonded indebtedness of any of the 48 States, aggregating approximately \$2,400,000,000.

Cities and Overlapping School Districts Having a Population in Excess of 30,000

Out of the 309 cities in this class, 11, or 3.5%, are reported to be in default. Six of the overlapping school districts are also reported in default.

These 309 cities and their school districts have a gross bonded debt estimated at approximately \$8,400,000,000. The 11 cities and 6 school districts reported in default have a gross bonded debt estimated at approximately \$153,000,000, or 1.8% of the total debt of the cities in this class.

(No attempt has been made to ascertain whether the defaults apply to interest alone, or to principal and interest, or the amount of principal in default. It is obvious that only a very small portion of the \$153,000,000 principal has matured and is in actual default.)

Classification of States as to Number of Municipal Defaults.

The following is a classification of the number of States which have reported no defaults up to and including those which have reported more than 10 defaults of counties, cities, villages and school districts with population in excess of 1,000

11 States	-----None
17 States	-----From 1 to 5
5 States	-----From 6 to 10
15 States	-----More than 10
48 States	

With a perfect record as to State obligations, only 11 cities and 6 school districts, representing 1.8% of the total indebtedness of cities and school districts in excess of 30,000 population in default, and only 42% of the States in the Union reporting more than 5 defaults in the group canvassed, we believe that municipal credit is still entitled to rank as the premier investment medium of the country next to United States Government obligations.

Activities for Protection of Municipal Credit.

Notwithstanding this remarkable record in the prompt payment of municipal obligations during this period of adversity, the Municipal Securities Committee has constantly recognized the serious problems faced by many municipalities. The members of the Association who have handled municipal securities have been cognizant of a certain degree of responsibility to protect the interests of their customers, and it has been the aim of this committee at all times to assist in the exercise of that responsibility. This has required not only co-operative action among members to see that the legal rights of bondholders were upheld, but to assist the municipalities themselves in putting or keeping their fiscal affairs in a sound condition.

The various methods of meeting this responsibility may be classified under the following headings

A. *Publicity.*—Through pamphlets, magazine articles and contacts with municipal officials, we have endeavored to disseminate information which we believed would be of assistance to municipal officials in their fiscal operations. We have advanced suggestions on legislation to accomplish the same purpose. The interest on the part of municipal officials in these efforts has been gratifying. The school officials of one of the largest cities in the country printed in full, in one of their fiscal reports, one of our recent articles. There is much need for further activities in this field.

B. *Group Organizations.*—We have previously reported on our study of plans to form a national organization for gathering financial statistics on municipalities. The magnitude of the task on a nationwide scale and the many practical problems to overcome lead the committee to the conclusion that it was not practical. In the absence of such an organization, municipal dealers with certain groups of our Association have undertaken co-operative movements to accomplish the same purpose in particular localities or have formed associations with full-time fieldmen. At the present time at least four of such groups are operating in the States of Florida, Ohio, Michigan and North Carolina, the latter having been just recently formed. These are proving to be an effective media for gathering accurate information, assisting municipal officials and protecting the interests of investors.

C. *Refunding.*—Where the schedule of maturing obligations is proving too burdensome on the municipality under present conditions, refunding operations become necessary. If there is no market, the refunding must depend on the willingness of investors to take refunding bonds in exchange for their present securities. In a large majority of such cases the municipalities have no doubt been justified in requesting this extension of time, and the investors are showing an increasing inclination to co-operate. Unfortunately there are a few cases where, through outside influence or otherwise, municipalities have demanded the right to refund where conditions did not justify this privilege. In others refunding is proposed, although the fiscal affairs of the municipalities are being so operated that the investor is without assurance that the interest and principal on the refunding bonds will be met. There is a peculiar responsibility on behalf of the members of our Association to not only investigate for the benefit of their customers all the circumstances surrounding a proposal for forced refunding, but for such dealers who are assisting in the refunding operations to see that there be no cause for justifiable criticism of the activities of such dealers. To promote unnecessary refunding or to charge an excessive commission in cases of forced refunding is unethical.

D. *Bondholders' Committees.*—The most acute municipal problems are necessitating the formation of bondholders' committees. Due to the absence of the single house of issue, the widely scattered location or retirement from business of many originating houses, expense involved and prejudice against bondholders' committees, the difficulties of securing co-operative action in the formation of committees and the conduct of their activities have been manifold. The results already obtained by many of these committees in protecting the interests of investors are worthy of special attention. Through litigation they have obtained important court decisions which will serve as valuable precedents in other situations. Through a study of the economic and fiscal problems of the individual municipality and dissemination of such information to the bondholders, the committees have been able to create in the latter a sympathetic understanding necessary to secure the ultimate co-operation between the municipal officials and the bondholders and essential to the adoption of a permanent financial program.

It is to be hoped that the work of these committees will not be unduly hampered by the lack of co operation on the part of investors. The latter should bear in mind that the committees are not mere collection agencies, but are obliged to meet the fundamental problems of a sound and permanent solution of the present difficulties. The committee members in most cases are acting with little or no compensation and on behalf of many bondholders to whom they owe no moral obligation. On the other hand, a responsibility rests upon such committee members to so conduct themselves as to justify the confidence and co-operation of the investors, essential to a successful culmination of their activities.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION.

1. *The Emergency Relief and Construction Act of 1932.*

This Act is perhaps the most important single piece of legislation affecting municipal credit that has ever been adopted. Under this bill the Reconstruction Finance Corporation was authorized to make available to States, territories and plitical subdivisions \$300,000,000 for welfare relief, and the sum of \$1,500,000,000 to States, municipalities and certain corporations for the financing of self-liquidating projects. The Municipal Securities Committee has followed this legislation from the time it was first proposed in Congress, and since its adoption has co-operated with the officials of the Corporation with reference to certain of their problems of administration. While recognizing the demands for legislation of this kind, we have endeavored to emphasize the dangers involved in providing the means for a substantial increase in municipal indebtedness without proper safeguards and restrictions.

The demand for the expansion of State and municipal credit, under present conditions, for direct welfare relief and for the financing of projects which will give employment, conflict in many cases with the equally insistent demand for relief of the over-burdened taxpayer through the curtailment of public expenditures and a holiday in the creation of additional debt burdens. The safeguards and limitations written into the law, and the policy of those charged with its administration, have evidenced a recognition of these opposing interests and the intention of meeting in part the demands of both. When a substantial portion of our population is facing starvation and want, and the normal relief methods are inadequate, it is obvious that the Government and its subdivisions cannot ignore the opportunities at their command for meeting the problems. In order to do so without ignoring the rights of the taxpayer, sacrifices must be made in order activities of government through reduced expenditures and curtailed services.

Title I, Section 1 (a) to (d) provides a means for the advancement of the appropriation of \$300,000,000 to the States and territories, and the repayment of the same through reductions of the apportionments from future Federal aid for the construction of highways within such States, beginning in the year 1935. While the corporation is empowered to take

the bonds of such States as security, it is possible under this provision to finance the present emergency without increasing the debt or tax burden of the States or their subdivisions. Under Paragraph (e) of this Section, the Corporation is authorized to make loans direct to municipalities providing the municipalities issue their own obligations for the amount of the loan. Due to the fact that many of the municipalities which have the greatest need for relief, have the most acute debt and tax burdens, it is to be hoped that this provision will be used sparingly, and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the Governors of the various States will take advantage of the opportunity to give and secure relief by the method which only involves the foregoing of certain highway construction beginning in 1935, rather than adding to the burden of taxpayers.

Title II, of the Emergency Relief and Construction Act, under which the \$1,500,000,000 is made available for self-liquidating projects, has defined a self-liquidating project as follows:

"... a project shall be deemed to be self-liquidating if such project will be made self-supporting and financially solvent and if the construction cost thereof will be returned within a reasonable period by means of tolls, fees, rents, or other charges, or by such other means (other than by taxation) as may be prescribed by the statutes which provide for the project."

The fact that the projects must be self-supporting by revenues other than taxation, is in line with the recommendations made by our Committee before the bill was adopted, and should prove to be a strong safeguard against the demands for unsound expansion of municipal credit. As anticipated there have been many applications for loans under this section by municipalities for projects which are not needed, are unsound, and would eventually create a tax burden on certain communities which are now facing severe delinquent tax problems. Applications have been filed by municipalities for the financing of new projects where the officials have evidenced their inability to administer their present responsibilities along sound and conservative principles. It is too early to ascertain what the policy of the officials of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation will be in passing on such loans. The questionnaires which they have prepared have indicated their intention to take these matters into consideration. Their responsibility in administering this section of the law is a difficult one. We trust that their expressed intention to give every consideration to the soundness and need of the projects, and to the danger of further jeopardizing the ability of the local governments to perform their present functions and meet their obligations, will be maintained throughout their operations.

2. Jurisdiction of Federal Courts.

The only other Federal legislation which the Municipal Securities Committee has been following are the bills to deprive the Federal Courts of jurisdiction of causes on the ground of diversity of citizenship. While this comes within the scope of the Legislative Committee, the importance of these bills to holders of municipal bonds prompts us to again call attention to the same. The advisability of litigating questions pertaining to municipal bonds in tribunals removed as much as possible from contracts with local prejudices and attitudes, has always been recognized. If the Norris bill which was favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee at the last session of Congress should be adopted, the holder of municipal bonds will be deprived of the needed protection of recourse to Federal Courts on the grounds of diversity of citizenship. A similar bill in the House is still in Committee.

STATE LEGISLATION.

Since the last report of the Municipal Securities Committee several State legislatures have convened in special session. We will not attempt to enumerate the various bills adopted affecting municipal securities. In view of the fact that at least 40 legislative bodies will be in session during the coming winter we deem it more important to bring to your attention some outstanding subjects of legislation affecting municipal securities which have been before the special sessions, or will no doubt be presented in many States, and to point out some of the pitfalls to be encountered. Some of these include constitutional amendments to be voted upon at the general election next month, or to be proposed by the legislatures.

1. Tax Limitations.

When real estate taxes appear unusually burdensome, efforts are frequently made to impose limitations on the rate of ad valorem taxation that may be levied. The Indiana Legislature recently adopted a 15 mill tax limitation for all purposes. The voters of Kansas and Michigan will be asked to vote on constitutional limitations of 15 to 20 mills. By implication or express provision taxes for the payment of indebtedness previously incurred, and, in the case of Kansas, contracted prior to July 1 1933, are exempted from the provisions of the limitations, but levies for the payment of future bond issues must come within the limitation prescribed. Inasmuch as these limitations are usually promoted to actually reduce the amount of taxes now being levied, and provision is not made for giving preference to the payment of future bond issues, it may follow that the purchaser of such bonds where such limitations exist, can receive little assurance of the ability of the municipality to levy and collect taxes sufficient to pay the principal and interest. Municipal attorneys in Indiana have already indicated that there will probably be very few bonds issued in that State which they can approve.

Granting that taxes on real estate have in many localities been unduly burdensome, and may be properly subjected to limitation for operating expense, investors in municipal bonds have long recognized the dangers of such limitations affecting the levy for bonds and interest. Limitations on the amount of debts to be incurred are highly desirable, but when bonds have been issued, there should be no limitation on the power to levy taxes to pay the same. Those States which are considering limitations should realize that unless the levies for debts to be incurred in the future are not exempted, the municipalities will be obliged to pay a higher interest cost on future obligations, and in many cases will be unable to borrow at all. A holiday on the issuance of bonds may be desirable, but to jeopardize the ability to borrow money for absolutely necessary purposes, emergency relief, &c., is most dangerous.

2. Exemption of Real Estate from Taxation.

In at least two States constitutional amendments are before the voters providing certain exemptions on homesteads from taxation. These are prompted by the same motives behind the tax limitation amendments and when accompanied by the latter may cause serious complications. Exemption of a substantial amount of property from taxation requires an increase in the tax rate, while the proposed limitations may require reduction. It should be remembered that holders of municipal bonds have certain contractual rights to demand the payment of bonds through taxation on property subject to taxation at the time the bonds were issued. Any attempt to take away this right through exemption may be subject to legal attack.

3. Laws Pertaining to Tax Collections.

The desire to relieve the taxpayer is prompting various proposals for the waiver of penalties, postponement of tax sales, and a moratorium on the payment of delinquent taxes. The economic and practical problems involved where large numbers of parcels are going off the tax rolls and re-

verting to the State are serious in some localities, and a satisfactory solution has not yet been found. As a general rule the tendency to relieve delinquent taxpayers, encourages further delinquencies and should be avoided. There are opportunities frequently available to revise the scheme of penalties, by increasing the same in the early period of delinquency, which should discourage the withholding of tax payments until the last date of redemption approaches.

The payment of taxes by instalments is in effect in many localities and is being widely proposed. While this method has much to commend its support, its adoption may also cause serious embarrassment if not properly safeguarded. Due to the frequent discrepancy between tax collecting periods and fiscal years, and to the necessity in many cases of borrowing in anticipation of the collection of taxes to meet requirements before taxes are collected, a further delay in the receipt of taxes through the adoption of the instalment method of payment may temporarily embarrass the municipality and cause defaults. The Governor of Louisiana recently vetoed a bill passed by the Legislature providing for the instalment payment of taxes for this reason. This danger may be overcome at least in part by providing machinery for the prepayment of taxes through discounts, &c. In general, the instalment method of paying taxes should be encouraged.

4. Limitations on the Issuance of Bonds.

Constitutional amendments to restrict, to taxpayers only, the right to vote on proposed bond issues are to be voted upon in Montana and Michigan. This would appear to be a sound and equitable provision. It has been suggested that the privilege might be illogically restricted to those who actually pay their taxes, but there are perhaps too many practical objections to the enforcement of such a restriction.

Bills have been passed prohibiting the issuance of bonds for certain purposes, particularly highways, by local communities. This is in keeping with the tendency to consider the building and maintenance of highways as a function of the State.

5. Relief of Local Debt and Tax Burdens Through State Aid.

The success of the gasoline and automobile license taxes as a source of revenue, and the many examples of the almost confiscatory burden of real estate taxes for the payment of highway bonds, have prompted the legislatures in certain States, notably Florida, Arkansas, Texas and Michigan, to provide a method for the payment of certain outstanding highway obligations of local communities through a diversion of the automobile and gasoline taxes. This has and should prove to be a most effective and justifiable method of relieving the oppressed taxpayer and insuring the payment of outstanding road obligations. It is also a recognition of the importance of paying for the highways already constructed before proceeding with the building of new highways on a scale inconsistent with present conditions. Care should be taken in the drafting of such legislation to avoid constitutional objections, and to insure the fulfillment of the purposes intended.

The subject of new forms of taxation, such as State sales and income taxes, does not come within the scope of this committee. It will unquestionably be one of the most popular subjects for legislation, and may play a large part in meeting municipal credit problems where real estate taxes are proving an ineffective source of revenue.

6. Security for Public Deposits.

The Municipal Securities Committee reaffirms the statement made on previous occasions that bank failures constitute one of the outstanding contributing causes of municipal defaults and has continued its study of the problem begun two years ago. While it has urged the adoption of laws requiring the posting of adequate security for public deposits, in the form of corporate surety bonds or readily marketable collateral, the frequent refusal of the surety companies to handle this type of business, and the inability or unwillingness of many banks to furnish suitable collateral, under existing conditions, have made it impractical to secure such relief by legislation along this line.

These difficulties have led to the consideration of other methods of meeting this serious problem. The plan adopted in Iowa in 1925 of establishing a State Sinking Fund for Public Deposits, has created National attention and has recently been copied in Indiana and Wisconsin. Under the Iowa Law the interest on public deposits is remitted to the State Treasurer and deposited in a fund to be used for the payment of public deposits tied up in closed banks. This fund is augmented by the sale of warrants up to a maximum of \$3,500,000, which are a first charge on the interest revenues. Liquidating dividends from the closed banks in payment of the public deposits, are also paid into the State Sinking Fund. Up to July 1 1932, approximately 700 banks holding public deposits have closed, and over 3,100 claims aggregating nearly \$21,500,000 have been paid from the fund. At the present time it is reported that there are less than ten municipal defaults in Iowa in communities of over 1,000 population. This record speaks for itself.

While the failure to provide for the adequate security of the State Sinking Fund itself, and the failure of a bank in which a substantial part of the fund was deposited, caused a temporary embarrassment, the general success of the plan in Iowa under such a severe test, commends its consideration by other States when the legislatures convene.

7. Reduction in Cost of Government Through a Consolidation of Local Units and the Elimination of Obsolete and Cumbersome Forms of Local Government.

The inefficiency of many forms of local government, particularly counties and townships, is receiving serious consideration by students of government. During the last year Virginia adopted a well-considered plan for the simplification of county government. Much remains to be accomplished in many other States and it is to be hoped that the depression will bring about many constructive changes along similar lines which should reduce the cost of government and strengthen the credit of municipalities.

8. State Supervision of Municipalities in Financial Difficulties.

The need for adequate protection of the rights of the taxpayer and bondholder in municipalities which have permitted their fiscal affairs to get into serious difficulties, is becoming increasingly important. While the States having substantial numbers of defaults are limited to a very few, the need for special laws creating some neutral agency with powers similar to that of receiver is apparent. While North Carolina and Massachusetts have pointed the way to a limited extent in this field, there is little precedent for effective means of meeting some of the existing problems. The constitutional inhibitions and political expediencies make the problem a difficult one, requiring a most careful study of the subject before drastic legislation is adopted.

DEPOSITORY FOR LEGAL OPINIONS AND TRANSCRIPTS.

The value of the official depository for legal opinions and transcripts to dealers and investors in municipal bonds is becoming increasingly important in these days when many of the former houses of issues are being replaced by organizations possessing none of the original files. The increased activity in the business of trading in old issues also presents new problems within this category.

It is perhaps not generally known that the official depository—the M & T Trust Co. of Buffalo—is acting as depository for original trans-

scripts, as well as opinions. This addition to their other functions is of particular value in case of litigation when the necessity of obtaining the transcript is imperative. These records usually take up considerable filing space, and whoever any dealer would care to be relieved of the burden of maintaining such files they should communicate with the depository. Members of the Association are also urged to notify the depository whenever they hear of municipal houses or bond attorneys retiring from the active municipal business, or who, for some other reason, would care to dispose of their opinion and transcript files.

In an effort to further support the excellent work of the depository through a lessening of competition on the part of members, and to provide some compensation for the increasing burden of supplying opinions to traders and others, the Group Chairmen's Committee and the Municipal Securities Committee in joint session have voted to recommend to the various groups the making of a charge for legal opinions on the following basis: That each member house make a charge for furnishing an opinion, where a sale of bonds is not involved, of \$2.50 to member of the Association and \$3.50 to non-member, this being the same rate now charged by the official depository. This is to be presented as a recommendation only, with the understanding that the groups may act independently on the same.

UNIFORM QUESTIONNAIRE.

A report has been submitted by the Special Subcommittee of the Municipal Securities Committee, recently appointed to prepare a uniform questionnaire to be used in obtaining information from municipalities. The demand for a uniform questionnaire is brought about by the complaint of municipal officials that they are swamped with all varieties of questionnaires, and the belief that they would be given better attention if submitted in the same form. In view of a request just received by a group representing municipal finance officers, that public officials be given an opportunity to be heard before a uniform questionnaire is adopted by our Association, the matter was deferred for the future consideration of a subcommittee to be appointed by the in-coming Chairman of the Municipal Securities Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry Hart, *Chairman.*

C. S. Ashmun	C. T. Diehl	John S. Harris	R. W. Knowles
R. Emerson Ayars	E. F. Dunstan	Leo Keyser	E. B. Sherwin
Joseph E. Chambers	H. H. Fitch	Royal D. Kercheval	Ross Thomson
Francis B. Childress	Gray B. Gray	J. R. Kimball	Meade H. Willis
John W. Denison			

Report of Legislation Committee by Francis M. Knight, Chairman—Review of State Legislative and Congressional Action—Glass Banking Bill Regarded as Needing Further Revision.

The report of the Legislation Committee of the Investment Bankers' Association of America reviews the legislation enacted in New York, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Virginia and the District of Columbia, bearing on the sale of securities, and also points to outstanding Congressional measures of interest to investment bankers. The report, which was presented at the annual convention of the Association at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. on Oct. 25, surveys particularly the provisions of the Glass Banking Bill, as affecting the investment banking business, and says "in the opinion of some, if not of most of those who have made critical study of the bill, it needs further revision." The Chairman of the Committee is Francis M. Knight, of the Continental Illinois Co. of Chicago. The report of the Committee follows:

A report of the activities of the Legislation Committee since our last convention necessarily includes a restatement of a portion of the interim report made at the May meeting, but brought down to date and supplemented by a report of what has occurred since that time.

The regular schedule for the period called for only 9 State legislatures to be in session, as follows: Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Virginia. In fact, however, the legislatures of 24 States have been in session—nine in regular session and 15 in special sessions. Those in special session are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia and Wisconsin. Of these, one State held three extra sessions and one four, and one five, making a total of 32 State legislative sessions during the fiscal year.

Each legislative session required sufficient attention in the first instance to determine what, if any, was proposed or to be proposed relative to the sale of securities or the regulation of the conduct of dealers or brokers in securities. In some instances this was easily done by reference to the executive call by which an extra session was assembled. In others the proceedings had to be watched from time to time.

Omitting, for the most part, reference to bills offered but not enacted into law and confining this portion of our report to bills which were enacted, we report as follows:

Illinois.—In Illinois that section of the existing securities law providing for the registration of dealers and salesmen and for the giving of a bond by registered dealers was held to be unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in December 1931. At an extra session of the Legislature a bill was offered to restore the registration provisions for dealers and salesmen but omitting all reference to or provisions for a dealer's bond. The Central States Group Committee was afforded the opportunity to co-operate in the preparation of this bill through which a number of beneficial modifications from the original draft were effected. This bill passed on April 19 with an emergency clause, was signed by the Governor, and became effective on April 23.

Kentucky.—In Kentucky a bill was enacted whereby the office of Securities Commissioner was abolished and the administration of the securities law was transferred to the banking Department under the consolidated title of Banking and Securities Department. The chief officer is designated as "Banking and Securities Commissioner." This was part of a program of State economy and does not affect the present securities law, except in administration.

Louisiana.—In Louisiana a bill to supplant the existing securities law with another law of the regulatory type was presented. A careful study of the bill was made followed by efforts of local members of the I. B. A. of A. and of the Legislation Committee to bring about desirable amendments. The bill was finally amended in certain particulars, but not as to all of the features which appeared objectionable. As amended, the bill passed both the House and the Senate but was vetoed by the Governor.

Massachusetts.—In Massachusetts at least three bills were introduced relating to sale of securities and regulation of the conduct of dealers in securities. These bills provided numerous amendments to the existing securities law or a complete revision of that law through its repeal and the substitution of a new Act. As originally drafted, numerous objectionable features appeared from the standpoint of investment bankers. Many hearings were had on these bills. Close and painstaking attention was given to them by the local group committee. The result was an agreement on a new bill in the nature of a substitute for all existing bills, which contained compromise provisions reasonably agreeable to all. The substitute bill was enacted into law.

Mississippi.—In Mississippi a bill amounting to a rewriting of the existing securities law and sponsored by the Secretary of State was enacted. The law as thereby revised retains a very large portion of the former law but modifies it in certain particulars.

Opportunity was afforded the Legislation Committee to study the bill and offer suggestions. A number of suggestions were made both as to modifications embodied in the bill and for further modifications of the law in particulars not touched upon by the bill. These suggestions were submitted to the Secretary of State through Mr. Schroeder of the Legislation Committee. Apparently the Secretary of State was in accord with most of the suggestions offered. The committee of the Legislature, however, presented a substitute bill conforming neither to the original bill nor to all of the suggestions for modifications. The substitute bill was adopted. The principal amendments to the law thus made are:

A revision of the fees for qualifying securities by raising the maximum fee from \$100 to \$250. The inclusion of a section providing for the cancellation of a permit to sell securities within that State where the issue has been disposed of or withdrawn from the market and upon application to the Secretary of State and by publication of notice to that effect once a week for three consecutive weeks. Any stockholder shall have not exceeding three months from date of last publication within which to file or adjust any claim by reason of any alleged fraud or misrepresentation in connection with the sale of such security or to file suit for recovery on the bond required to be filed at the time the permit to sell was granted. If no claim or suit is filed within such period of three months any liability shall cease. Provision is made for the suspension of any permit granted by the Secretary of State, and for cancellation of such permit after notice and a hearing. A provision is included requiring a registered dealer to file with the Secretary of State a list of the securities to be offered for sale by him. A provision was added requiring a bond in the sum of \$5,000 by dealers upon being registered, conditioned upon the faithful compliance with the act by such dealer and by all salesmen registered by him. Authority is given the Secretary of State to make investigations of any dealer when in his opinion such dealer has violated or is violating the law. Such investigations to be at the expense of the dealer. Upon evidence of a violation he may suspend the dealer's permit and upon notice and a hearing may cancel the same. Likewise the Secretary of State is given authority to examine into the affairs of any issuer the securities of which have been qualified for sale under the law.

New York.—It would be difficult to recite, in any brief report, all of the bills offered to and considered by the Legislature of New York of interest to investment bankers. Of primary importance to this committee, however, was the enactment of Senate Bills 778, 779 and 780, by which the Martin Act was amended. Collectively these bills, now a part of the law, provide for:

(1) Permanent injunction against any person found actually to have been or then to be engaged in fraudulent practices, as defined in the Act, from selling or offering for sale any securities issued or to be issued;

(2) A provision for enforcement of mandate of Attorney-General's subpoena and the attendance of witnesses upon a hearing or investigation by the Attorney-General; and

(3) A provision requiring, as a prerequisite, the registration of all dealers when acting as principal, broker, agent or otherwise in the sale of securities within the State of New York. Such registration is effected by causing to be filed with the department of law (Attorney-General) a statement, duly verified, disclosing certain specific information. Thereupon such registration, with certain exceptions, is as a matter of course. Any false statements made in a dealer's statement for registration subject the maker of such statements to the criminal penalties of the law. These bills received the careful consideration and active attention of the New York Group Legislation Committee and their attorneys and were approved by that committee in the form in which they were enacted.

Virginia.—Two separate bills modifying the securities law of that State were enacted in Virginia. One of these, Senate Bill 152, constitutes a separate law and modifies the securities law only by reference and by application. It provides for the filing of a written irrevocable power of attorney and consent to service of process by any non-resident dealer who establishes or maintains a place of business within that State; such power of attorney appoints the Secretary of the Commonwealth the agent of any such non-resident dealer upon whom may be served any process against, or notice to, any such non-resident dealer in any action or proceeding arising out of the sale of securities within the State. Such power of attorney is not unusual and not seriously objectionable when in proper form and limited to actions arising solely under the essential provisions of a securities law. In this instance, however, it should be noted such power of attorney is not restricted to an action occasioned by purported fraud or violation of the securities law, but is inclusive of any action, whatsoever, growing out of a securities transaction.

The other bill, Senate Bill 335, demanded section 6 of the securities law by giving to the Commission power to issue a cease and desist order against the offering and sale from without the State of any non-exempt securities within the State or of any securities of whatsoever character where evidence of fraud exists. There is probably considerable question as to the legality of what amounts to a power of injunction and restraint in the Commission against the inter-State transactions in securities. The effectiveness, it may be noted, lies within the publicity which may be given to such cease and desist order as the Commission may see fit.

It is with regret we observe that nothing has been accomplished to remedy the discriminatory provisions of the securities law against non-residents in the dealer's registration provisions of the law.

District of Columbia.—Three bills appeared in Congress providing for as many forms of securities laws for the District of Columbia. They are as follows:

1. The Blaine bill—S. 3362—of the regulatory type with some attempt to follow the general provisions of the so-called uniform bill but with added stringent and, in our opinion, unworkable modifications, passed the Senate and went to the House where it was referred to the Committee for the District of Columbia. It was held in the Committee at adjournment of the session.

2. The Bowman-Reed bills—H. R. 9065 and S. 3947—are identical bills introduced in the House and Senate respectively by Congressman Bowman and Senator Reed, are of the fraud type of law plus simple registration of dealers. The House Committee for the District of Columbia reported

the Bowman Bill with recommendations that it pass. It had failed, however, of further consideration at the close of the session.

3. The Sabbath bill—H. R. 8912—by Congressman Sabbath of Illinois, provides for a modified form of the regulatory type of law. No action was taken on this bill.

Maryland.—In Maryland at the 1931 session of the General Assembly the Governor was authorized to appoint a Commission of seven to study Blue Sky laws of Maryland and other States and make recommendations on the subject to the Governor and the General Assembly not later than Jan. 15 1932. In appointing this Commission the Governor named three members of the Investment Bankers' Association of America, viz.: Charles H. Baetjer, T. Stockton Matthews, and C. T. Williams as members of that Commission. The Commission has already been engaged in a preliminary way assembling data regarding the operation of Blue Sky laws in other States and in the preparation of its tentative report and recommendations.

National Legislation.

It would be extremely difficult to even mention all that transpired in Congress of interest to investment bankers. Items ordinarily attracting the attention of bankers and investors alike, this year were overshadowed by matters of grave and outstanding importance. With some consideration to the order of apparent importance, bills offered in the National Congress and National in character may be mentioned as follows:

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation Act.
The Glass-Steagall Banking Act.
The Emergency Relief Act.
The Glass Bill or the Banking Act of 1932.
The Norris bills to remove the jurisdiction of the Federal Court in certain cases.

The Johnson bill of similar purport.
National Blue Sky bills (five or more in number) including the La Guardia Bill (H. R. 12898) proposing a Federal law regulating the sale of securities by requiring those making the original offering of securities to guarantee such securities against default in payment of principal and interest.

The Revenue Bill with the tax on the issuance and transfer of stocks and bonds.

An Act (H. R. 10244) fixing the fees and limit of indemnity for domestic registered mail based upon actual value and length of haul, &c. Reference to this legislation is found at page 308 of "Investment Banking" of Aug. 31 1932.

The Muscle Shoals Bill.
The Glenn-Smith and kindred bills relating to the refinancing of drainage and irrigation districts.

The Federal Home Loan Bank Bill.
Bills relating to foreign loans and short-selling.

Since most of these bills will be discussed by other committees more specifically concerned with their provisions, we will here treat only of those to which this committee gave some major attention.

The Glass Bill.

By this time every one must be quite familiar with the Glass Banking Bill which, at the close of the session of Congress, was still pending in the Senate after having been twice revised by the Committee on Banking and Currency. In the opinion of some, if not of most of those who have made a critical study of the bill, it needs further revision. In substance this bill as it now exists and as it affects the investment banking business provides as follows:

1. That the Federal Reserve Board be given the power to prohibit the further extension of reserve credit to member banks which are making undue use of their lending power "for the speculative carrying of or trading in securities," &c.

2. It proposes to abolish security affiliates of member banks at the expiration of three years from the date of the enactment of the bill.

3. As a corollary to the requirement that security affiliates be abolished, the bill proposes that a Federal Reserve member bank, conducting the business of dealing in investment securities, shall be "limited to purchasing and selling such securities without recourse, solely upon the order and for the account of customers and in no case for its own account and shall not underwrite any issue of securities." These limitations, however, are not to apply to obligations of the United States or general obligations of any State or political subdivision thereof, or to obligations issued under authority of the Federal Farm Loan Act, as amended.

4. It proposes that a member bank of the Federal Reserve System shall not act "as the medium or agent of any non-banking corporation, partnership, association, business trust or individual in making loans on the security of stocks, bonds or other investment securities to brokers or dealers"

5. It proposes a certain form of branch banking and with certain limitations.

6. It provides for a definite legal status of "group banking."

The Norris Bills.

These Bills, S. 937 and S. 939, would affect the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts in cases arising out of controversy between citizens of different States. The one, S. 937, provides "That where a corporation organized under the laws of one State or more States, or under the laws of one or more foreign countries, carries on business in a State other than the one where in it has been organized, it shall for purposes of jurisdiction in a District Court of the United States be treated as a citizen of such State wherein it carries on business as respects all suits brought within that State between itself and the residents thereof and arising out of business carried on in such State." The other bill, S. 939, would abolish entirely the jurisdiction of the Federal District Courts in all cases based on diversity of citizenship—both in the case of individuals and corporations. Particular reference is made to a statement respecting these bills at page 198 of "Investment Banking" of April 30 1932.

Senate Bill 939 has been favorably reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee while House Bill H. R. 10594, corresponding to S. 937, has been favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee of the House but later recalled for further consideration and hearings.

Blue Sky Laws Survey.

We have heretofore stressed the importance of having made, if and when possible, a broad and general survey of the operations of the several States' blue sky laws, their practical operations, economic value, cost and incidental expense to the business, comparative efficiency of the different types of laws and, in general, the value of such laws as compared to the public burdens. At the January meeting of the Board of Governors authority was given for the appointment of a special committee to make a preliminary perspective of the possibilities of such a survey. Mr. William W. Hinshaw of the Central Republic Co., Chicago, was delegated to and did make such preliminary survey. Although his report was favorable to the advisability of a broader and more general survey, it has seemed that the cost would outweigh the prudence of expenditure at this time. We hope and suggest, however, that the matter be not forgotten, but kept well in mind for more

definite action as and when circumstances will justify. In all probability legislative activity during the ensuing year will demonstrate the grave necessity for such a survey and for definite knowledge of the economic truths such a survey would bring to light.

Rules and Regulations.

It is not legislative enactment alone with which the Legislation Committee is concerned. Most of the securities laws grant certain discretionary powers to the administering official of the respective States. It must be so, necessarily, if sufficient elasticity is provided by which the law and its administration may be adjusted to varying and unforeseeable conditions. With the large number of over-credulous investors who, unable to differentiate between losses through investment occasioned solely through fluctuating economic conditions and losses fraudulently imposed, constantly complaining and trying to assuage their feelings by blaming public officials, this discretionary power has been brought into play to a greater extent during the past year than at any time before. This has brought on a number of problems of administration which have for the most part been dealt with by the appropriate group organizations and local committee members. Thereby much was accomplished of great value to the membership and to the business of investment banking generally.

Looking Forward.

That this committee may expect a busy year ahead may be judged from (1) the number of State Legislatures to be in regular session beginning early in January; (2) the apparent general public attitude to ask for new and more legislation with more stringent regulations and graver penalty provisions; and (3) the legislation now pending in Congress and more to follow.

Forty-four State legislatures will be in session next year. Not one can be said to be immune from proposals for important and even radical modifications of the blue sky laws, amendments to the banking acts, to the laws respecting corporate control, laws respecting the conduct of dealers and brokers, holding companies, &c.

In the National Congress the Glass Bill or the Banking Act, the Norris bills, the National blue sky bills, the bills providing a securities law for the District of Columbia, and bills attempting to provide some sort of regulation of the sale of foreign securities are pending as unfinished business. Already several bills have been introduced to amend the Revenue Act of 1932. It is reasonably certain others will follow.

It therefore appears that if this Association is to have any voice in legislation relating to its business, we must be alert to the situation and ready promptly to give attention all along the line as well as lend our counsel as specific instances arise.

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE.

Francis M. Knight, Chairman,	
Vernon H. Branch	John E. McKirdy
Aims C. Coney	Walter P. Napier
Pierpont V. Davis	Richard M. Price
Charles B. Engle	Walter W. Schroeder
Benj. J. Frick Jr.	W. S. Simonton
Harry W. Kerr	James T. Wachob
Alex. I. Henderson	Joseph T. Walker Jr.
Alexander McAndres	Meade H. Willis.

Report of Federal Taxation Committee, Investment Bankers' Association by Edward Hopkinson, Jr.—Sales Tax and Beer Tax Among Means for Broadening Tax Base—Revenue from Latter Estimated at \$754,000,000.

The report of the Federal Taxation Committee presented to the Annual Convention of the Investment Bankers' Association referred to the increased income tax rates in the 1932 revenue bill, and pointed out that "undoubtedly each increase in rates accelerates the flight of capital from productive investment in business and industry to some form of tax-free securities." "It is manifest," said the report, "that the only way to raise additional sums is by broadening the tax base." The Committee notes that "one tax most likely to be turned to is some form of sales tax," and it also discussed the productivity of a tax on beer. As to this the report said:

It has been estimated a tax on beer up to 40 cents a gallon could readily be levied without increasing the price to a point where bootleggers could successfully compete with legal manufacture. On this basis it is estimated the tax realized might even reach \$754,000,000 per year, a sum roughly approximating three-fourths of the entire tax collected by the Government during the fiscal year ended June 30 1932.

"The assistance such additional revenue would be in the present emergency, representing as it would a voluntary payment constituting a burden only on those who chose to become subject thereto, cannot be disregarded," says the Committee, the Chairman of which is Edward Hopkinson Jr., a partner in the banking firm of J. P. Morgan & Co. We give the report herewith:

When the Interim Report of this Committee was made to the Spring meeting of the Board of Governors (May 14-17 1932), Congress was still in session and our report (see "Investment Banking," June 14 1932, Vol. II, No. 7, page 244) was directed particularly to the Capital Gains and Losses provisions of the Revenue Bill. It will be recalled that the bill originally adopted by the House did not recognize as deductions any losses sustained on the sales of stocks and bonds in excess of gains from similar transactions. Losses on stocks and bonds held over two years were offset against gains on such assets held over two years, and losses on the sales of stocks or bonds held two years or less were offset against gains on such assets held two years or less. Subject to certain limitations an excess of losses over gains in one of the above mentioned groups could be offset against the gains in the other group. In the bill as reported by the Finance Committee of the Senate, the limitation that losses on stocks and bonds could only be taken to the extent of gains from similar transactions was confined to the sale of such securities held for two years or less, while gains or losses arising from the sale of stocks and bonds held for over two years were in all cases treated precisely as under present law, whether such losses were incurred by a corporation or an individual. Section 23 (r) contained a proviso that these limitations should not apply "to a dealer in securities in respect of transactions in the ordinary course of his business with his customers."

It was pointed out in the report of our Committee that this language was clearly not adequate to protect a dealer in many transactions "within the ordinary course of business," and a clarification of this sub-section was recommended. It was also recommended that bonds should be entirely removed from these restrictions as to deduction of losses, as presumably was the original intention because the subsection of the bill was headed "Limitation on Stock Losses." This was also advocated by Secretary Mills in his Statement to the Senate Finance Committee on Apr. 6 1932, in which he recommended that this provision should "not apply to bonds, which are normally purchased and held for investment purposes and which are not susceptible of manipulation so as to create fictitious losses." Resolutions containing the recommendations of the committee were adopted by the Board of Governors and transmitted to each member of the United States Senate, Secretary of the Treasury, and Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank, reading as follows:

"Resolved, That bonds should be eliminated from the application of Section 23 (r) of the Revenue Bill limiting deductibility of losses, as recommended to the Senate Finance Committee by the Secretary of the Treasury.
 "Further Resolved, That Section 23 (r) (3) be further amended to remove the discrimination against dealers in securities as compared with all other classes of merchants with regard to deducting all security losses in the ordinary course of business."

Fortunately, before final passage of the bill, the necessary clarification of sub-section 23 (r) 3, was made so that the limitation on stock losses would not apply "to a dealer in securities, as to stocks and bonds acquired for resale to customers, in respect of transactions in the ordinary course of his business, . . ." Unfortunately, the complete elimination of bonds from the limitation on losses sections did not take place.

Recent Treasury reports clearly indicate a new revenue bill will have to be considered by Congress during the short session beginning in December.

When the 1932 Revenue Act was prepared the Treasury estimated that over \$1,100,000,000 in additional revenue would be obtained but the indications are now clear that neither the income nor the miscellaneous taxes will yield nearly as much as had been expected. The new rates and taxes did not come into effect until after July 1 1932 but the figures just released for the first quarter ending Sept. 30 1932 of the current fiscal year, show total receipts amounting to approximately \$437,000,000 and expenditures of approximately \$839,000,000, or a deficit of almost \$402,000,000. This deficit compares with approximately \$388,000,000 at the end of the first quarter in the last fiscal year. These deficit figures as officially reported by the Treasury do not include advances to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation which under the law are charged directly to the public debt. Income tax payments were only slightly more than half those of the comparable quarter of the preceding year. Of course the increased income tax rates of the 1932 bill are not yet reflected in the payments now being made which are based on 1931 income at the old rates. However, the falling off in income for 1932 will tend to counterbalance the increased rates and lowered exemptions. Undoubtedly each increase in rates accelerates the flight of capital from productive investment in business and industry to some form of tax-free securities.

The gross public debt of the United States on Sept. 30 1932, stood at approximately \$20,600,000,000 as compared with approximately \$19,487,000,000 at the beginning of the current fiscal year on July 1 1932, and approximately \$17,320,000,000 on Sept. 30 1931. The all-time peak of public debt was approximately \$26,600,000,000 on Aug. 31 1919.

If new taxes are to come, it is of vital importance for the continuance of business recovery that these taxes be of such kind as to place the minimum burden upon productive industry, and should really produce the additional funds required to balance the budget. Of course, raising additional money is only half of the picture. The other half is reducing the Federal budget to the irreducible minimum and there is no doubt that much can and must be done. The ways in which public expenditures may best be reduced is beyond the scope of this Committee but numerous public organizations, including Chambers of Commerce and more recently The National Economy League under distinguished leadership, are taking an active part to this end.

At the last session of Congress the Treasury program, as stated by Secretary Mills to the Senate Finance Committee, comprised, generally speaking, a progressive income tax at increased rates, a progressive estate tax at increased rates; a series of selective excise taxes, following in the main the lines of the 1921 and 1924 acts; and increased rates on postage adequate to put the Post Office Department on a self-sustaining basis. The bill finally passed by the House increased income tax rates, estate tax rates, together with the gift tax, at even higher rates than recommended by the Treasury, and provided a great number of manufacturers' excise taxes directed at what might be described as luxuries, but did not include a general manufacturers' sales tax based on the Canadian model which had been recommended by the House Ways and Means Committee. The bill finally passed by the Senate and approved by the President followed the general lines of the House Bill, although many improvements in detail were made.

It is manifest from recent experience that the only way to raise additional sums is by broadening the tax base. This may be accomplished, in part, by a lowering of present exemptions but, in addition, new subjects of taxation must be found. Of our total population of approximately 123 millions, according to the 1930 Census, of whom approximately 65 millions are of voting age, less than 2½ millions pay any Federal income tax under prior law. Under the Revenue Act of 1932, which reduces the exemption from \$1,500 to \$1,000 for single persons and from \$3,500 to \$2,500 for married persons, it is estimated on the basis of incomes for the calendar year 1931 that only 1,700,000 additional taxpayers would be added to the roll.

One tax most likely to be turned to is some form of sales tax. This has been recommended by the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York at a special meeting held Sept. 29 1932, and in the appendix to the report submitted to that body by its committee on taxation, there is an excellent summary of the several types of sales tax tried by other governmental bodies, with a discussion of the advantages and disadvantages which have apparently developed in connection with the several types. This Committee has not the qualifications to attempt to select the particular type of sales tax which should be adopted, other than to support the general principle that the burden should be as broadly spread as practicable, exempting therefrom only the bare necessities of life.

In spite of the fact that recent political developments would seem to assure the eventual repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment and to have practically eliminated it from party politics, it is obviously impossible for the repeal of the Amendment to be brought about in time to make a tax on intoxicating liquors a source of revenue which might assist in meeting the present emergency. This, however, does not necessarily apply to a modification of the Volstead Act in so far as that Act might constitutionally be amended so as to permit the selling of non-intoxicating beer and beverages having some alcoholic content in excess of the present definition. Many political leaders in both parties have publicly expressed themselves in favor of such action at the coming short session of Congress.

The productivity of a tax on beer would, of course, depend upon consumption and the rate of tax. For reasons developed during our prohibition experiment, it is obvious the rate of tax should not be so high as to encourage illegal manufacture and bootlegging. In Great Britain beer is taxed at the equivalent of about 58 cents per gallon; in Canada at the equivalent of

about 12½ cents per gallon. The Canadian tax on beer, according to government pronouncements, has been placed at a very low figure to encourage beer consumption and at the same time reduce the drinking of hard liquor which is very heavily taxed. But this plan has apparently not been particularly successful as beer drinking has remained fairly stationary while sales of hard liquor have increased. How much of this sales increase in hard liquor represents purchases for export to the United States is impossible to estimate.

Based on the consumption of malt liquors in the United States, as reported in Internal Revenue statistics for 1917 (the last full year before war-time prohibition) approximately 1,885,000,000 gallons at the Canadian rate of 12½ cents, would produce approximately \$235,000,000. It has been estimated a tax on beer up to 40 cents a gallon could readily be levied without increasing the price to a point where bootleggers could successfully compete with legal manufacture. On this basis it is estimated the tax realized might even reach \$754,000,000 per year, a sum roughly approximating three-fourths of the entire income tax collected by the Government during the last fiscal year ended June 30 1932. The assistance such additional revenue would be in the present emergency, representing as it would a voluntary payment constituting a burden only on those who chose to become subject thereto, cannot be disregarded. From all the data on the present estimated consumption of illegal beer, naturally approximate and subject to wide variations, a very substantial portion of this tax revenue would not represent additional expenditure on the part of the American public but rather a diversion of funds now going into bootlegging channels.

In conclusion, we desire to place all possible emphasis upon reduction of public expenditures as whatever forms of additional taxation are availed of, they are at best only a choice of evils and cannot fail in greater or less degree to retard economic stabilization and recovery.

Edward Hopkinson Jr., Chairman William H. Eddy
 Hermann F. Clarke O. Edgar Honnold
 T. Stockton Matthews

Report of Committee on State and Local Taxation by Chairman Charles E. Engle—State Income Taxation Maintains Position in Forefront of Legislative and Public Discussion—20 States with Personal Income Taxes—Injustice of Tax Burdens on Real Estate—State Taxation of National Banks.

Stating that "recognition has been given by this Committee to the injustice of the tax burden borne by real estate" the State and Local Taxation Committee of the Investment Bankers' Association pointed out that "the methods employed to correct this inequality should be constructive even in a time of stress like the present. According to the report "the abatement of penalties on tax delinquencies and the re-assessment of delinquent taxes over a period of future years have widening support, but these proposals involve such serious questions in fiscal administration and afford so many chances for inequalities that it is felt the principle of 'prompt payment' should be generally supported. The pending constitutional amendment in Texas which provides State ad valorem tax exemption on all homes up to \$3,000 assessed valuation is also viewed with much concern because of widespread use of such exemptions would materially narrow the tax base, whereas the broadest consciousness of tax burden is deemed desirable." The report observes that State income taxation "maintains its position in the forefront of legislative and public discussion." There are now 20 States, the report notes, with personal income taxes. Since the report of a year ago, it is also noted, "four State Legislatures have passed upon the addition of State income taxes to their tax structure. In Illinois favorable action was taken, although the law is being subjected to court review as to constitutionality. Arizona, Indiana and Louisiana failed to enact such a law and the Supreme Court of the State of Tennessee has held the Tennessee law unconstitutional." In conclusion the Committee states that "while it is regretted that much of the existing tax agitation cannot now be directed into scientific legislation . . . there are afforded unusual opportunities for guiding and creating public opinion which should eventuate in much sounder taxing systems in all of our taxing units." Charles B. Engle, of the International Trust Co. of Denver, is Chairman of the State and Local Taxation Committee, whose report follows:

Economic conditions during the past year have aroused a growing wave of interest in taxation which is very gratifying to your Committee even if a large part is due to the pinch of personal tax incidence rather than to a widespread desire for equity or science in meeting the fiscal problems of government. But before discussing recent developments and present trends, there are three subjects heretofore engaging the attention of the Committee which should be brought up-to-date: State taxation of National banks, reciprocity in inheritance taxes and State income taxes.

State Taxation of National Banks.

The decision of the Supreme Court of the United States (opinion by Mr. Justice Brandeis) in the case of Iowa-Des Moines National Bank vs. E. R. Bennett, Chairman et al, handed down in December 1931, further strengthened by definite restatement several favorable decisions during the past 10 years. It is held to be a direct violation of Federal Statutes for a State to tax the shares of stock in a National bank at full book value when, at the same time, there is a substantial amount of moneyed capital coming into competition with the business of National banks which is either not assessed or assessed at much less than full value.

Reciprocity in Inheritance Taxes.

The decision of the Supreme Court of the United States (opinion by Mr. Justice Sutherland) in the case of First National Bank of Boston, Executor vs. State of Maine, handed down in January 1932, is regarded as having

completed a series of decisions holding that intangible personal property is not subject to multiple state inheritance taxes. The decision in question related to stock, but previous decisions had covered the other forms of such property.

State Income Taxes.

This form of taxation maintains its position in the forefront of legislative and public discussion. Since the report of a year ago, four States Legislatures have passed upon the addition of State income taxes to their tax structure. In Illinois favorable action was taken, although the law is being subjected to court review as to constitutionality. Arizona, Indiana and Louisiana failed to enact such a law and the Supreme Court of the State of Tennessee has held the Tennessee law unconstitutional. Increases in existing laws were passed in Mississippi, New York and Wisconsin. In November the general electors will vote upon State income tax amendments in Alabama, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Minnesota and West Virginia, and there is a very strong movement for State income taxes in Arizona, Connecticut, Indiana and Iowa.

There are now 20 States with personal income taxes: Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont, Virginia and Wisconsin.

Co-ordination of Taxing Systems.

The lack of and the necessity for the co-ordination of taxing systems was stressed in a previous report but, unfortunately, growing tax delinquencies have resulted in scant attention having been and being given to considerations of this nature in the search for revenue. Despite the newly operative increase in Federal income and estate taxes, we may expect determined efforts to raise the brackets for such existing taxes in the several States and the establishment of rather heavy brackets where income taxes are first enacted. Sales taxes in a variety of forms are assured of sponsorship which will probably mean the levying of two or more taxes on numerous articles. Petroleum products and tobacco probably remain the prize exhibits as to number of imports and total of taxes as against price to the consumer, but their condition may be construed as unusual only in that the burden is obvious, whereas in other fields a multiplicity of tax burdens may be less apparent. Pennsylvania passed an act in August authorizing cities of the first and second class "to levy, assess and collect . . . taxes on persons, transactions, occupations, privileges, subjects and personal property . . . except . . . which is now or may hereafter become subject to a State tax or license fee." This act might be acclaimed as a specie of co-ordination if it were not being interpreted as permitting the levy of personal property taxes against securities held by tax exempt organizations such as saving fund societies.

Georgia will vote at the forthcoming election upon a constitutional amendment reserving to the State alone all right to tax intangibles which apparently is being fought by the various municipalities. Your Committee suggests that if co-ordination is not obtainable comparable results may be within reach by developing demands to consolidate or eliminate taxing units.

Relief for Real Estate.

Recognition has been given by this Committee to the injustice of the tax burden borne by real estate. But the methods employed to correct this inequality should be constructive even in a time of stress like the present. Proposals to limit total ad valorem taxes with power vested in the legislature to allocate the total as between State, county, city and school district and to prohibit the State from taxing real estate are issues in the coming elections which could prove distinctly harmful if enacted unless scientific programs to balance budgets are also enacted. The abatement of penalties on tax delinquencies and the re-assessment of delinquent taxes over a period of future years have widening support but these proposals involve such serious questions in fiscal administration and afford so many chances for inequalities that it is felt the principle of "prompt payment" should be generally supported. The pending constitutional amendment in Texas which provides State ad valorem tax exemption on all homes up to \$3,000 assessed valuation is also viewed with much concern because a widespread use of such exemptions would materially narrow the tax base whereas the broadest consciousness of tax burden is deemed desirable. Taxes on life insurance and investments are espoused without adequate thought as to their fairness or their effect on thrift. Additional taxes are sought under State income tax laws by taxing dividends and excluding capital losses. There is a tendency to seek drastic reductions in expenditures under broad classifications without proper study of component items which might result in impairing vital public functions, especially education.

Public Welfare.

Unemployment has materially added to our tax complexities through many relief measures, both enacted and proposed. Appropriations under this heading are not a new problem although the magnitude of such normal expenditures is not fully realized. Professor Merlin H. Hunter of the University of Illinois estimates such annual costs at \$1,150,000,000 for States and localities prior to the present emergency. In 1929 the States expended \$216,000,000 of 16.6% of State expenditures (without allowance for past or current capital outlay) although 29.4% of this amount was for corrections. Neither totals nor percentages of public welfare expenditures can be approximated at this time because of the unnumbered relief appropriations. Different methods have been utilized to raise the funds so appropriated, among which may be cited the increasing of income tax rates in New York, the doubling of such rates in Wisconsin and the passage of a 1% sales tax in Pennsylvania. While such relief enactments were generally intended as temporary and limited as to time, we can anticipate a continuing agitation in the States for unemployment insurance, old age pensions, &c., whether such activities are to be permanently assumed and, if so, to what degree and upon what basis. As a matter of record, it must be noted that many obligations have been assumed and will be assumed in connection with borrowings from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for relief purposes.

Publicity.

The existing public attitude toward taxes should provide the opportunity for provisions insuring a complete and needed publicity upon taxing unit budgets, tax receipts and expenditures against the budget items. This certainly is imperative in connection with sinking and other special funds administered by public officials. Not long ago in one of the States a very large sum was transferred from the highway fund to the general fund in exchange for claims against failed banks. A crisis may have warranted this action, but thorough publicity might reveal less necessitous diversions.

Taxing Unit Reserves.

If efficiency in governmental activities is achieved through the current public interest in taxation and such interest can be maintained by continued scrutiny of public expenditures by individuals and organizations, there is one important step which could be considered for adoption. That is the creation of reserves by governmental entities. In business profits are not wholly distributed by soundly managed enterprises but reserves are set up to provide for variations in operations and emergencies. This contrasts with a popular practice in taxing units of seeking additional means to dis-

burse excess tax receipts or anticipated increasing revenues. Many contend that any such realized or anticipated surplus income should result in automatic tax reductions but there are sound bases for recommending the study of the advantages advanced in support of taxing unit reserves.

Conclusion.

While it is regretted that much of the existing tax agitation cannot now be directed into scientific tax legislation and that many enactments during this period may prove complicating, there are afforded, nevertheless, unusual opportunities for guiding and creating public opinion which should eventuate in much sounder taxing systems in all of our taxing units. The members of our Association have a very real and clear cut duty in this respect because by training and experience they can provide the leaven of knowledge and the breadth of viewpoint so essential to the general good. But we must offer an unselfish participation in tax movements, an open-mindedness which cannot be challenged. Specifically, we should align ourselves with those bodies, local and National, now engaged in seeking remedies for the many pressing tax problems. We should assist in obtaining needed economies, we should aid in shaping inevitable legislation to minimize harmful effects, we should help in insuring that untried or unwise laws shall be strictly limited as to time. Above all, we should constantly work for a general understanding and appreciation of sound taxation principles so that when the temporary measures expire we may hopefully face the revamping and revision incident thereto.

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Report of Trends of the Business Sub-Committee by Albert P. Everts, Chairman—Stability of American Dollar Viewed as Greatest Factor in World Economy —Economic Trends in America and England.

The gold movements and subsequent events were described in a report presented at the annual meeting of the Investment Bankers' Association of America, as tending "to draw attention to the fact that the stability of the American dollar is the greatest factor in the world economy to-day, and to justify the inference that our proven ability to meet all demands for gold was the cornerstone upon which we have started to rebuild the structure of the world business." The report was that of the Trends of the Business Subcommittee, and was presented by its Chairman, Albert P. Everts, of Paine, Webber & Co. The report deals with economic trends in America and England, the increase in excess reserves, &c., and presents the results of a questionnaire on business outlook, the majority of the responses to which register the belief that a definite move has begun toward business recovery. We give the report herewith:

The magnitude of the world-wide liquidation that has been experienced since the Association's 1931 convention has been of such vast and unprecedented violence as to challenge the machinery of the economic system in every part of the world. We can survey the present and study the future with some sense of gratification that the challenge has been met successfully. The extreme optimism born of the prosperity of post-war years has been replaced by stern confidence born of the recent adversity.

To state that the demand for new corporation capital almost entirely disappeared during the first six months of 1932 is to recite a fact familiar to every informed person. Whatever may be the complex causes which nourished the spread of economic paralysis in general, the absence of demand for new corporation capital is directly a result of the fact that it was impossible to employ existing capital at a reasonable profit. This, in turn, was owing to the world-wide decline in the money value of goods and services which made it difficult or impossible for government, as well as for private obligors, to meet their accruing obligations.

While this inability to meet obligations was admittedly widespread, it was by no means general. It was sufficiently present, however, to produce a widespread wavering of confidence, which at first caused a stampede on the part of investors to possess money rather than property in any other form. The final phase of this stampede took the form of doubt in regard to the general stability of our financial institutions and even in regard to the gold value of the American dollar.

The suddenness and violence of the demands for cash in many cases exceeded the ability of institutions to obtain sufficient cash to meet the demands on short notice and thereby forced some otherwise sound institutions to suspend payments. It is noteworthy that among our great financial institutions which successfully withstood this storm, the life insurance companies were among the first. Every great life insurance company successfully met demands for cash surrender values and policy loans. At the peak of this movement the insurance companies were called upon to make policy loans amounting to 61 million dollars in a single month. The United States Department of Commerce, in the survey of current business for September, reported a sharp reduction for July in the month to month increase in this demand and added further that this was regarded by life insurance officials and economists as another indication of returning confidence.

The Recent Gold Movements.

In the last thirteen months we have seen two great international runs on American gold, each of about sixty days' duration. The first covered roughly the months of September and October 1931. During these two months the United States exported 728 million dollars in gold. The second covered the months of May and June 1932, and resulted in the withdrawal of 487 million dollars of American-held gold.

Subsequent events tend to draw attention to the fact that the stability of the American Dollar is the greatest factor in the world economy to-day, and to justify the inference that our proven ability to meet all demands for gold was the cornerstone upon which we have started to rebuild the structure of world business. It is significant to note that the successful stemming of the tide of this second great gold movement coincided almost exactly with the lowest price levels for commodities and securities in the United States and Great Britain.

As the gold value of the American dollar is inseparably interwoven with American and world securities values, we have cause to note with satisfaction that during this year of unprecedented demand the United States has never refused to call to convert its money into gold upon demand, whenever and wherever the demand was presented.

Your committee feels that with every regard for its responsibilities it is justified in stating from the facts at its disposal that the summer of 1932 has witnessed the actual passing of this crisis.

Economic Trends in America and England.

In the two great nations to which the world is entitled to look for leadership out of the economic depression, prices have been recording a pronounced and steady recovery since the latter part of June. Taking September 1931 as par, the "Financial Times" of London shows that in the last week in September commodity prices in the United Kingdom had recovered from a level of 97 in June to around 102, so that these prices are now higher than when the Bank of England abandoned the gold basis. In the United States the same authority shows a recovery from around 86 to a fraction under 90.

Turning to our security markets, the improvement in the economic outlook has been reflected by a substantial advance which, while it may be described as only representing a change from panic to depression prices, nevertheless has wrought a profound improvement in the financial situation in general. Values of stocks and bonds listed on the New York Stock Exchange alone, increased in value during the months of July and August \$17,588,021,027.

Lest there be—in view of all the discussion in regard to inflation—any misunderstanding in regard to the soundness of this advance, it can be stated with assurance that the increase in the dollar value of these securities has not been accompanied by any impairment in the gold value of the dollar itself. On July 6 1932 for every \$100 in circulation in the United States the country had monetary gold amounting to \$67.91. By the end of August the ratio of monetary gold stock in circulation not only had not declined, but had actually risen to \$71.61 per \$100 of circulation.

Banking and Finance.

While it is not our purpose to introduce a discussion of the banking and economic legislation of our last Congress, it seems proper at this time to make one statement in an endeavor to clarify a point in regard to our monetary system about which there has been a certain amount of misunderstanding. The point to which we wish to call attention is that the Glass-Steagall Amendment to the Federal Reserve laws, permitting the Federal Reserve Banks to hold Government securities as partial collateral against Federal Reserve notes where acceptances were previously required, was not necessitated by a shortage of gold but by a shortage of acceptances. The scarcity of acceptances was, in turn, due to the absence of demand for this form of financing, resulting from the depression in international and domestic trade.

Of equal importance in a consideration of the gold backing of the currency is the percentage of gold to the total loans and investments of the banks. From this very important standpoint the position of our banking system on June 30 1932, was stronger than on June 30 1929, when the business boom was at its height. In the mid-year of 1929 the monetary gold stock of the United States amounted to 7.39% of the loans and investments of all banks in the United States. At the end of June this year, it amounted to 8.61%. For purposes of comparison it may be stated that for ten years preceding 1929 this ratio had fluctuated between a low of 6.87% on June 30 1920 and a high of 9.93% on June 30 1924.

Your committee has felt that the seriousness of the period through which we have passed demanded a report of the facts in regard to the stability of the gold dollar, and we respectfully submit that this has been proved to the satisfaction of the most skeptical critic.

We therefore now turn our attention to a discussion of the trends of the investment banking business and some of the probable developments of the ensuing year.

Increase in Excess Reserves.

There are two main factors governing the volume of investment business, namely: (1) the requirements of new capital and investment; (2) the availability of investment funds.

As the dwindling of new capital flotations to the vanishing point during the past year has been mainly due to the intensity of the depression, it is a fair conclusion that the resumption of capital financing must be either accompanied or preceded by a measure of business improvement. In this connection your committee calls attention to the importance of the large increase in excess reserves which has developed over recent months. It has been found that during preceding depressions the bottom and turning point were marked by a substantial increase in the excess reserves of the banks. An increase of substantially the same character as has marked the turning points in several preceding depressions has taken place beginning with April this year.

The average excess reserves of member banks of the Federal Reserve system for the month of May were \$277,100,000. This was more than twice the excess reserves available during any month in 1931 or 1932, except the month of April when the increase began. In this case your committee feels that the benefits to be derived from these increasing reserves may have a greater effect than was the case in either of the preceding five depressions that we have witnessed since 1883, because the resulting improvement in business and confidence will cause the re-deposit of the huge amount of money that has been withdrawn from use during the period of currency-hoarding. This would cause a further increase in reserves which may be unprecedented in size.

In this connection your committee quotes from the Federal Reserve Bulletin of September 1932 as follows:

The return of about \$85,000,000 of currency from circulation between July 6 and Aug. 31 was the first substantial movement in this direction since last March. It represented a post-holiday return of \$40,000,000 between July 6 and July 20 which was somewhat less than seasonal in amount and a further return of \$45,000,000 between July 20 and Aug. 31—a period which has usually been characterized in recent years by a substantial seasonal increase in circulation. The figures indicate, therefore, that there was during this period a substantial release of currency from hoards, apparently in reflection of the recent subsidence of banking disturbances and the increasing activity of the securities and commodities markets. While part of the currency thus released may have gone from inactive into active circulation, the rest was returned directly or indirectly to the member banks which in turn forwarded it for credit to the Federal Reserve banks, and this was a factor, along with the increase in gold stock, both in the reduction during the period in the volume of reserve bank credit outstanding and also in the growth of member bank reserve balances.

Government Activities in Reconstruction.

Your committee respectfully submits its opinion that the accumulation of excess reserves in the banks is a logical development following the demonstrated soundness of our monetary system and the realization that our potential national strength has at last been marshalled for defensive and offensive operations against the forces of depression and disintegration. It, therefore, appears pertinent to attach to the review a summary of the very important step taken by the Federal Government in its

organization of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. This summary appears as an appendix of your committee's report.

Government Financing.

It is logical to assume that there will be a large amount of Government financing during the coming year to fund early maturities and to provide for the requirements of the Governmental agencies which have been set up by Congress. The amount will further be influenced by the extent to which the Government may have to continue to pump credit into the economic structure of country and to the degree of success in balancing the national budget. Fortunately as evidenced by the present selling prices of short and long Government bonds, the banks, in their very liquid position have tremendous resources for the purchase of such securities.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the Home Loan Bank and other entities have the practicable purpose of endeavoring to bridge this period of adjustment without the tragedy of wholesale bankruptcy common to the history of similar economic periods. Certainly it does seem that, with all the advancement in human knowledge and in social and economic machinery, there should be some way of effectively spanning this adjustment without the temporary destruction of values, which we know will in a comparatively short time be restored by the turn in the economic tide. Thus Governmental activity in the investment field may have two aspects, a debrutalizing of the adjustment process and as a function that draws from the capital reservoir of the nation while at the same time supplying capital to productive enterprise.

Capital Needs of Corporations.

In addition to the Government, it is to be expected that the States and political sub-divisions with good credit will be in the market for funds. The question naturally arises as to the requirements of other types of financing. Obviously we may expect corporate refunding issues and financing by companies with good records which require capital for expansion purposes, but there is a feeling that in the immediate future there may be little need for new financing, since—

- (1) capital facilities are more adequate than normally is the case to take care of the requirements,
- (2) the principal industrial and public utility operating companies have adequate permanent and working capital,
- (3) it is impossible to finance in the case of those companies which presumably could use more capital. Where this latter condition exists, the burden of financing may be undertaken through the various agencies of the Government.

If the tendency for the time being is to have the financing of the United States Government, its agencies and political sub-divisions, monopolize the major portion of the market for new securities, it is logical to discuss the effect this may have on corporate bonds. If there is a dearth of new capital issues, there doubtless is going to arise over the next year situations in which the investment banking business can utilize its facilities for purchase and resale, as a means of secondary distribution, certain securities which for one reason or another develop greater attractiveness. This should apply in all fields of corporate financing, and also bonds of municipalities which improve their situation by a thorough reorganization of their finances.

Money Rates an Encouraging Factor.

A bright spot in the investment market is the probable continuance of low interest rates. This will tend to make securities of all corporations, earning their charges by any considerable margin, sell at prices sufficiently advantageous to permit new financing. There also will unquestionably be competition of capital to seek a return among approved issues to the advantage of the investment market now existing, and therefore, an opportunity for purchase and resale of securities in this classification. Until such time as the recovery in business creates a demand for capital which increases money rates, it is fair to assume that the return on capital will be low wherever the security is adequate.

Distribution Methods.

There is a tendency for investment bankers to develop further the personal relationship with their individual and bank clientele. The tendency of investors of recent years has been to resort to methods of investment which eliminated personal contacts. There was a considerable period when analyses did not seem to be necessary. This is in marked contrast to years ago when individuals were large buyers of real estate mortgages and other investments over which they kept close personal supervision. Investment houses are more than ever before impressing upon investors the facilities they possess for analysis and are encouraging their clients to examine their securities periodically as constant changes in conditions make this necessary.

The passing of high pressure salesmanship referred to in previous reports of your committee is gradually becoming an accomplished fact. More and more houses are analyzing their sales to clients and studying the requirements of the individual buyer. The tendency toward managed investment accounts as contrasted with what formerly may have been undue emphasis on salesmanship, is a sound and healthy development.

A significant illustration of the changing attitude of investors toward the investment banker is indicated by the effect of the statistical data made available by the bankers who recently financed the bonds of the Commonwealth Edison Company, the Peoples Gas Light & Coke Company and the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois. In addition to very complete circulars, certified by two accounting firms and passed upon by five different sets of attorneys, there was made available for each issue a supplemental memorandum which was most comprehensive in its statistical data and facts in reference to the companies. Whether or not investors were interested in all the facts relating to the securities, there was a very apparent and distinct investor interest in the fact that this comprehensive presentation of data was evidence to him that the investment bankers who underwrote the bonds had done a thoroughly expert job.

Questionnaire on Business Outlook.

Your committee this year was very fortunate in having the membership of the Association act informally as a committee of the whole in the consideration of the immediate business trend. A questionnaire, sent to all members by the president of the Association on August 19th, asked if the members considered "that the return of confidence as evidenced by the recent increases in security prices, indicates a definite movement toward recovery from the depression." Of the 442 questionnaires sent, 309 replies were received as follows:

Yes, without qualification, 250; yes, with qualification, 28; Yes, by inference, 13; total, 291. No, without qualification, 10; no, with qualification, 5; no, by inference, 3; total, 18.

The questionnaire also contained the statement that "while an appreciable improvement in general business is not necessarily to be expected for several months, the investing public should not, in the meantime, lose confidence merely because of this lack of tangible evidence of recovery in business or the continued lack of such evidence in the im-

mediate future." All those who replied affirmatively to the first question were asked to express agreement or disagreement with the foregoing statement. The replies were as follows:

In agreement, without qualification, 245; in agreement, with qualification, 18; in agreement, by inference, 23; total, 286. In disagreement, without qualification, 3; in disagreement, with qualification, 2, total, 5.

As a matter of convenient record for the members of the Association and to show recent tendencies in the source of supply of new financing, we are following the precedent established by the two previous committees by attaching an appendix based on a summary of corporate, foreign government, farm loan and municipal financing, taken from tables published by the "Commercial and Financial Chronicle."

Appendix on New Governmental Entities.

Your committee includes herewith a brief summary relating to the activities of various recently-formed Governmental entities, among them the National Credit Corporation, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the Railroad Credit Corporation.

The National Credit Corporation.

At the time of our last convention plans had been made for the formation of the National Credit Corporation, a \$500,000,000 institution to be formed by the bankers of the nation for co-operative support to protect banks and to assist them "to prepare to meet the possibility of unreasonable demand of depositors."

On October 10 1931, it was announced that the corporation would "obtain funds with which to make such loans through subscriptions to its receivable gold notes which will be authorized up to one billion dollars. Every bank throughout the United States will be asked to subscribe to these notes to the extent of its net demands and time deposits." The National Credit Corporation was incorporated in Delaware on October 13 1931. At that time the Chairman of the organization, Mortimer N. Buckner, issued a statement which was in part as follows: "Each bank in the country will be expected to subscribe to the gold notes of the corporation on the basis of 2% of its net demand and time deposits. There are in the United States approximately 500 clearing houses and some 25,000 banks. These facts will indicate the magnitude of the undertaking to organize all of these institutions quickly into co-operation with such a corporation."

Without burdening the members with the details of subsequent developments affecting the National Credit Corporation, your committee proceeds to quote from the "Wall Street Journal" of March 1 1932, as follows: "The National Credit Corporation due to recent developments of a constructive nature, may find it unnecessary to make further calls upon subscribing banks for payments on subscriptions to the corporation's gold notes. To date three calls have been issued for 30% of the total subscriptions which aggregated \$450,000,000.

"A most important development has been the organization of the larger and more extensive Reconstruction Finance Corporation, one of whose functions virtually duplicates the purpose for which the National Credit Corporation was organized. The operations of the latter, hence, may ultimately be assumed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Demands for loans from the Credit Corporation have been subsiding lately, and many financial institutions in need of assistance have turned to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

"Another factor lending support to the belief that the Credit Corporation will not seek additional capital is the liberalizing of the Federal Reserve Act, through the so-called Glass-Steagall Bill, which would permit the rediscounting of certain paper not now eligible by banks and trust companies, members of the Federal Reserve System. Heretofore, banks holding such assets and in need of assistance would be compelled to apply to the Credit Corporation.

"Although it was organized last October, the demands for loans from the National Credit Corporation cannot be considered excessive when the severity of the business depression is recognized. As of the close of January it was reported that the corporation had made 644 loans to 560 banks, the total loans and commitments amounting to \$144,000,000."

Railroad Credit Corporation.

Before proceeding to discuss the Reconstruction Finance Corporation your committee will digress to touch briefly upon another organization of nation-wide scope whose purpose also was to assist in tiding over the period of drastic credit difficulties. This organization was directed exclusively to the aid of weak railroads.

On October 20 1931, the Inter-State Commerce Commission, in refusing the application of the railroads for a 15% increase in freight rates offered a substitute plan for a specific increase on certain commodities. The plan called for the pooling of all revenues which may result from these specific increases and the distribution of that fund among the carriers failing to earn their interest charges, in proportion to their deficiencies. The increases were to be effective until March 31 1933, with their continuation after that date depending on the conditions existing at the time of the expiration.

Following out this plan, the Association of Railroad Executives notified the Inter-State Commerce Commission on December 14 1931, of the incorporation of the Railroad Credit Corporation to administer the loans made from the pool to aid financially depressed railroads. In the report of the Railroad Credit Corporation made to the Inter-State Commerce Commission August 2 1932, it stated that a total of \$28,388,464.82 in loans to railroads to meet their fixed interest charges had been made or authorized as of August 1.

Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

On January 22 1932, President Hoover signed the bill creating the Reconstruction Finance Corporation which would become a two billion dollar fiscal agency to "stop deflation in agriculture and industry." The original provision of the bill may be summarized as follows:

- (1) Capitalization to consist of 500 million dollars capital stock, to be subscribed by the Treasury, and one and a half billion dollars in debentures to be issued to the Treasury or to the general public.
 - (2) The corporation was formed for a period of ten years.
 - (3) The corporation is authorized to aid "in financing agriculture, commerce and industry, including facilitating the exportation of agricultural and other products."
- In order to aid the railroads the corporation was empowered to make loans at any time prior to the expiration of one year from the date of enactment; and the President may from time to time postpone such date of expiration for such additional period or periods as he may deem necessary, not to exceed two years from the date of the bill's enactment. Within the above limitation the corporation, upon the approval of the Inter-State Commerce Commission, may make loans to aid in the temporary financing of railroads, to railways in process of construction and to receivers of railroads, when in the opinion of the Board of Directors of the corporation such railroads are unable to obtain funds upon reasonable terms through banking channels.
- (4) Obligations of the corporation are not eligible either as collateral for loans from the Federal Reserve Bank or for purchase by the reserve institution. They may, however, be purchased in unlimited amounts by the Federal Treasury, which, in turn, is empowered to raise funds for that purpose by the sale of its own obligations.
 - (5) Funds of the corporation are to be used as follows: not less than 50 million dollars or more than 200 million dollars is to be placed at the disposal of Secretary of

Agriculture to be loaned at his discretion to farmers in need of credit for their ordinary farm operations during 1932. Another sum, not to exceed 300 million dollars, may be allocated to the work of relieving depositors in failed banks. The remainder of the funds may be loaned to banks, building and loan associations, insurance companies, mortgage loan companies, credit unions, agricultural credit corporations, and to railroad companies. Loans to any one corporation and its subsidiary or affiliated organizations may not exceed at any one time 100 million dollars.

The Treasury on April 13 1932 completed subscription to the five hundred million dollars capital stock of the corporation. The Treasury purchased \$250,000,000 of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation's six-month, 3½% notes on April 27th. It was announced that on June 17th the Treasury subscribed for an additional \$250,000,000 of six-month 3½% notes.

In the latest complete report of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for the period from February 2 to June 30 1932, actual loans made totaled \$805,150,006, and loans repaid amounted to \$76,488,199, leaving outstanding on June 30, \$728,661,807. Loans were reported in more detail as follows:

	Authorized.	Advanced.
3,600 Bank and trust companies.....	\$642,789,313	\$497,387,936
418 Building and loan associations.....	52,484,923	42,117,079
63 Insurance companies.....	63,465,500	46,010,638
51 Mortgage loan companies.....	73,600,000	66,568,867
10 Live stock corporations.....	6,594,586	5,893,635
5 Joint Stock Land banks.....	1,270,000	864,216
3 Credit unions.....	405,000	367,727
8 Agricultural credit corporations.....	322,440	286,365
38 Railroads.....	213,883,724	145,653,540

The loans to banks and trust companies, as given in the above table, include \$27,398,350 to aid reorganization or liquidation of 316 closed banks. The above table also includes authorized loans which were subsequently canceled or withdrawn, aggregating \$10,222,004.

At the end of June the corporation had cash on hand amounting to \$50,817,434 and \$85,000,000 of the resources had been allocated to the Secretary of Agriculture. Reports showed a total of \$850,000,000 of outstanding capital, being \$500,000,000 of capital stock and \$350,000,000 of the 3½% six-month notes. As stated above, there are authorized a total of \$500,000,000 in notes, only 70% of which had been subscribed to by the Treasury up to June 30, the balance to be subscribed as required.

In mid July Congress passed the so-called Unemployment Relief Bill providing \$1,800,000,000 for loans to States, municipalities, and public agencies for relief work and self-liquidating projects. The administration of this bill was added to the other functions of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Of the newly authorized capital under the Unemployment Relief Bill, \$300,000,000 is to be lent to States for immediate urgent relief on security or without security.

Respectfully submitted,

Trends of the Business Subcommittee,

- Albert P. Everts, *Chairman*,
- Kenneth J. Hanau,
- Devereux C. Josephs,
- Henry B. Lake,
- Louis J. Nicolaus.

Report of Business Problems Committee by Chairman, Robert E. Christie Jr.—Investment Banking Viewed on Threshold of Healthy Revival.

Signs of returning confidence are seen by the Business Problems Committee of the Investment Bankers' Association of America, which in its report submitted at the annual meeting of the Association at White Sulphur Springs on Oct. 25 said that "without undue optimism it can be stated that investment banking is on the threshold of a healthy revival, and that opportunities will be presented in the not far distant future equal to those of 1919, or immediately after the world war." As presented by Robert E. Christie Jr. (or Dillon, Read & Co.) Chairman of the Committee, the report follows:

We recommend the careful reading of the report submitted by the Trends of the Business Sub-committee of which Albert P. Everts is Chairman. Unfortunately, time will permit the presentation to the Convention of only a summary of the report. It covers the field so thoroughly, and involved so much labor, however, that this fine piece of work deserves to be read and kept as a matter of record.

The Distribution Sub-committee has no formal report to present at this time.

It suggests, however, that three matters be brought to the attention of the membership:

1. In the opinion of the Committee a responsibility lies upon houses of issue to keep their syndicate participants informed of defaults, suspensions, receiverships, reorganizations and other developments vitally affecting the security issues which they have originated.
2. In some States the Security Commissions have recently held that the extension of outstanding securities is subject to the same "Blue-Sky" requirements as those in effect for new issues.
3. The Committee believes that the members of the Association are giving much thought to the elimination of unprofitable business. In many localities dealer-banks and dealers, acting independently or by groups, are making fair charges for services rendered in connection with unprofitable security transactions. The Committee believes that it would be of real interest to the membership to have the local groups submit to the Secretary information which would show how this problem is being met locally by both dealer banks and dealers, and that such information could be advantageously published in the "Bulletin."

Paul Loughridge, Chairman of the Salesmen's Compensation Sub-committee, states that his Committee completed its study of its subject last year and has continued its existence this year merely in a consultative capacity for the benefit of inquiring members of the Association. The Committee, therefore, has nothing to report at this time. It is, however, suggested that it be continued on the report that something might develop.

It seems that investment banking now-a-days is one great big problem and that the greater part of the energy of the men engaged in it is used up trying to see around the corner. The fundamental problems are when are we going to get enough securities to sell and when will investors buy them if there is a supply. We believe the time is not far distant when the fortitude displayed by the members of this Association through the dark days will be rewarded.

New Conditions in Investment Banking.

The darkest hour of the most colossal financial disturbance in history seems past and those investment bankers who have survived the ordeal

peer anxiously into the future questioning: Can the 10,000,000 investors in this country be restored to confidence? Will there be an adequate supply of new investments in the coming years?

Without undue optimism it can be stated that investment banking is on the threshold of a healthy revival and that opportunities will be presented in the not far distant future equal to those of 1919, or immediately after the World War. How we recognize and treat with these opportunities, in the light of the experience of the past, will determine the soundness of our building for the future.

The investment banker has gained, not lost, influence in recent years. The Government, States and cities have been compelled to turn to him for assistance and advice as never before. Municipalities, trying to make two and two equal five, finally, when their credit was strained, bowed to the counsel of bankers who refused aid until promises were made to eliminate waste and extravagance.

Signs of Returning Confidence.

The security buying public was shocked by the unfavorable publicity attending important individual financial disasters where evidence submitted seemed to show callous indifference to public welfare. Happily there is discernible a gradual change in sentiment and a better understanding of our problems. Investors to-day scrutinize through a microscope every issue offered, as they should, but in a saner, more sympathetic frame of mind.

If the investment banker refuses capital during periods of expansion he is accused of retarding progress and if he furnishes it too freely he is charged with aiding inflation. Investors are beginning to realize that bankers suffered along with them and that it is impossible to fix the blame for the financial cyclone of the last four years, an undreamed of unforeseen upheaval. As one man put it: "If you bought a house for \$20,000 and sold it in bad times for \$10,000, or were even unable to sell it at all, you wouldn't blame the man who sold it to you."

Investment banking will march on to greater achievement because it is an essential part of the industrial life of the country. While there is money there must be investment bankers. Unfortunately for their peace of mind they deal in a commodity governed by the cost of money. Industry must have a source of capital and the present investment banking machinery is the best and easiest means of bringing borrower and lender together with no lost motion. Attempts by corporations to deal directly with investors mostly have failed. Capital, like all commodities and services, has to be merchandised, and the surest way to the capital market is through the carefully prepared lists of investment banking houses. Business is dependent on them and without their aid progress would stop.

Defaults Comparatively Small.

The crash has been bad but as far as good investment securities are concerned it could have been a great deal worse. According to the New York Stock Exchange Bulletin for October there were listed as of Oct. 1 1,578 bonds of all classes with a par value of \$51,780,423,888 and a market value of \$40,132,203,281, and an average price of \$77.50. Of that total only 190 bonds are in default.

Business in securities is far below normal but signs of expansion are now apparent. Recent new issues have been properly priced, carefully sold and profitably and have maintained their price level.

There should be no shortage of new capital issues in the next five years. More than two billion dollars of railroad bonds and notes alone will mature before 1940. The railroads may not earn fixed charges this year, and they barely earned them last year, but there is hope that the committee of able men appointed to study the railroad problem will discover means of restoring the carriers to their rightful credit status. With the railroads earning fixed charges investors undoubtedly would buy their securities.

Business has been paralyzed by fear but as the revival grows large amounts of money must be spent in plant rehabilitation. Industry to-day is overbuilt, it is true, but during the period of business stagnation plants have rapidly deteriorated.

Opportunity for Small Dealers.

It is not likely that industry will be in a hurry to turn again to financing through the sale of stock which was a natural development during the Bull market period. They are more likely to return to the old fashioned method of borrowing on commercial paper. In 1920 commercial paper outstanding amounted to more than one billion dollars. It dwindled to a few hundred millions annually in later years. That business, now in the hands of a few firms, is promising.

Corporations in the future probably will rely more and more heavily on the advice of bankers in their new financing, and the smaller dealer will again take his place in the distribution of securities.

Money in tremendous amounts is awaiting the return of confidence to find its way into investment channels. The abundance of funds is illustrated by the low call money rate of 1%. Corporations that have survived the debacle are in splendid financial condition and as money is piling up in the banks, it is only a question of time when the accumulation of surplus capital will force an outlet into the securities market.

One mistake we make is in believing that what has occurred in this generation never happened before. True this disaster has been greater, because of the widespread interest in securities, but looking back over the earlier panics in the United States one finds very similar conditions existing then as now.

Improvement from the Inside.

The business was still young when suddenly called upon to shoulder the responsibility of selling billions of dollars of new securities created by rapid expansion of industry in the post war boom and the golden opportunities presented were somewhat dazzling. Investment banking now should be a thoroughly evolved profession and the men in it rich in experience. Recognizing the mistakes of the past there should be far fewer mistakes in the future.

One of the greatest errors has been unbridled competition. At the door of competitive bidding can be laid many of the troubles in recent years. There were 26 bidders for one foreign loan. Is it any wonder that borrowers were encouraged to shop around? It is in the interest of investment banking to encourage executives of corporations to be satisfied with the advice and assistance of their regular bankers. A great deal can be said for the old fashioned policy among houses of respecting territories. Capital too easily obtained encourages mushroom growth and over-production in industry and often brings misery to investors.

It has required great faith for the investment banker to carry on under critical conditions but circumstances are rooted in thought and he has had to rise above them. Emerson said "events expand with character" and the investment business will expand according to the development of the men in it.

Robert E. Christie Jr., Chairman
Trowbridge Callaway
Henry T. Ferriss
John D. Harrison

Paul Loughridge
Rollin A. Wilbur
C. T. Williams
Lewis B. Williams

Report of Committee on Investment Companies by L. B. Williams, Chairman.

In the report of the Committee on Investment Companies of the Investment Bankers' Association it is stated that "while the American investment companies have met the difficulties of these last few years at an early point in their history, there is much evidence of their capacity to adapt to conditions and to acquire a new and sounder place in the American capital structure." "Regulative legislature, . . . by evolutionary experience is capable of profound and salutary effect" says the report, "especially when it is moulded and restrained by the wise and far reaching practices of the New York Stock Exchange in the development of its control of the management investment trusts, which it admits to list, and the fixed type trusts in which it permits its membership to deal." The report was presented as follows by the Chairman of the Committee, Lewis B. Williams, of Hayden, Miller & Co.

I. Effect of the Year's Events Upon Investment Companies Field.

The deterioration of the world's economy in 1931-32, and the consequent impairment of the morale of capital have been devastating upon the individual and corporate investor alike. None of man's devices for the gathering and investing of his savings have proven immune to man's fear that his deavings were inadequate and futile.

Because of the comparatively short history of co-operative investing in this country and the truly American haste of its development when once it had started, the investment trust movement within a very few years has experienced the whole gamut of popular attitude, marked at one limit by buoyant hope and unjustified price premiums, at the other by despair and unreasoning discounts. Lately, as a consequence, we have seen a substantial number of securities of investment companies selling at levels which in varying degree represented less than the "break-up" values of portfolios.

In spite of the attitude reflected in this condition few American investment companies have failed, and nearly all of the management trusts with debentures have continued to meet the service required thereon. Many weak situations have been saved by consolidation with stronger units, and there has been conspicuous growth of a few companies as a result of acquisition of smaller companies through exchange of securities, often at bases below market value. Whatever one may think of the quality of management in this field, comparatively few of the companies have ever traded in the market on short-term borrowed capital. Therefore we have been spared the tragedy that has so often followed from fixed dollar debt and shrinking security values in relation thereto.

II. Improved Position of Investment Companies.

While the American investment companies have met the difficulties of these last years at an early point in their history, there is much evidence of their capacity to adapt to conditions and to acquire a new and sounder place in the American capital market structure. This is indicated by the growth in experience of management and the substitution of trained for untrained supervision of policy through mergers of small and weak into larger and stronger groups. Regulative legislation, blind and intolerant though it often seems, by evolutionary experience is capable of profound and salutary effect, especially when it is moulded and restrained by the wise and far-reaching practices of the New York Stock Exchange in the development of its control of the management investment trusts which it admits to List and the fixed type trusts in which it permits its membership to deal. Beyond these factors appears the consequent growth in more precise public knowledge of the methods of co-operative investing, of the relative capacity of management, and of the true capital-function of such vehicles in a nation's economic growth. Even though comparatively few investment companies of the two great primary types have directly submitted their conduct to the regulations of the Stock Exchange, the reasonably exacting methods of that body have, for obvious competitive reasons, exercised a profound and far-reaching influence upon many companies whose shares are neither listed, nor in which Stock Exchange membership is directly concerned. All of which reinforces the oft-repeated dictum that the pattern of conduct is finally determined by enlightened self-interest rather than by police powers. It is upon the former of these restraints that the Investment Bankers' Association has broadly sought to rest its influence upon the conduct of its members.

III. Improvement of Standards.

The predecessor reports of this committee have dealt adequately with the sound requirements of clearer accountability and fuller public reporting for investment companies. It is a pleasure to note the great progress made in respect to these phases of management. The practice of revealing in great detail the balance sheet and income accounts, the clear designation of profits and losses, their precise source and the accounting disposition thereof, as well as the reporting of portfolio holdings under certification have enabled the investing public to understand and therefore to trust the policies of investment company management. In the matter of conservative accounting methods it would appear that the American practices are slowly approaching the British methods, built up over years of varied experience. This is a hopeful sign. Particularly is it desirable that we develop among our American companies the practice of excluding from the income account, any cash losses or profits, and putting such items through special reserve or surplus accounts, thereby keeping in mind the difference between true and adventitious income. There is one further development of public knowledge that is highly to be desired in this field and that is a clearer understanding of the fundamental distinction between true investment companies and the great host of holding, finance, and control corporations. Many of these do appear to be investment companies, but the public investment mind must be cleared of all misunderstanding of the purposes of these latter groups when comparing their meaning and purpose with companies that are truly co-operative investment ventures. Newspaper headlines often confuse a true understanding through treating all these types as though they were of one genus.

IV. Parallels of British and American Investment Trust Experience.

The American experience with investment companies in 1928 to 1932 broadly recalls the British experience from 1887 to 1896. The latter episode brought to light abuses and led to corrections that can only rise from a widespread and intelligent investor understanding of the fundamental character of purpose of a new market type of investment vehicles.

As the British learned from the earlier episode so shall we from the more recent one. While British companies in this field have suffered acutely in the decline of the asset value (and in a degree never before by them experienced), the earning power of their companies has not suffered as badly as has ours. This is attributed to the fact that the majority of British trusts have debentures outstanding in their capital structure and in recognition of this liability carry in their portfolios a large amount of bonds and fixed income obligations. In spite of severe shrinkage in market value of these fixed-income holdings the portfolio earning power has not suffered to any like extent. In brief, foreign trust experience has been similar to ours as to shrinkage in asset value, but more favorable in respect to stabilized earning power.

The adversity of these years through which we have been living will serve the American investment companies well if their managers glean from experience such policies as the British gained from 1887 to 1896. The British learned from those years to conserve profits and regard them as apart from income; to make interest and dividends available only for expenses and ordinary dividends; to pay only cash dividends on common shares, and regularly to invest part of the savings thereon; to avoid purely trading operations; and to recognize the value of bonds and preferred stocks in any well balanced investment portfolio.

V. Significance of New York Stock Exchange Regulation.

No one familiar with investment banking or sensitive to its responsibilities can have contact with the management of the New York Stock Exchange without a feeling of deep admiration for the care and understanding with which that body has developed its policies toward the investment company problem. Discussions with officials and examiners of the New York Stock Exchange reveal far better than can printed regulation or official requirement the enlightened sense of inquiring responsibility which the Stock Exchange represents. It is safe to say that the code of regulation which it is building has done more than all other regulation to bring within conservative limits not only the formal accounting and reporting practices of the investment companies, but to emphasize the responsibility and gravity of the trust which the conduct of such corporations imposes on officer and director alike. The soundness of New York Stock Exchange regulation is emphasized by the statement of one of its officers that for every investment company whose shares were listed, there were ten who complied with the Stock Exchange requirements to list. It is not fear which produces this result, but respect for the soundness of the regulatory requirement. It will continue to be the duty of this committee to follow by consultation and otherwise the development of Stock Exchange procedure and to assist that body in every rational way to fulfill its splendid program in respect to investment companies.

Respectfully submitted,

L. B. Williams, Chairman.
Robert E. Christie, Jr., Marshall Forrest,
Robert C. Common, Colis Mitchum,
Charles D. Dickey, Lester Watson,
Herman Duhme, Don C. Wheaton,

Report of Committee on Industrial Securities by Chairman John W. Cutler—Increase in Refunding Financing.

The increase in refunding financing of corporate securities was referred to in the report of the Industrial Securities Committee of the Investment Bankers' Association of America submitted to the annual convention of the latter at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., on Oct. 26. The report points out that "the total of securities issued for refunding purposes, as opposed to those sold to obtain new capital had for some years through 1930 established a consistent downward trend on both an absolute and relative basis." Indicating the opposite trend since 1927, the report says that "refunding issues accounted for 26% of aggregate corporate offering in 1927, 22% in 1928, 14% in 1929, 10% in 1930, but 32% in 1931." The report of the Industrial Securities Committee, headed by John W. Cutler as Chairman (of Edward B. Smith & Co.), follows:

I.

The very low level of industrial financing undertaken during the year 1931 is in itself impressive testimony to the difficulties imposed upon the seekers of new capital. Statistics prepared by the "Commercial & Financial Chronicle" show total new corporate financing of \$2,589,000,000 compared to \$5,473,000,000 in 1930, \$10,026,000,000 in 1929, and \$7,818,000,000 in 1928. Figures for industrial financing alone, as compiled by Standard Statistics Co., reveal an aggregate of some \$350,000,000 for the year or only 23.3% of the 1930 total of \$1,501,000,000. The greater contraction in offerings of industrial concerns than in those of the corporate group as a whole does not necessarily prove that financing conditions were less favorable to the industrials than to other types of corporations, since it may well reflect healthier factors—superior ability to curtail operations, less need for expansion of facilities during an unfavorable period, and a stronger average working capital position.

II—Increase in Refunding Financing.

In view of the greatly reduced volume of corporate capital flotation recorded during the past 12 months, it is interesting that the period witnessed a sharp upturn in one major subdivision of the new offerings. The total of securities issued for refunding purposes, as opposed to those sold to obtain new capital, had for some years through 1930 established a consistent downward trend on both an absolute and relative basis. In 1927 refunding corporate issues amounted to \$1,928,000,000, declining to \$1,738,000,000 in 1928, to \$1,387,000,000 in 1929 and to \$528,876,000 in 1930. In 1931, however, the figure rose to \$825,517,000. In terms of percentages to the year's total corporate financing, the curve takes a similar direction. Refunding issues accounted for 26% of aggregate corporate offerings in 1927, 22% in 1928, 14% in 1929, 10% in 1930, but 32% in 1931.

A partial explanation of the reversal of the trend last year may be that unusually heavy maturities happened to fall due, but it does not seem reasonable that pure coincidence was entirely responsible. A more likely conclusion in this respect is that corporations found it necessary to refund an extraordinarily large proportion of their maturities rather than to meet them in part or in full out of current funds as they might have done in a more prosperous era. Many concerns doubtless found themselves unable to pay capital obligations without recourse to the new issue market, and others, more plentifully supplied with available liquid assets, were fain to conserve their resources.

Another important contributing explanation probably lies in the necessity of transferring short term bank loans to longer term securities. The precise extent of refunding operations of this type is not readily ascertainable, but that it was substantial is indicated by the use of such phrases as "To reduce bank loans" and "To retire current indebtedness" in connection with the flotation of some issues. In addition to instances where the specific purpose was mentioned, there were certain other offerings of which at least a part of the proceeds were known to have been applied to the reduction of floating debt. It therefore does not seem illogical that the very conditions which discouraged the seeking of new capital should have worked toward measurably increasing the volume of funds obtained to refinance existing obligations.

Comparative Distribution of Industrial Financing in 1931, 1930 and 1929.

	1931		1930		1929	
	Amount.	% of Total	Amount.	% of Total	Amount.	% of Total
Mtge. & secured bonds.	\$ 131,512,000	38.3	\$ 213,190,000	18.3	\$ 261,535,000	8.4
Non-convertible debentures	39,510,000	11.5	328,456,000	28.2	219,048,000	7.1
Convertible bonds	130,802,000	38.1	162,656,000	14.0	299,458,000	9.7
Preferred stocks	26,797,000	7.8	73,394,000	6.3	257,577,000	8.3
Convertible preferred stocks	2,256,000	0.7	66,987,000	5.8	224,926,000	7.2
Common stocks	12,409,000	3.6	318,605,000	27.4	1,838,600,000	59.3
Total	343,280,000	100.0	1,163,288,000	100.0	3,101,144,000	100.0

The above tabulation is approximate and has been compiled from the detailed monthly figures published in the "Commercial & Financial Chronicle."

III—Preferred Stocks—Small Issues.

In our opinion there is a feeling, shared by many members of our committee, that preferred stocks of relatively small industrial companies have no proper position in public financing.

One of our members picked Boston as a test city and made a study of all preferred stocks publicly offered in the period 1925 to 1929 inclusive. He eliminated preferred stocks of all well known companies which had a national market and eliminated preferred stocks of companies which had bonds ahead of the preferred stock. This left 20 stocks.

About half of these stocks were incorporated in Massachusetts, thereby making their income exempt from Massachusetts tax of 6%. The other half were incorporated in various States. The companies were engaged in miscellaneous business but included no railroads or public utilities.

Out of the 20 stocks only four are not now paying their dividends. All these four were in various branches of the textile industry. None of these four had any sinking fund at all. If approximately \$100 had been invested in each of these 20 stocks at the time of issue there would have been a total investment of \$2,033. At current market to-day this investment is worth \$1,225. Based on the original purchase price, the income return is about 6½%. After taking into account the four dividends which have been passed, the present income is about 5%.

This study appears to lead to the conclusion that an investment of this type cannot be considered more unsatisfactory than a similar investment made in securities of other classes giving a similar high return at the time purchased.

Of the 20 companies examined, 10 had a sinking fund based on a percentage of earnings, one had a sinking fund based on the amount of stock outstanding, one had a sinking fund based on both earnings and the amount of stock outstanding, and eight had no sinking fund provisions. Fourteen had provisions restricting the payment of dividends on junior securities, 13 had provisions for the maintenance of net quick assets, 16 had conversion privileges and 16 have paid dividends regularly to date.

In financing of this sort, we believe unusual care should be taken in making a thorough examination, not only into the financial condition of the company and its probable future, but into the ability and integrity of the management. Preferred stocks of this character we believe should always have a sinking fund based on a percentage of net earnings sufficient to retire them entirely within 15 to 25 years; they should always have a provision restricting the payment of dividends on junior securities; a provision for the maintenance of net quick assets; and a reasonable conversion privilege, so that the purchaser can share in the prosperity of the company in consideration for the risk and probable lack of ready marketability.

IV—Decapitalization or Share Deflation.

In the hysteria of high prices culminating in the autumn of 1929 it was extremely popular to split up stocks either by increasing the number of shares or giving stock dividends, the effect being the same in both cases.

With the enormous decline which has subsequently taken place the obvious effect has been for certain securities to sell at very low prices compared to prices prior to, say, 1923, although present prices on an adjusted basis are considerably higher in many cases.

Some of the same reasons which caused the split-up, such as, popular demand, greater marketability and better collateral value are now being advanced to put stocks together again. Whatever may be said for the wisdom of such a move, it seems to us that it is already commenced and will undoubtedly go further.

The principal reason advanced against such a "put-together" is the opinion of many people that it will tend to further depress such stocks, as a stock that is selling at 4, for example, can only go down 4 points but if 5 shares of old stock are given for one share of new stock and the new stock sells for 20, then there is the opportunity that the new stock conceivably can decline to nothing.

This committee has no recommendation to make along these lines but wishes to call attention to it as one of the interesting points of the present financial era.

V—Study and Improvement of Industrial Accounting.

This seems an opportune time for the investment banker to take a part in the movement to improve the method of accounting by corporate enterprises. This committee has made some study during the past year in conferences with representatives of the American Institute of Accountants and expects to continue its studies in the hope that it may offer next year some concrete suggestions and advice.

It seems obvious that certain general principles should be observed in the preparation of balance sheets and income statements. Some of these general principles might embrace the following:

1. Balance sheets should set forth in clear and readily understandable terms the component items thereof with the purpose of presenting as nearly accurate a picture, as is possible, of the undertaking at a given date.
2. The changes in financial condition since the last reporting date should be clearly indicated in a statement or statements covering operations, surplus and reserves which would include all adjustments whether or not considered applicable to the current period. The statement covering operations should be in sufficient detail to disclose at least the most important factors. Statements of surplus and reserves should indicate clearly the nature of additions and deductions.

The appropriate statements should invite attention to any change in policy as to valuation of assets, provision for depreciation or other contingencies.

In addition to these general principles there are a number of other problems upon which there may not be at the present time any united opinion as to their treatment in the balance sheet and income statement. It is the intention of this committee to take advantage of the assistance which has been offered by the American Institute of Accountants to study these questions and attempt to arrive at some conclusions which would seem to us to offer an improvement in the method of accounting and reporting to the public. Some of the matters which this committee has planned to study may be briefly commented upon as follows:

Treasury Stock and Bonds.—How should this item be carried in the balance sheet and what disposition should be made of dividends upon the company's own stock owned but not retired.

Plant Revaluation.—To study the trend in reduction of plant valuation and its effect on the income statements as a result of the reduced charge for depreciation. How should the earnings of a corporation be computed where the entire plant and the property accounts had been written off.

Reserves.—What treatment shall be accorded the various classes of reserves in considering the earnings per share upon the stock of a given enterprise. Shall it be required that full disclosure be made with reference to the character of these reserves and the charges made against them with their possible effect on the income of the corporation for that year if no such cushion had been provided against which to absorb extraordinary charges.

Consolidated Statements.—The inclusion of foreign property accounts in the balance sheets of domestic corporations presents some difficult problems in exchange as a result of the dislocation of foreign currencies. There are other problems in connection with the preparation of consolidated statements which should receive consideration. For instance, the basis for consolidation is important and the reason for the exclusion of certain subsidiaries may be significant.

Stock Dividends.—While the treatment of stock dividends may not occupy as prominent a position in the future as it has in the past, nevertheless it is a very controversial subject and one on which there should be some consensus of opinion. Much has been written upon the subject but no generally accepted principle has been laid down for the guidance of business in the preparation of statements.

In addition to meetings with members of the Institute of Accountants, this committee has met with representatives of the New York Stock Exchange in connection with this general problem. We further understand that the Institute hopes to be able to make tangible suggestions to the Stock Exchange, of such practical nature that they might eventually become requirements in the listing of securities.

Also, we ourselves have talked with the Stock Exchange on this subject, and it is our opinion that by the co-operation of the New York Stock Exchange, the Institute of Accountants and the Investment Bankers' Association, progress could be made and real accomplishment attained in this very vital matter. To this end we offer the suggestion that a committee be formed for the coming year to include a representative from each of these three associations.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Cutler, <i>Chairman</i> ,	William F. Gabriel,
J. Augustus Barnard,	Allan C. House,
Rufus R. Clabaugh,	James J. Minot, Jr.,
Emmet F. Connelly,	George F. Spaulding,
F. Dewey Everett,	Samuel Wagner, Jr.

Report of Public Service Securities Committee by Chairman George E. Roosevelt—Secrecy as to Inter-Company Relations Viewed As Fundamental Weakness.

Alluding to a weakness, not confined to public service securities, which has become prominent during the depression, the report of the Public Service Securities Committee of the Investment Bankers' Association of America went on to say that reference was had to the secrecy sometimes present in holding companies. It would seem that "as a result of the past year's experience in the employment of holding companies," said the report, "the corporate form should be as simple as possible and that frequent and detailed statement of everything affecting the earnings and financial conditions of all the companies involved should be given to the public so that security holders may not be deceived by complicated inter-company transactions or inter-company contracts." The report as laid before the Convention at White Sulphur Springs on Oct. 26 by the Chairman of the Committee, George E. Roosevelt, of Roosevelt & Son, New York, follows:

The year just past has been so exceptional that it is impossible to compare it with previous years. The rapid and drastic changes in economic conditions make it seem futile to discuss on any comparative basis valuations, earnings and rates charged for services rendered. These problems all require a certain degree of stability and a definite trend if they are to be profitably discussed. Until fundamentals are settled, other subjects should not be allowed to intrude and at present such absolute fundamentals as honesty in management and soundness of money are so unsettled that they are topics of major interest. Of course, as soon as some degree of stability is restored, other subjects will again become matters of prime importance in their effect on public service securities. In particular, the question of the basis of valuation will probably soon be raised in political circles, but for the present this does not seem to be a major menace. It is pleasant to think, however, that in spite of the bad times the holders of securities of Public Service operating companies have on the whole fared better than the holders of securities of any other type.

At a time when basic and fundamental conditions are rapidly changing it seems desirable, if possible, to point out a fundamental weakness that has been brought into prominence and to indicate the course to be followed in order to eliminate this weakness. There is one such weakness, not confined exclusively to public service securities by any means, but which is largely present in the public utility field, that has become very prominent during this period of depression. I refer, of course, to the secrecy sometimes present in holding companies. Capitalizations utilizing holding companies have been at times employed in the public utility field and the opportunity for questionable practices, if not absolute fraud, has been emphasized

during difficult economic conditions. It is unnecessary to give examples. Everyone with the least familiarity with this subject can supply plenty of examples from their own knowledge. It would seem, however, that as a result of the past year's experience in the employment of holding companies, the corporate form should be as simple as possible and that frequent and detailed statements of everything affecting the earnings and financial condition of all the companies involved should be given to the public so that security holders may not be deceived by complicated inter-company transactions or inter-company contracts and may have the fullest possible information on which to estimate the value of their securities. Reputable firms should refuse to deal in the securities of companies that do not give such information and should not recommend them to their customers. Finally, the pertinent information should be contained in circulars and advertisements in such form that actual conditions are simply and clearly represented.

PUBLIC SERVICE SECURITIES COMMITTEE,
George E. Roosevelt, Chairman, Carroll E. Gray, Jr.,
Clarence H. Clark, Bayard F. Pope,
Reginald G. Coombe, J. F. Schoellkopf, Jr.
Murray W. Dodge, Burnett Walker,
Francis E. Frothingham, Pearson Winslow.

Report of Oil and Natural Gas Securities Committee by Chairman Donald O'Melveny—Oil Industry Able to Regulate Production More Nearly to Market Demand—Earnings of 28 Oil Companies as Reported by New York Federal Reserve Bank.

In the report of the Oil and Natural Gas Committee of the Investment Bankers' Association of America it was stated that while the degree of curtailment which has been effected in the oil industry "is not sufficient to guarantee an absence of overproduction, sufficient experimentation with conservation laws has been conducted, and sufficient support of existing laws has been given by court decisions, that the industry has been able to regulate production more nearly to market demand." The report likewise says that "in Texas the defeat of the present Governor at the primaries by forces opposed to curtailment may result in excess production in that State which may again demoralize the entire crude market." However, the report notes "this cannot happen until Jan. 1 1933, and in the meantime the Texas courts have upheld the proration laws." The report also refers to the situation in California and Oklahoma, and states that in spite of the difficulties in the several States "the oil companies have shown a definite improvement since early spring in reducing and eliminating losses." We give the report herewith as submitted to the annual convention of the Association on Oct. 24 by the Chairman of the Committee, Donald O'Melveny of the Union Co. of Los Angeles:

Recent Developments in the Petroleum Industry.

During the period of extreme disorganization in the oil industry it was freely stated that if the producing branch of the industry was placed in order, the ills of the industry would be cured. During the past two years the producers have been putting their house in order, but the refiners and marketers have not kept pace with the improvements in controlling production, and are accordingly beset with many difficulties at the present time. While the degree of curtailment which has been effected is not sufficient to guarantee an absence of overproduction, sufficient experimentation with conservation laws has been conducted, and sufficient support of existing laws has been given by court decisions, that the industry has been able to regulate production more nearly to market demand. While the machinery of proration is faulty and contains many loopholes, still it is working. The results so far accomplished indicate what can be done, and there is little likelihood that the leading producing States will again allow their natural resources to be wasted.

In Texas the defeat of the present Governor at the primaries by forces opposed to curtailment may result in excess production in that State which may again demoralize the entire crude market. However, this cannot happen until Jan. 1 1933, and in the meantime, the Texas courts have upheld the proration laws under which present curtailment has been applied, and the large purchasers are holding their receipts to the proration program, and even refused to increase their purchases in the east Texas field when the allowable was increased during the first two weeks of September.

In California, the failure of several fields to co-operate fully in the voluntary proration which has greatly improved conditions in that State, has again threatened to disrupt orderly production. An advance in prices which took effect on June 26, was contingent upon a curtailment of production to the allowable set by the oil umpire, and to date the increased price is still in effect. The natural gas conservation law of California is still in effect, and has helped in the curtailment of oil production in some fields. Gas wastage in California is now the lowest since 1920, and is only 7.3% as compared with 51% in October 1929.

In Oklahoma in the latter part of September the Governor again extended military supervision into the entire Oklahoma City field, and threatened prosecution of two companies for asserted overproduction. Earlier in the year the United States Supreme Court upheld the drastic proration laws of Oklahoma thus enabling the Governor to continue his fight for lower production and higher prices.

In spite of these difficulties, the oil companies have shown a definite improvement since early spring in reducing and eliminating losses. National production is now around 2,160,000 barrels a day, and crude oil stocks are considerably under those of the first of the year. It is generally thought that a still further curtailment of crude production is necessary, but the producers feel that they should receive the co-operation of the other branches of the industry in their efforts toward stabilization.

While improvements have been taking place in the producing branch of the industry, a decidedly opposite trend has obtained among the refiners, with the result that refining is now the most unhealthy branch of the industry. While crude production has been decreased, runs to stills have not been sufficiently curtailed, and as a result, gasoline stocks are above those of last year and this in the face of declining consumption. This situation was produced largely by the failure to curtail runs to stills during

June and July in accord with the usual seasonal decline in consumption. By the middle of September, however, normal withdrawals were again being made from gasoline stocks.

Many of the troubles of the refiners are caused by changing methods of refining, as well as by the excess production. The increased production of cracked gasoline is not only raising serious problems in the natural gasoline market, but is also disturbing the balance of straight run production. Much of the decrease in heavy crude stocks is caused by the increased cracking of heavy crudes, and straight-run refiners and the producers are becoming apprehensive of the increased cracking activities in all important refineries. The action of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey in opening the rights to its hydrogenation process to all refiners will tend to further disturb the ratios between natural, straight-run and cracked gasolines at such time as the price of crude oil makes it economically feasible for refiners to make the large investments necessary to utilize this new and highly efficient though more expensive process.

The change in the amounts of the different kinds of gasoline used during the first six months of 1932 and during the same period of 1931 are given below

	First Half 1932.	First Half 1931.
Straight-run.....	51%	51%
Cracked.....	43%	40%
Natural gasoline.....	6%	9%

This table clearly shows how the cracked gasoline has replaced the natural gasoline, and indicates also that continued improvement and use of this method may further curtail the amount of straight-run gasoline. However, cracking and hydrogenation processes are expensive, and their profitable utilization depends upon satisfactory prices for the finished products. Lubricating oil made by the hydrogenation process has recently been placed on the market.

Not only has there been a curtailment in the production of crude oil, but there has also been a decided decrease in wild-cat operations and new drilling, and this decrease in drilling, coupled with the fact that no new prolific fields have been discovered recently, is a stabilizing factor in the industry.

A recent development which may have much to do with the future of one of the leading companies of the industry, is the rumored proposal by the Cuban Government to grant the Standard Oil of New Jersey a 40-year monopoly on the island in exchange for the immediate payment of the Republic's entire debt, estimated at \$200,000,000. This proposal was announced on Sept. 21, after the introduction in the Cuban Senate of a bill which would grant the monopoly for the sale of petroleum products to an un-named firm, after the presentation of competitive bids. The Consolidated Oil Corp. and the Shell Union have also been mentioned in connection with the Cuban monopoly, but denials have been made by both the companies and officials of the Government that any actual negotiations are under way.

Progress of Control Measures—Petroleum.

The recent developments concerning the control measures of the petroleum industry have been chiefly the support to existing measures brought about by favorable court approval. The most important decision affecting the industry was the upholding of the Oklahoma Oil Conservation Act by the United States Supreme Court on May 16 1932. Of great importance also was the three-judge Federal Court decision in Texas, which on Aug. 2 1932, upheld the Texas regulatory statute, and denied an application for an injunction against the Railroad Commission and other State officials, sought by operators chiefly from the East Texas field. These two important decisions, each of which upheld conservation laws based on market demand as well as conservation, are regarded as important legal blows to operators who are opposed to State regulation. Another three-judge Federal Court in Texas is now hearing a similar case to that reported above in which the East Texas operators are again seeking a Federal injunction against the enforcement of proration in East Texas.

The cause of oil conservation has not fared as well at the polls as it has in the courts. Although the defeat of the Sharkey Bill in California has not resulted in unrestricted production, the efforts at curtailment are meeting increased resistance from the independents. In Texas, the recent defeat of the Governor in the primaries by interests opposed to State regulation of production indicates possible trouble to the industry from that State after the first of the year.

Of vital interest to the oil interest, also, is the anti-trust suit brought by Attorney-General Mitchell in the Federal Court at Lynchburg, W. Va., to enjoin the carrying out of the move of the generally bankrupt coal operators to save their industry from ruin through excessive competition and over-production. The suit was directed against the Appalachian Coals, Inc., an organization promoted by the National Coal Association which was to act as exclusive sales agent for 136 coal operating companies, which are its stockholders. Of special interest to the oil industry is the fact that the government alleges conspiracy and restraint of trade through the cessation of independent and competitive action among the parties to the agreement, and through control and regulation of supply, distribution and prices.

The Oil States Advisory Committee has planned a meeting during October for the purpose of developing the inter-State compact, or federation of oil producing States, and the regulatory commissions of Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas has been invited to attend. While approval for such a compact has not been secured from Congress, bills have already been introduced, and the committee will bring them up again in the coming session. Once Congressional approval is secured, it is anticipated that the various State legislatures will approve such a movement.

Mergers—Petroleum.

The only important merger actually consummated since the last report, has been the acquisition of the Rio Grande Oil Co. by the Consolidated Oil Corp. As of Sept. 24 1932, the Consolidated Oil Corp. exchanged one share of its capital stock for each two and one-half shares of Rio Grande, as approved by the stockholders in ratifying the sale of the company to Consolidated, and the listing of the Rio Grande stock was discontinued by the New York Stock Exchange on Sept. 23.

Although the officials of the Standard Oil of California and the Standard Oil of New Jersey state that the proposed merger of those companies is still in negotiation, there are no definite indications at this time that it will ever be consummated at an early date. The Standard Oil of California, however, has shown much interest in the Richfield Oil Co. of California, and has indulged in competitive bidding against the Consolidated Oil Corp. for the assets of that company. However, since the final approval of the negotiations by which the Consolidated Oil secured the Rio Grande Oil Co., the Richfield negotiations have not been pushed by either company.

The Barnsdale Corp. has acquired the remaining half interest in the Mona-Motor Oil Co. of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and now owns all the stock of that company. It has also purchased all the stock of the Minnesota Oil & Refining Co. of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

The refining and pipe line properties of the Standard Oil of Kansas have been offered to the Standard Oil of Indiana at a reputed cash price of \$3,430,000, and the approval of the stockholders is to be sought on Sept. 26. All

of the properties of the Kansas company are included in the deal, except the producing units, and these are to be taken over by a new Standard Oil of Kansas on a share for share basis of \$10.00 per value stock.

Recent reports indicate that stockholders of the Midwest Refining Co., which is a subsidiary of the Standard Oil of Indiana, will be asked to approve the dissolution of that company and the sale of the assets to the Standard of Indiana and its principal producing subsidiary, the Stanolin Oil & Gas Co. Practically no change will result from the transfer of ownership, and the move is being made for reasons of economy.

Taxation and Tariffs—Petroleum.

The revenue bill which was passed by Congress in June, levied heavy taxes upon the petroleum industry. A tax of four cents a gallon was imposed on the sale of lubricating oils, a tax of one cent a gallon was placed on the sale of gasoline, and a tax of 4% was levied upon the amount paid for the transportation of petroleum and petroleum products by pipe line. Where no charge, or only a partial charge, is made by reason of ownership or otherwise, then a tax equivalent to 4% of a fair charge for such transportation is imposed.

In addition to these taxes, a tariff of half a cent per gallon was imposed on crude petroleum and all petroleum products except lubricating oils and motor fuels. On gasoline and other motor fuels was placed an import duty of 2.5 cents a gallon, and on lubricating oils, a duty of four cents a gallon. Paraffine and petroleum wax products were given a duty of one cent per pound.

Just what effect these taxes and import duties will have upon the industry cannot be determined as yet. Excess shipments to domestic dealers and excess imports from foreign fields were made during the month of June so as to avoid the new tax and tariff payments, and sufficient time has not elapsed for data to have appeared giving the trend of shipments in the industry after these surplus stocks have been absorbed. The fact that there is also definite decline in the domestic market caused by other influences makes it difficult to determine the exact effect of the tax measures.

The National Petroleum Association, at its annual meeting in Atlantic City during September, placed itself on record as against the imposing of excise taxes on a few specific articles, which include the petroleum products mentioned above, and favored a manufacturer's tax on all articles.

It is also reported that a concerted fight will be made in Congress at the coming session, on the part of New England interests to secure a repeal of the import duties on petroleum products. At the same time it is expected that the coal and oil interests will counter with a demand that the import duty on crude, fuel and gas oils be raised to one cent per gallon.

It is felt by the industry that the trend in State taxation is definitely downward, and that a uniform tax of about two cents a gallon will ultimately result. The defeat of an increase in Maine is an indication of a change in the mind of the public, and in Colorado and Oklahoma there are proposals to reduce the four cent gasoline tax to three and two cents, respectively. In New York, Nebraska, Kansas and Iowa there is definite agitation for a two cent level, and in Tennessee the motorists are demanding that that proportion of the seven-cent tax which is not allocated to the highways be removed. Many cities have tried to impose gasoline taxes, but have been forced to abandon their plans, and the State of Pennsylvania also encountered too much opposition to put into effect a proposed increase in that State. These indications point to an ultimate lessening of the heavy burden of taxation which now rests upon the industry.

Outlook—Petroleum.

The outlook for the petroleum industry continues to improve in spite of those disturbing elements which still remain. The petroleum industry is the only industry in the country which has maintained sales at a point near the previous high level, and it should be among the first to lead the way out of the depression.

In the producing branch of the industry the most disturbing element is the potential lessening of the restrictions which have been maintained in Texas and which have made possible the posting of profitable prices in the Mid-Continent field. The continued violation of proration rulings in the Oklahoma City field also beclouds the situation, and the lack of co-operation in several fields in California also constitutes a potential threat to the entire industry.

In spite of these difficulties, the production of crude oil in the United States has been sufficiently controlled to allow a reduction in total stocks in spite of a 6.5% decrease in the consumption of crude during the first half year.

In the refining branch, curtailment has not been as successful and as a result on Sept. 17th the gasoline stocks at the refineries were over 4,000,000 barrels greater than on the corresponding date last year. Although the indicated domestic consumption of motor fuels during 1931, was 2% greater than during 1930, the first six months of 1932, in comparison with the same period of last year show a decrease of 5% in motor fuel consumption and it is estimated that the consumption for the entire year 1932 will be 10% to 12% below that of 1931. In spite of this decrease in consumption, and in face of a usual seasonal decline in July, the refineries increased their runs with a resulting increase in stocks, and although withdrawals from stocks have again begun, the excess over last year is as reported above.

Considerable trouble continues to exist in the sales branch of the industry. Not only is the retail market bothered with cut-rate prices in third grade domestic gasoline, but in certain sections foreign gasoline is being offered at prices much below that of domestic brands. Special rebates have also been offered for quantity consumers, and indications point to a general reduction in retail prices the latter part of September.

In addition, the major oil companies and the American Petroleum Institute have been ordered to show cause why they should not be restrained from using the National Code of Ethics governing the distribution and sale of gasoline and oil in the State of New Jersey.

The foreign situation, which has had much to do with the demoralization within the industry during the past few years, is beginning to show signs of orderly readjustment. World proration of distribution was first discussed at a meeting in New York during June, at which Russian representatives could not agree upon the terms proposed by the other conferees. A later meeting in Paris, which was not attended by the Russians, but at which Roumania was represented, reached an accord under which the various companies were to respect present export proportions of the principal countries, and increase the price of petroleum throughout the world. It has been impossible to secure Soviet participation in this agreement, as the conditions demanded by the Soviets for their participation were not acceptable to the other nations. While the American, British and Dutch groups are united against the Russians, the Roumanians are demanding that the Russians must be in on any plan to regulate export markets.

Since the failure to reach an agreement with the Soviets, that country has expanded its foreign markets into many countries where the American, English and Dutch companies have important interests. Consumers in France have signed a six year contract for Soviet crude oil and gasoline, and it is reported that the Japanese have reached an agreement with the Soviets for the exportation of Russian oil to Japan, thus making the latter country independent of United States oil supplies. Considerable Russian

oil has also been sold in Canada, and in spite of the pressure brought to bear by Canadian oil interests, the government has given no indication of adding crude oil to the Russian products embargoed from Canada. The Aluminum Co. of Canada has recently agreed to exchange Canadian aluminum products for Russian crude which will be refined in a Montreal refinery.

The progress of world proration of crude oil production, refinery output, and export markets will have an important effect upon the future of the national oil situation. However, it is the opinion of international authorities that this subject is "charged with dynamite," and it has been stated by a former Assistant United States Attorney General that the recent International Oil Conference in New York was perilously close to being in violation of Federal law. Nor was the American oil industry united in the support of the conference, as the officials of the Independent Petroleum Association of America declared that the whole proceedings were aimed at world monopoly and the exploitation of the independent American producers who were not represented at the meeting.

Also of importance in judging the outlook of the oil industry are the current discussions concerning the rights of landowners, and the title to oil and gas in the ground. Opinion is growing that there should be some changes to facilitate, or even to compel unit operation. On the other hand there is a strong movement among landowners and royalty holders, especially in California and the Mid-Continent district, to organize the fight for what they believe are their rights, and the success of the California interests in defeating the Sharkey Bill at the polls indicates the need of a concerted effort on the part of the industry of a more thorough study of the trend of public opinion.

In conclusion, there are certain factors, which may be considered as having a retarding influence upon the industry at this time, and which must be correctly adjusted in order to produce a strictly favorable outlook at this time.

One current factor is the continuing decrease in gasoline consumption, which, of course, may be corrected with the revival of general business. The fact that in 1931, trucks and busses, although comprising only 13.5% of all vehicles, paid 25.5% of all fuel taxation in the United States, shows the importance to the industry of general industrial recovery.

Prior to 1932 there had been a continuous increase in the domestic consumption of motor fuels. However, the successive months of the current year show increasing declines in consumption, and it is stated that current consumption is 12% below last year. The first six months showed a decline of 5% from the corresponding period of 1931, and some authorities estimate that the yearly decline will be from 10% to 12%. Consequently, of great importance to the stability of the industry is a rigid control of refining production. Refineries have been slow in adjusting their output, and it is imperative that gasoline stocks be reduced in line with the current consumption. The winter season is the one with the smallest demand for petroleum products, and the success with which the industry weathers the next few months will indicate to a large degree the immediate outlook for the industry.

Although a large degree of curtailment in the production of crude oil has been accomplished, still further curtailment is necessary, notwithstanding the fact that production is the only branch of the industry in which any considerable degree of regulation has been in effect.

Finally, the question of taxation is still a disturbing factor, although the results in Maine may indicate a change in the trend. The Federal tax on gasoline and lubricating oils increase the burden, and unquestionably these high taxes encourage tax evasion by dishonest dealers, and also decrease consumption on the part of the public. At the present time, the average tax on gasoline is higher than the wholesale price at the refineries and if the taxes increase, it will become more and more difficult to pass them on to the consuming public.

Earnings—Petroleum.

Reports of earnings of the leading oil companies during the first half of the year indicate marked improvement over 1931. Much of this has been caused by the increasing prices of crudes and refined products this year, as contrasted with the declining prices which were characteristic last year. With but little weakness in the retail markets, and that chiefly in third grade gasoline, the third quarter of the year should also see moderate improvement within the industry, as compared with last year. What the fourth quarter will disclose is problematical, as inventories of refined products are high, and the decreased demand during the winter months may lead to price weakness. Already announcements have been made of fourth quarter reductions in gasoline prices, and rumors of a corresponding cut in crude prices are also heard. However, it is expected that the full year returns should be considerably better than those for 1931. Especially is this likely because of the drastic cuts in inventory valuations which were taken during last year.

According to a study of first and second quarter earnings of 28 oil companies, made by the New York Federal Reserve Bank, the oil industry was the only one of 25 industrial groups to show greater earnings in the first half of this year than in the same period last year. Earnings of the oil group during both first and second quarters were better than in 1931. The oil group reported net profits nearly two-thirds as large as last year's deficit for the first six months, but all other groups reported reduced earnings, and 12 groups showed actual deficits. The results of this study for the oil industry are as follows:

	Second Quarter	First Six Months
Number of companies reporting	24	28
Net profits 1930	\$39,700,000	\$69,900,000
Net profits 1931	def. 24,200,000	def. 33,200,000
Net profits 1932	17,900,000	21,200,000

In the following table are given the earnings figures as shown by the reports for the first half of 1932, which have been released by the oil companies for which records have been shown in our previous reports. Although three of the companies show reported deficits for the first half, nevertheless all showed substantial improvement over last year, except one, and it reported but little estimated change.

Income and Earnings—Leading Petroleum Companies First Six Months of 1931 and 1932.

	Net Income First 6 Mos.		Earnings per Sh. 1st 6 Mos.	
	1932.	1931.	1932.	1931.
Atlantic Refining Co.	\$3,184,824	\$4,012,963	\$1.19	\$1.49
Consolidated Oil Corp.	a1,236,050		{0.05 com. 19.53 pref.	
Mid-Continent Petroleum Co.	d731,894	d2,901,821	d0.39	d1.56
Phillips Petroleum Co.	d812,492	d2,674,153	d0.20	d0.62
Shell Union Oil Co.	bd2,935,427	d20,959,507	{d0.31 com. d7.34 pref.	{d1.69 com. d52.40 pref.
Standard Oil of California	6,916,543	5,643,697	0.53	0.43
Standard Oil of New Jersey	No six mon ths' report			
Texas Corp.	No six mon ths' report			
Union Oil of California	c1,500,000	c1,900,000	c0.34	c0.43

a Five months. b Before taking credit of \$4,422,323 realized by cancellation of debentures purchased for cash. c Estimated. d Deficit.

The decrease in the value of 15 representative oil stocks from the 1929 high to the recent lows was about 80%, but since the first of this year there have been less urgent liquidations and less price weakness in oils than in any other division of the stock market. At present oil stocks are quoted at moderate levels in respect to prospective earnings or normal potentialities. Price advances in the oils have been supported by increased earnings, although the industry still has a long way to go before an adequate level of profits will be possible. The average income from the present price schedule is only moderate.

The recovery of oil stocks since the lows of June has resulted in a price appreciation of about 64%, which is less than the average recovery of all stocks, and with the exception of the telephone utilities is the smallest recovery of any important industrial group. The following table, based on weekly index prices of representative stocks in the various industrial and utility groups as reported by the Standard Statistics Co., Inc., shows the range of prices in all stocks, and in various groups, from the highs of 1929, through the recent lows to the closing prices on Aug. 31 1932, and also shows the per cent decrease from the high to the low, and the per cent increase in each group from the low to the average weekly price for the week ending Aug. 31 1932.

The index numbers of the stock prices are based on the average of 1926=100, and the table reveals that the oil stocks had shown a smaller increase from 1926 to 1929 than any group except the railroads. Also, with the exception of two utility groups, oil stocks showed a smaller decline from the highs of 1929 than the other groups. While oils declined 80.5%, the average decrease of all industrials was 85.4%, and the decreases in five of the groups exceeded 90%.

Fluctuations in Stock Prices of Representative Industries from the High of 1929 to Aug. 31 1932.

No. of Representative Stocks.	Index of Prices (1926=100).		% Decr. 'se. Week End. High of '29 to Low of Aug. 31 1932.	% Increase Low '32 to Aug. 31 1932.		
	High 1929.	Low 1932.				
Automobiles & trucks	13	247.2	23.8	47.4	90.4	99.2
Mining & smelting	10	347.2	28.6	67.7	91.8	136.7
Oil produc'g & refining	15	174.9	34.1	55.9	80.5	63.9
Steel & iron	11	235.2	20.1	45.1	91.5	124.4
Utilities (holding)	16	468.1	36.9	91.6	92.1	148.2
Utilities (operating)	7	338.4	69.6	118.8	79.4	70.7
Utilities (tel. & teleg.)	5	230.5	56.0	86.8	75.7	55.0
All stocks	421	228.1	32.5	58.2	85.8	79.1
All industrials	351	218.5	31.9	55.5	85.4	74.0
Railroads	33	169.4	13.0	34.7	92.3	166.9
All utilities	34	330.4	53.1	92.7	83.9	74.6

Source: Standard Statistics Co.

To forecast continued recovery in the oil industry at this time would be extremely hazardous because of the speculative problem inherent in the trade. While the future demand for the products of the industry is reasonably assured, nevertheless earnings and profits depend not only upon the prospects of an absence of new prolific sources of the crude supply, but also upon the degree to which the industry can succeed in curtailing its output of crude oil and refined products. Both of these are susceptible to drastic and rapid change.

Developments in the Natural Gas Industry.

Because of the large amount of construction of pipe lines for transporting natural gas to distant markets which was completed during 1930 and 1931, the developments in this field during the present year have been chiefly in the extension of local services. In the last report reference was made to several contemplated extensions of the large pipe lines, but these are still in various stages of negotiation.

While there continues to be a decrease in the development of new gas supplies in the petroleum areas, due to the decrease in petroleum exploration, active exploration of gas properties continues in the New York-Pennsylvania areas, in Michigan, Kentucky and in the Northwest. Negotiations are being made by Michigan interests to furnish gas from wells in that State to the city of Detroit. While some authorities claim that the local reserves are not sufficient to provide an adequate factor of safety for the supply of so large a city, nevertheless several corporations are seeking permission of the Michigan Public Utilities Commission to build three pipeline systems to serve the Detroit, the Flint and the western Michigan areas.

Natural gas from the Kentucky fields is now being delivered to southern Illinois communities and additional Iowa and Minnesota communities have recently received new natural gas service from the Panhandle fields. During August major construction operations were being carried on in Mississippi, Minnesota, Iowa, New York and California. In New York work was progressing on the last link of the line from the Tioga fields to Ithaca and to Syracuse, and in California the line to San Diego was completed. New natural gas franchises are being sought in large and small cities in many cities of the nation.

Development in the liquefied gas industry has extended the services of those gases more extensively into industrial uses, and has provided a more adequate application to standby service in gas and industrial plants.

Another development which is gaining prominence is the manufacture of "dry ice" or "dry frost" from carbon dioxide. While there has been a limited development of "dry ice" since 1925, this refrigerant has gained considerable prominence in the last few years. In 1925 only 170 tons were used, and by 1929 the total used per year had increased to only 22,000 tons. However, in 1931 about 200,000 tons were used commercially, and it is estimated that the 1932 requirements will be 500,000 tons, and that by 1939 the annual use will exceed 1,800,000 tons.

Dry ice is made from carbon dioxide obtained from two sources (1) oil and gas wells and (2) gases of combustion, usually of natural gas. Commercial manufacture of dry ice from the inert gases from some oil and gas wells has been carried on in Colorado and Utah, and recently shipments have been carried to New York from plants utilizing the gases from the oil wells at Tampico, Mexico. Exploration of the gas areas around the Salton Sea in California is now being carried on with the hope of developing a sufficient supply of carbon dioxide gas to supply the large refrigeration requirements for the vegetable shipments from the Imperial Valley. Recent developments also include methods of using the carbon dioxide in the flue gases from utility plants as the source for dry ice, and organizations to develop this system have been announced in California and Oklahoma.

Mergers—Natural Gas.

No mergers of importance have been recently consummated in the natural gas field.

Of interest is the withdrawal of the Standard Oil of California from the gas distribution field through the announced sale of its interest in the butane plants of the Pacific Public Service Co. to the Pacific Gas & Electric Co. The Standard Oil Co. will continue to furnish the liquefied gases for these plants.

Taxation and Legislation—Natural Gas.

The court decisions which have been referred to in the section under petroleum have also improved conditions in the natural gas industry, and no further reference need be made here. However, many laws and rulings have been made which affect the gas industry alone. In this category is the ruling of the Texas Railroad Commission, in early September, which

attempts to shut in a portion of the Panhandle field. This is said to affect only about 4% of the area.

In Alabama the Legislature is considering a general sales tax, and also a bill to tax the sale of natural gas at two cents per thousand cubic feet. Illinois legislation sent to the Governor on Oct. 13 provides appropriations from gasoline tax for poor relief.

Although the Kansas Public Service Commission recently reduced the fair price to be paid to the Cities Service Gas Co. by its distributing subsidiaries, and ordered a corresponding reduction in domestic rates to be effective Sept. 1.

In Texas, Oklahoma, California and other States many investigations are being conducted for the purpose of determining the feasibility of reducing the gas rates in certain localities in those States. Similar investigations are being made into the rates of electric service, telephone and other utilities.

Respectfully submitted,
OIL AND NATURAL GAS SECURITIES COMMITTEE.
Donald O'Melveny, *Chairman*,
E. J. Costigan, Laurence H. Parkhurst,
John Nickerson, William E. Stanwood,
Roland L. O'Brian, Eli T. Watson.

Report of Special Committee on Aviation Securities by Chairman Dietrich Schmitz—250,000 People Estimated as Owning Aviation Securities.

In discussing the future of the aviation industry, the report of the Aviation Securities Committee of the Investment Bankers' Association of America states that "it has been officially estimated that there are 250,000 people owning stock of aviation enterprises." "In addition", says the report, "there is a tremendous indirect financial interest on the industry." "Aviation," it adds, "is an accepted and necessary part of both our every day commercial life and our Governmental military activities." It is further stated that "its more important units are probably better off now, in the broadest sense, than at any time since the 1929 boom began." The report points out that "the industry naturally is still largely dependent on Governmental support," and in conclusion says "certainly an industry such as aviation . . . which has already been made to fit into an indispensable place in the co-ordinated scheme of transportation serving the business, political and social structure of the Nation, and whose manufacturing resources are imperatively needed for the Nation's defense, is entitled to every consideration from Federal, State and local Governments."

The following is the report in full, of the Aviation Securities Committee, the Chairman of which is Dietrich Schmitz, of the Pacific National Committee, Seattle.

At the spring meeting of the Board of Governors of the Investment Bankers' Association of America, held in May 1931, there was authorized the appointment of a special committee to review the aviation industry and make a study of the securities based upon that industry. The appointment of such a committee to cover this particular subject was undoubtedly based on the thought that it was desirable for the Association to have as a permanent part of its records a detailed statement of the securities, based on an industry which, in the period of a few years, gripped the imagination of investors and speculators such as few new activities of mankind have done in the financial history of this country.

Successful aviation is not at all a recent development, but may be said to date back to the successful flights of the Wright brothers in 1903. For the next 10 to 11 years there was a gradual development in the mechanics of flying, in which the general public took no particular interest. With the beginning of the World War in 1914 aviation, through its military performance, for the first time became an activity to which the general public gave increasing recognition. After the war there came for the first time the development of commercial aviation, both in Europe and, at first to a lesser degree, here in the United States. Manufacture of planes and equipment, formerly limited almost entirely to military production for government use, gradually stepped up after 1920 because of governmental activities in the transportation of mail and increased public interest. In 1925 the Federal Government had completed the transfer of the air mail routes then established to private operators. Even up to this time the public at large, however, took no particular interest in aviation, and, as a general statement, there were practically no securities of aviation companies in which the investing public had an interest. It required the successful flight of Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh in May 1927 to crystallize public attention on a new industry which, when the public was willing to take note, had ample to offer in actual accomplishment and future possibilities for investors and in psychological public appeal and speculative opportunities for promoters.

The net result of this combination of circumstances led to one of the greatest booms ever witnessed by an industry in this country. From a virtually unknown class of security, as far as the major stock exchanges were concerned, at the beginning of 1927, we find that at their peak prices in 1929, there were listed securities of aviation companies on the New York Stock Exchange and New York Curb Exchange alone, aggregating, in quoted values, the sum of \$920,000,000. This figure includes only securities of companies who were directly and only interested in aviation activities.

Needless to say, many new companies were formed and securities floated during this era which turned out unfortunately for their purchasers, but it should at least be said to the credit of the industry that in practically every case any and all new securities were in the form of common stocks, were not sold on any investment basis and ordinarily were openly labeled as speculative.

The Industry.

The 1931 report of this committee, submitted before the convention of the Association in October 1931, included a most complete compilation of the history of the aviation industry, as pertains to its public record in the security markets. Your committee of this year did not feel it necessary to cover the field of the various individual companies or their activities, but felt it should limit this report to the general phases of the industry.

The aviation industry, as represented by the securities known to the investing public, is ordinarily considered under two main headings. First,

the production and manufacture of planes and motors; and, secondly, their operation through private and commercial activities and through the operations of the highly organized transport operators.

Under production and manufacture of planes and equipment it is well to consider the two principal uses of new ships—namely, the demand for military purposes and that of strictly commercial use. Plane and engine production for the first seven months of 1932, as compared with a like period of 1931 and 1930, is given by figures released by the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce as follows:

First Seven Months.	1930.		1931.		1932.		Per Ct. Value 1932 Compared 1930.	Per Ct. Value 1932 Compared 1931.
	Units	Value.	Units	Value.	Units	Value.		
Commerc'l airpl.	1,358	\$ 7,960,584	1,158	\$ 4,534,875	369	\$ 1,529,231	-80.8	-65.3
Commerc'l eng.	1,397	4,664,224	1,570	2,980,046	417	1,152,929	-75.3	-61.3
Total commerc'l		12,624,808		7,514,921		2,682,160	-78.8	-64.3
Military airplane	355	4,550,281	532	7,958,567	364	6,047,105	+32.6	-24.2
Military engine	983	5,842,498	1,116	6,372,555	757	4,474,197	-23.4	-29.8
Total military		10,401,779		14,331,122		10,521,302	+0.1	-26.6
Grand total		23,026,587		21,846,043		13,203,462	-42.7	-39.6

It will be noted from the above that total values of all production for the first seven months of 1932, as compared with 1930 and 1931, indicate a reduction from both years of approximately 40%. Naturally, since the boom days of the industry many manufacturing units have entirely withdrawn from the picture, and it is undoubtedly very nearly correct to say that the remaining plants, which are geared up and prepared to execute military work in this country, are all needed if our Army and Navy construction programs are continued as had been previously anticipated. The principal plants operating on commercial work are in most cases tied in directly with major transport operations. The 1929 delusion of manufacturing planes like automobiles for inventory has, of course, long since been eliminated, but it has taken until 1932 in some cases to completely eradicate the curse of inventories.

Transportation.

During a year of unprecedented depression the figures of the air transport companies, both considering the actual comparative figures for the seven months of the year and the estimate for the calendar year, show totals whose increases are probably not equaled by any other major American industry. With the single exception of air mail poundage, which shows a loss produced largely because of the increase in air mail rates, every item of air transport operation during the first seven months of 1932 continued far in excess of previous years. Comparative figures follow:

	First Seven Months 1930.	First Seven Months 1931.	First Seven Months 1932.	P. C. Increase 1932 Over	
				1930.	1931.
Miles scheduled	16,277,875	24,137,732	30,478,545	+87.0	+26.2
Miles flown	14,782,891	22,455,878	28,009,666	+89.5	+24.7
Air mail (pounds)	4,770,870	5,325,188	4,816,501	+1.0	-9.6
Passengers	237,094	231,925	277,677	+17.0	+19.7
Passenger miles flown	58,390,152	60,170,604	72,703,659	+24.5	+20.8
Air express (pounds)	161,734	464,590	783,249	+384	+68.5

Particularly interesting in the above figures we feel is the continued increase in passenger traffic and also the large increase in express poundage over two years ago. As regards passenger traffic, there can be no further arguments, we believe, that the air transport companies are now a thoroughly accepted unit of the American transportation system, in which system they will continue to play an increasingly important part. More frequent service, rates in most cases directly comparable to railroad transportation, increased mechanical safeguards and larger and more comfortable planes have all added their share to the ever-increasing popularity of air transportation with the traveling public.

As a matter of record, we wish to give herewith full year statistics of air transport operations:

	Air Mail (Lbs.)	Air Express (Lbs.)	Passengers.
1927	1,222,843	12,945	12,594
1928	3,632,059	35,376	52,934
1929	7,772,014	197,558	165,263
1930	8,513,675	286,798	385,910
1931	9,315,195	885,164	457,753
1932	a6,900,000	b1,300,000	b500,000

	Miles Flown.	Passenger Miles.
1927	5,242,839	-----
1928	10,472,024	-----
1929	20,242,891	-----
1930	28,833,967	94,545,784
1931	43,395,478	116,232,153
1932	b50,000,000	b130,000,000

	Miles of Route.	Planes in Service.	Operators.
1927	9,122	144	24
1928	16,667	294	32
1929	36,321	619	27
1930	49,549	685	35
1931	50,398	720	41
1932	b48,775	b650	42

Note.—All figures include Domestic, American and Foreign American operators. a Rise in rates of postage responsible for part of decline. b Estimated on basis of figures for first seven months of 1932.

	Mileage of Lighted Airways.	U. S. Airports in Operation (All Classes)	U. S. Airports (Commercial and Municipal).
1926	2,041	-----	-----
1927	4,468	1,036	503
1928	6,988	1,364	733
1929	12,448	1,550	948
1930	15,258	1,782	1,114
1931	17,512	2,093	1,309
1932	*19,000	†2,052	†1,157

* Estimated. † August 15.

Aviation Securities.

There have been no particular changes in the securities of the major aviation companies for the past year. United Aircraft & Transport Corp., one of the few major companies which has any type of senior security outstanding, announced in July 1932 that the company had acquired and

canceled 25% of its outstanding preferred stock. No other important change in capital step for the past year has been noted.

Considering the amount of unrestrained speculation in aviation securities, formerly referred to in this report, it is interesting to note a comparison of market values of a group of aviation stocks with other groups, as follows:

Standard Statistics (Group Averages)	1929 High.	September 1932 Fourth Week.	Decline.	Approx. % Decline from 1929 High.
Airplane (12 stocks)-----	1260.2	202.8	-1057.4	83.6
Automobile (13 stocks)-----	294.4	55.2	-239.2	81.0
Building (13 stocks)-----	106.4	34.6	-71.8	66.5
Chemicals (11 stocks)-----	345.6	85.4	-260.2	75.6
Copper and brass (8 stocks)-----	344.1	45.1	-299.0	86.9
Cotton and cotton goods— (10 stocks)-----	124.9	52.3	-72.6	58.2
Electric equipment (4 stocks)-----	419.0	76.6	-342.4	81.9
Oils (16 stocks)-----	174.9	50.4	-124.5	71.2
Railroads (33 stocks)-----	173.5	35.1	-138.4	79.0
Steel (11 stocks)-----	255.0	45.0	-210.0	82.4
Sugar (8 stocks)-----	116.8	33.2	-83.6	75.0
Textiles (28 stocks)-----	144.3	37.6	-106.7	73.7

We believe it is particularly interesting to note that the decline in aviation securities of 83.6% from the 1929 high to the end of September 1932, compares with a decline in such major basic industries as 79% for the railroads and 82.4% for the steel industry.

Future of the Industry.

It has been officially estimated that there are 250,000 people owning stock of aviation enterprises. In addition, there is a tremendous indirect financial interest in the industry. Aviation is an accepted and necessary part of both our every day commercial life and our governmental military activities. Its more important units are probably better off now, in the broadest sense, than at any time since the 1929 boom began—better off because of reorganization, economy, efficiency, engineering advances and, more than all, disillusionment. The industry naturally is still largely dependent on governmental support, and such support, your committee feels, is entirely justified. We wish to point out that the service rendered by the industry is much broader than merely furnishing the fastest reliable transportation for mail and the manufacture of military planes. It is well to bear in mind the tremendous subsidies received by the railroads and other forms of transportation when they were in their infancy, and the Federal aid which is still extended up to the present time. Certainly an industry such as aviation, which is developing a personnel of thousands of skilled pilots, constantly improving and developing a new scheme of air transportation which has already been made to fit into an indispensable place in the co-ordinated scheme of transportation serving the business, political and social structure of the Nation, and whose manufacturing resources are imperatively needed for the Nation's defense, is entitled to every consideration from Federal, State and local Governments.

Respectfully submitted,

Dietrich Schmitz, Chairman.

Robert Lehman Joseph P. Ripley Frank L. Scheffey

Frank M. Gordon Elected President Investment Bankers' Association of America—Other Officers Elected—Remarks of Incoming President.

Frank M. Gordon, Vice-President of the First National Bank and of the First Union Trust & Savings Bank, both of Chicago, was elected President of the Investment Bankers' Association of America and inducted into office at the closing session of the Association's 21st annual convention at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. on Oct. 26. Mr. Gordon succeeds Col. Allan M. Pope of New York and is the nineteenth President of the Association. Following his introduction as the Association's new President Mr. Gordon said:

In expressing my appreciation of the honor you have conferred upon me, I must tell you in all seriousness that I question the wisdom of your nominating committee insofar as I am concerned. The balance of the ticket just elected has my hearty approval.

During what has undoubtedly been the most difficult and discouraging year we have ever experienced, Colonel Pope has shown leadership, wisdom and courage. We are all deeply indebted to him. Succeeding him will be difficult and I can assure you I realize it. I feel that in the coming year our problems will be many and serious. I shall, however, endeavor to maintain and stimulate the sound policies which have been laid down by this Association.

Without delaying the program, may I make certain observations which I have briefly noted.

The relationship of investment bankers to the American people who have supplied the capital requirements for public and private financing is closer in these days of adversity, than it has been at any time in the history of our Association. The difficulties that have beset our security markets growing out of the disjointed economic conditions that have prevailed during the past three years, have obscured the character of the vast amount of intrinsically sound securities which have been sold to the investing public. We nevertheless realize that the problem of the security holder cannot be properly and intelligently solved without the co-operation and influence of investment bankers.

Since the founding of our Association in 1912 each succeeding administration has added to the benefits that have accrued for the protection of investors, by adhering to sound investment principles and fostering an attitude of service to these investors—which not only included the method of distribution but the maintenance of a properly balanced judgment in the relationship of the borrower to the investor.

Each year has witnessed an advance in the safeguards which protect the issuance of securities and the fundamental changes which have become effective from time to time have been evolved out of the deliberations of our various committees, our officers and our board of governors, who have been constant in their efforts to establish sound principles upon which to conduct the business of investment banking.

Conditions having no precedent have arisen during the past two years that have seriously disturbed the feeling of security and confidence of the people. The deflation of security values has vividly brought to our attention the necessity of unremitting effort on our part to bring about the adoption of investment principles which, in the light of our recent experiences, will have a salutary effect on the welfare of investors. In this way we will retain the confidence and good-will of the public which is the dominant factor in our line of endeavor.

The following ticket was elected at the closing session on Oct. 26 of the annual convention of the Investment Bankers' Association of America, at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

Report of the Nominating Committee.

The Board of Governors submits to the Convention the regular ticket to be voted on at this time. This ticket is presented under the authority granted the Board of Governors by Article 6, Section 5 of the constitution. In accordance with the provisions thereof all members of the Association were advised of the regular ticket in the Aug. 31 issue of "Investment Banking." The ticket presented is:

For Executive Vice-President.—Alden H. Little, 33 South Clark Street, Chicago.

For Vice-Presidents.—George W. Bovenizer, (Kuhn, Loeb & Co.), New York; James H. Daggett (Marshall & Isley Bank) Milwaukee; Edward Hopkinson Jr. (Drexel & Co.) Philadelphia; Donald O'Melveny (Union Bank & Trust Co.) Los Angeles; C. T. Williams (C. T. Williams & Co., Inc.), Baltimore.

For Treasurer.—E. C. Wampler (Lawrence Stern & Co.), Chicago.

For Secretary.—C. Longford Felske, 33 South Clark Street, Chicago.

For Governors.—One year terms expiring in 1933: Theodore F. Smith, (Chase Harris Forbes Corp.), Pittsburgh (to fill the unexpired term, ending in 1933, of Donald O'Melveny, who has been nominated a Vice-President); George H. Nusloch (Hibernia Securities Co., Inc.), New Orleans (to succeed himself to fill an unexpired term ending in 1933); Otho C. Snider, (Prescott, Wright, Snider Co.), Kansas City, (to fill the unexpired term, ending in 1933, of George W. Bovenizer, who has been nominated a Vice-President); Harry B. Wagner, (First Securities Corp.), Grand Rapids, (to succeed himself to fill an unexpired term ending in 1933).

Two-year terms expiring in 1934: E. Gerald Hanson (Hanson Bros., Inc.), Montreal, (to succeed himself to fill an unexpired term ending in 1934); Claude G. Rives Jr. (Whitney Trust & Savings Bank), New Orleans, (to succeed himself to fill an unexpired term ending in 1934).

Three-year terms expiring in 1935: F. Seymour Barr, (Barr Brothers & Co., Inc.), New York; Pierpont V. Davis, (National City Co.), New York; William T. Bacon, (Bacon, Whipple & Co.), Chicago; Sydney P. Clark, (E. W. Clark & Co.), Philadelphia; Henry Hart, (First Detroit Co., Inc.), Detroit; Lewis B. Williams, (Hayden, Miller & Co.), Cleveland; John R. Longmire, (I. M. Simon & Co.), St. Louis; Albert P. Everts, (Paine, Webber & Co.), Boston; John C. Legg Jr., (Mackubin, Goodrich & Co.), Baltimore; George P. Hardgrove, (Ferris & Hardgrove), Seattle.

For President.—Frank M. Gordon, (First Union Trust & Savings Bank), Chicago.

Chairman 1932-1933 Standing Committees.

Chairman of 18 standing committees and three sub-committees for the ensuing year were announced as follows on Nov. 3 at Chicago by President Gordon:

Business Conduct.—Frank L. Scheffey, (Callaway, Fish & Co.), New York.

Business Problems.—Robert E. Christie Jr. (Dillon, Read & Co.), New York.

Commercial Credits.—J. Norrish Thorne (Goldman, Sachs & Co.), New York.

Education.—James H. Daggett, (Marshall & Isley Bank), Milwaukee.

Federal Taxation.—Edward Hopkinson Jr. (Drexel & Co.), Philadelphia.

Finance.—Robert A. Gardner (Mitchell, Hutchins & Co.), Chicago.

Foreign Securities.—Nevil Ford (First of Boston Corp), New York, Chairman; Ralph T. Crane, (Brown Brothers Harriman & Co.), New York, Vice-Chairman.

Government and Farm Loan Bonds.—F. Seymour Barr, (Barr Brothers & Co., Inc.) New York.

Group Chairmen's.—E. Cloud Wampler, (Lawrence Stern & Co.), Chicago.

Industrial Securities.—John W. Cutler, (Edward B. Smith & Co.), New York.

Investment Companies.—Louis B. Williams, (Hayden, Miller & Co.), Cleveland.

Legislation.—Francis M. Knight, (Continental Illinois Co.), Chicago.

Membership.—William T. Bacon, (Bacon, Whipple & Co.), Chicago.

Municipal Securities.—E. Fleetwood Dunstan, (Bankers Trust Co.), New York.

Oil and Natural Gas Securities.—Donald O'Melveny, (Union Bank & Trust Co.), Los Angeles.

Public Service Securities.—George E. Roosevelt, (Roosevelt & Son), New York.

Railroad Securities.—Earle Bailie, (J. & W. Seligman & Co.), New York.

State and Local Taxation.—Charles B. Engle, (International Co. of Denver), Denver.

Chairman 1932-1933 Sub-Committees.

Distribution.—F. Kenneth Stephenson, (Stone & Webster and Blodget, Inc.), New York.

Salesmen's Compensation.—Paul Loughridge, Bosworth, Chanute, Loughridge & Co.), Denver.

Trends of the Business.—Albert P. Everts, (Paine, Webber & Co.) Boston.

THE WEEK ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Except for a slight setback on Wednesday, the stock market has shown improvement this week and substantial gains have been recorded all along the line. Some profit taking cropped out from time to time, but this was quickly absorbed as the market gradually moved ahead. Railroad shares were in good demand at improving prices and specialties have attracted considerable speculative activity. There has also been an appreciable demand for alcohol stocks. Industrial shares, oil stocks and public utilities have made some progress upward, though the changes in these groups have generally been within a narrow range. Call money renewed at 1% on Monday and continued unchanged at that rate throughout the week.

Prices were strong and the undertone firm during the abbreviated session on Saturday, and while there were a number of substantial gains scattered through the list, the major part of the changes were within a narrow range.

Alcohol stocks displayed some activity and railroad shares were somewhat higher. Metal stocks and oil shares also were fairly steady, but the changes were small. Union Pacific was the strong stock of the railroad group and showed a gain of 1 1/8 points at the close. Other stocks showing advances at the close were American Smelting pref., 2 points to 47; American Tobacco, 2 1/2 points to 65; American Water Works 1st pref., 3 points to 53; Eastman Kodak pref., 3 1/4 points to 116; International Business Machines, 3 points to 93; New York Central, 1 point to 23; Norfolk & Western, 5 1/2 points to 101 1/2; Peoples Gas of Chicago, 4 points to 71; United States Industrial Alcohol, 2 1/4 points to 27 1/2; National Lead pref. A, 1 5/8 points to 102; Standard Oil of N. J., 1 1/8 points to 31, and Reynolds Tobacco B, 1 point to 30 1/8.

The stock market continued to move forward on Monday and leading stocks were bought in fairly large quantities. The advance was spread over a wide range of stocks, including numerous speculative favorites, particularly in the specialties group, the gains ranging from 1 to 5 or more points. Among the advances registered at the close were Air Reduction 3 3/4 points to 56 1/2, Allied Chemical & Dye 3 3/8 points to 75 7/8, American Can 2 1/8 points to 53 1/2, American & Foreign Power 7% pref. 2 points to 14, American Tel. & Tel. 3 points to 107, Anchor Corp. pref. 5 3/8 points to 69, Atchison 2 points to 42 1/4, Auburn Auto 2 points to 43, Bethlehem Steel pref. 2 5/8 points to 27 1/2, J. I. Case 2 1/2 points to 38 1/2, Consolidated Gas 2 1/8 points to 58 7/8, Corn Products 2 5/8 points to 53, Delaware & Hudson 2 1/2 points to 60, Detroit Edison 3 1/2 points to 80 1/2, du Pont 2 points to 36, Ingersoll-Rand 2 1/2 points to 28, Liggett & Myers 3 1/2 points to 57 1/2, Louisville & Nashville 2 points to 19 1/2, Norfolk & Western 3 1/2 points to 105, Peoples Gas 3 points to 74, Sun Oil pref. 3 points to 90 1/4, Union Pacific 3 7/8 points to 68 1/4, United States Steel 2 points to 37, Woolworth 2 points to 39 and International Business Machines 2 1/2 points to 95 1/2.

On Tuesday, the New York Stock Exchange, the Curb Market and commodity markets were closed because of the national election. The market opened strong on Wednesday, but with few exceptions, prices were generally lower at the close. Aviation Corporation and American Sugar and a few other stocks were strong throughout the session, but most of the market favorites were off on the day. The principal changes on the side of the decline were Air Reduction 1 1/2 points to 55, Allied Chemical & Dye 2 7/8 points to 73, Amer. Tel. & Tel. 3 5/8 points to 103 3/8, Atchison 2 1/4 points to 40, Auburn Auto 3 3/4 points to 39 1/8, Bethlehem Steel pref. 2 1/2 points to 35, J. I. Case 2 1/2 points to 36, Coca-Cola 3 1/2 points to 88, Delaware & Hudson 2 points to 58, International Business Machines 5 1/2 points to 90, National Distillers pref. 3 3/4 points to 28 3/4, New York Central 2 1/8 points to 21 3/4, Norfolk & Western 2 points to 103, Peoples Gas 2 points to 72, Timkin Roller Bearing 2 points to 13 1/2, Union Pacific 2 3/4 points to 65 1/2, United States Steel 2 points to 35, Western Union 2 points to 27 3/8, and Vulcan Detinning 2 1/8 points to 16 3/8.

Stocks moved briskly forward on Thursday and quickly recovered the losses of the preceding day. The advances ranged from 1 to 4 or more points and the improvement extended to all parts of the list. Specialties were again strong and led the upward swing. Railroad shares were also strong and moved forward under the guidance of New York Central and Union Pacific. The advances of the day included among others Air Reduction, 2 1/2 points to 57 1/2; Allied Chemical & Dye, 5 1/2 points to 78 1/2; American Can, 3 1/2 points to 55; American & Foreign Power, 2 1/8 points to 9 3/8; Amer. Tel. & Tel., 4 3/8 points to 107 3/4; American Tobacco B, 4 1/2 points to 70 1/2; Atchison, 4 points to 44; Auburn Auto, 4 1/4 points to 43 1/2; J. I. Case Co., 4 1/2 points to 40 1/2; Columbian Carbon, 3 1/2 points to 28 1/2; Consolidated Gas, 3 1/2 points to 59 3/4; Delaware & Hudson, 4 1/2 points to 62 1/2; Delaware Lackawanna & Western, 3 3/4 points to 29 3/4; Goodyear Tire & Rubber, 3 1/2 points to 18 1/4; Ingersoll-Rand, 3 3/4 points to 31 3/4; International Business Machines, 4 points to 94; Louisville & Nashville, 3 3/8 points to 22 1/2; New York Central, 3 3/4 points to 25 1/2; New York & Harlem, 3 points to 111; Peoples Gas, 2 points to 74; Union Pacific, 4 1/2 points to 70; United Aircraft, 3 7/8 points to 27 3/4; United States Steel, 3 points to 38; Western Union, 5 3/8 points to 33; Westinghouse, 2 3/4 points to 27 3/4, and Woolworth, 2 1/8 points to 39.

Stock prices continued to rise on Friday and advances ranging up to 3 or more points were registered at the close.

Trading was particularly heavy, the sales reaching 2,631,780 shares. The main strength of the market was in the industrial shares, Amer. Tel. & Tel. moving above 110 and United States Steel advancing close to 39. American Can was also in active demand at higher prices. The best gains of the day were Air Reduction 2 points to 59 1/2, Amer. Tel. & Tel. 4 1/2 points to 112 1/2, Auburn Auto 5 points to 49, Brooklyn Union Gas 4 7/8 points to 80 1/8, J. I. Case 3 1/2 points to 44, Homestake Mining 3 1/2 points to 147, Radio Corporation pref. 10 points to 28, Union Pacific 4 7/8 points to 74 1/8 and Western Union 2 3/8 points to 35 3/8. The final tone was strong with prices near the best of the day.

TRANSACTIONS AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE DAILY, WEEKLY AND YEARLY.

Week Ended Nov. 11 1932.	Stocks, Number of Shares.	Railroad and Miscell. Bonds.	State, Municipal & For'n Bonds.	United States Bonds.	Total Bond Sales.
Saturday	463,010	\$2,051,000	\$1,134,000	\$270,000	\$3,455,000
Monday	1,609,950	4,819,000	2,356,000	691,000	7,866,000
Tuesday			Holiday		
Wednesday	1,268,260	4,039,000	2,426,000	1,114,000	7,579,000
Thursday	1,566,910	3,980,000	1,960,000	864,000	6,804,000
Friday	2,631,780	6,293,000	2,049,000	630,000	8,972,000
Total	7,539,910	\$21,182,000	\$9,925,000	\$3,569,000	\$34,676,000

Sales at New York Stock Exchange.	Week Ended Nov. 11.		Jan. 1 to Nov. 11.	
	1932.	1931.	1932.	1931.
Stocks—No. of shares.	7,539,910	7,539,327	390,038,134	496,039,455
Bonds.				
Government bonds	\$3,569,000	\$10,948,000	\$522,624,350	\$206,128,400
State & foreign bonds	9,925,000	17,040,000	659,086,600	762,063,600
Railroad & misc. bonds	21,182,000	27,884,000	1,438,394,000	1,567,582,400
Total	\$34,676,000	\$55,872,000	\$2,620,104,950	\$2,535,774,400

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE EXCHANGES.

Week Ended Nov. 11 1932.	Boston.		Philadelphia.		Baltimore.	
	Shares.	Bond Sales.	Shares.	Bond Sales.	Shares.	Bond Sales.
Saturday	12,077	-----	8,054	\$1,000	506	-----
Monday	27,789	-----	21,533	2,000	1,222	\$1,000
Tuesday	ELECT	ION DAY	ELECT	ION DAY	ELECT	ION DAY
Wednesday	25,739	\$2,000	21,300	-----	1,177	-----
Thursday	23,510	5,000	20,749	\$3,200	1,889	14,000
Friday	HOLI	DAY	HOLI	DAY	1,502	-----
Total	89,115	\$7,000	71,636	\$6,200	6,296	\$15,000
Prev. wk. revised.	98,357	\$21,000	67,285	\$3,400	3,786	\$7,800

COURSE OF BANK CLEARINGS.

Bank clearings this week will again show a decrease as compared with a year ago. Preliminary figures compiled by us, based upon telegraphic advices from the chief cities of the country, indicate that for the week ended to-day (Saturday Nov. 12), bank exchanges for all the cities of the United States from which it is possible to obtain weekly returns will be 40.9% below those for the corresponding week last ye. r. Our preliminary total stands at \$3,389,179,208 against \$5,735,987,908 for the same week in 1931. At this center there is a loss for the five days ended Friday of 41.8%. Our comparative summary for the week follows:

Clearings—Returns by Telegraph. Week Ending Nov. 12.	1932.	1931.	Per Cent.
New York	\$1,721,431,728	\$2,958,306,911	-41.8
Chicago	96,975,470	222,557,913	-56.4
Philadelphia	*133,000,000	226,000,000	-41.2
Boston	120,000,000	210,000,000	-42.9
Kansas City	*40,000,000	61,191,072	-34.6
St. Louis	28,100,000	60,700,000	-53.7
San Francisco	43,487,000	80,915,000	-46.3
Los Angeles	No longer will report clearings		
Pittsburgh	37,201,142	78,277,040	-52.5
Detroit	25,975,162	62,367,602	-58.4
Cleveland	42,000,000	66,338,065	-36.7
Baltimore	28,610,143	47,655,754	-39.8
New Orleans	23,805,497	34,689,920	-31.2
Twelve cities, five days	\$2,340,586,142	\$4,108,799,277	-43.0
Other cities, five days	483,729,865	612,054,105	-21.0
Total all cities, five days	\$2,824,316,007	\$4,720,853,382	-40.2
All cities, one day	564,863,201	1,015,134,526	-44.4
Total all cities for week	\$3,389,179,208	\$5,735,987,908	-40.9

* Estimated.

Complete and exact details for the week covered by the foregoing will appear in our issue of next week. We cannot furnish them to-day, inasmuch as the week ends to-day (Saturday) and the Saturday figures will not be available until noon to-day. Accordingly, in the above the last day of the week has to be in all cases estimated.

In the elaborate detailed statement, however, which we present further below, we are able to give final and complete results for the week previous, the week ended Nov. 5. For that week there is a decrease of 24.0%, the aggregate of clearings for the whole country being \$4,652,180,302, against \$6,123,443,637 in the same week in 1931. Outside of this city there is a decrease of 27.2%, the bank clearings at this center recording a loss of 22.0%. We group the cities

THE CURB MARKET.

Moving in harmony with the swings of the big board, the curb market has shown improvement this week, though there was a brief setback on Wednesday when considerable profit taking appeared. Industrial shares have been in good demand. Some speculative attention also was attracted to the oil stocks and public utilities, though the net changes in these groups were within a narrow range. On Saturday the upturn was resumed by nearly every group and gains ranging up to 3 or more points were registered as the day progressed. Public utilities attracted considerable buying and American Gas & Electric and Electric Bond & Share were in fairly good demand throughout the session. Other pivotal issues were firm and made moderate progress upward. Oil shares, mining stocks and investment trusts did not make much headway. Sharp gains were recorded all along the line on Monday, particularly in the industrial group and public utility stocks, the brisk demand resulting in advances up to 6 points or more. One of the outstanding gains of the day was Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. which surged upward 6 points to 149. Aluminum Co. of America was up about 4 points and Celanese 1st pref. jumped 8 1/4 points to 45 1/4. Fractional gains were also recorded by such prominent stocks as Deere & Co., Fisk Rubber, Swift & Co., National Aviation and Crown Cork. Some of the preferred issues were also in good demand. Columbia Gas, for instance, moved ahead 5 points followed by Southern New England Tel. pref. with a gain of 6 points. Oils were in good demand, especially Humble Oil and Gulf of Pennsylvania.

Curb market quotations were highly irregular on Wednesday, initial prices showing substantial gains, while the later dealings were inclined to move downward as a result of profit taking. In some of the pivotal issues losses ran as high as 7 1/2 points, but in the later trading a part of these losses were made up. Profit taking was in evidence in the afternoon, though most of this was absorbed before the close. Public utilities, as a group, lost ground and recessions of a point or more were registered by such active issues as American Gas & Electric, Cities Service pref. and Consolidated Gas of Baltimore. The impressive rally that developed in the curb market around noon on Thursday carried many active issues upward to higher levels, most of the dealings centering around the public utilities and industrials. Conspicuous in the upward climb were such popular trading favorites as Aluminum Co. of America, Electric Bond & Share, American Gas and National Power. Atlas Corp. was also in demand at higher prices.

The Curb list again moved forward on Friday and sharp gains were registered by many of the more active of the speculative stocks. Industrial shares and public utility issues were the most in demand, but there was also some interest displayed in investment trusts and oil shares. Electric Bond & Share was again conspicuous in the upturn and moved up more than a point. United Gas pref. rallied about 4 points and Columbia Gas & Electric pref. improved about 5 points. The principal changes of the week were largely on the side of the advance and included among others, Aluminum Co. of America, 50 to 60 1/2; American Gas & Elec., 27 to 29 1/2; American Light & Traction, 17 3/8 to 18; American Superpower, 4 1/2 to 5 1/2; Associated Gas & Elec. A, 2 1/2 to 3 1/4; Atlas Corp., 7 to 7 5/8; Brazil Traction & Light, 8 to 8 5/8; Central States Elec., 2 5/8 to 3; Cities Service, 3 3/8 to 3 3/4; Commonwealth Edison, 73 3/4 to 75 7/8; Cord Corp., 4 to 5 1/8; Deere & Co., 9 to 10; Duke Power, 51 1/4 to 51 5/8; Electric Bond & Share, 23 1/4 to 28; Ford of Canada A, 6 5/8 to 7; Gulf Oil of Pennsylvania, 30 1/4 to 33; Hudson Bay Mining, 3 1/4 to 4; Humble Oil, 42 to 43; International Petroleum, 9 5/8 to 10 1/4; Niagara Hudson Power, 13 3/4 to 14 1/2; Pennroad Corp., 1 5/8 to 2 1/8; Pennsylvania Water & Power, 51 to 52; A. O. Smith, 20 1/2 to 25 1/2; Standard Oil of Indiana, 23 to 23 1/2; Swift & Co., 7 3/4 to 8 5/8; United Founders, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; United Light & Power A, 4 5/8 to 5 1/4; United Shoe Machinery, 35 to 36, and Utility Power, 1 3/4 to 2 1/4.

A complete record of Curb Exchange transactions for the week will be found on page 3336.

DAILY TRANSACTIONS AT THE NEW YORK CURB EXCHANGE.

Week Ended Nov. 11 1932.	Stocks (Number of Shares).	Bonds (Par Value).			
		Domestic.	Foreign Government.	Foreign Corporate.	Total.
Saturday	71,100	\$1,247,000	\$41,000	\$100,000	\$1,388,000
Monday	198,920	2,704,000	224,000	180,000	3,108,000
Tuesday			Holiday.		
Wednesday	176,080	2,555,000	116,000	202,000	2,873,000
Thursday	189,415	2,370,000	129,000	151,000	2,650,000
Friday	268,015	2,741,000	144,000	133,000	3,018,000
Total	903,530	\$11,617,000	\$654,000	\$766,000	\$13,037,000

Sales at New York Curb Exchange.	Week Ended Nov. 11.		Jan. 1 to Nov. 11.	
	1932.	1931.	1932.	1931.
Stocks—No. of shares.	903,530	1,283,926	50,650,218	95,810,692
Bonds.				
Domestic	\$11,617,000	\$14,204,000	\$747,981,100	\$782,458,000
Foreign Government	654,000	1,071,000	27,981,000	26,753,000
Foreign Corporate	766,000	740,000	53,193,000	34,769,000
Total	\$13,037,000	\$16,015,000	\$829,156,100	\$843,980,000

THE ENGLISH GOLD AND SILVER MARKETS.

We reprint the following from the weekly circular of Samuel Montagu & Co. of London, written under date of Oct. 26 1932:

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against notes amounted to £139,422,094 on the 19th inst., showing no change as compared with the previous Wednesday.

The moderate amounts of gold available in the open market during the week have been taken for the Continent. As a result of the further weakness of sterling, the price advanced rapidly and the quotation of the 25th inst.—125s. 4 1/2 d. per fine ounce—was the highest since Dec. 9 last, the price on that day being 126s. 6d.

Quotations during the week:

	Per Fine Ounce.	Equivalent Value of £ Sterling.
Oct. 20	121s. 10 1/2 d.	13s. 11.3d.
Oct. 21	121s. 7d.	13s. 11.7d.
Oct. 22	121s. 11 1/2 d.	13s. 11.2d.
Oct. 24	122s. 11 1/2 d.	13s. 9.8d.
Oct. 25	125s. 4 1/2 d.	13s. 6.6d.
Oct. 26	124s. 3d.	13s. 8.1d.
Average	123s. 0.0d.	13s. 9.8d.

The following were the United Kingdom imports and exports of gold registered from midday on the 17th inst. to midday on the 24th inst.:

Imports.		Exports.	
British South Africa	£968,127	France	£393,049
British West Africa	71,812	Netherlands	41,523
British India	640,573	Belgium	8,000
Australia	193,275	Poland	8,000
Egypt	62,257	Austria	4,850
Straits Settlements and dependencies	46,926	Other countries	2,214
Salvage from S.S. "Egypt"	61,798		
Iraq	18,883		
Other countries	17,564		
	£2,081,215		£457,636

Gold shipments from India last week amounted to about £749,000. The S.S. "President Garfield" carries £461,000 consigned to New York and the S.S. "Carthage" £242,000 consigned to London and £46,000 to Holland.

SILVER.

The week opened quietly and prices were inclined to ease on offerings from the Continent and resales by the Indian Bazaars, 17 11-16d. for cash and 17 13-16d. for two months being quoted on the 22d inst. On the 24th inst., the next working day, the renewed weakness of sterling was followed by buying from China and America, which resulted in prices advancing sharply to 18d. and 18 1-16d. for the respective deliveries. Although there was a further slight advance of 1-16d., in the forward quotation yesterday, a larger upward movement was anticipated in view of the situation with regard to the exchanges; buyers, however, did not press and both prices fell 1/4 d. to-day, mostly due to a lack of support.

The tendency is uncertain, but owing to the heavy stocks, the market finds it difficult to maintain any appreciable advance in prices.

The following were the United Kingdom imports and exports of silver registered from midday on the 17th inst. to midday on the 24th inst.:

Imports.		Exports.	
Australia	£33,530	Hongkong	£32,400
British West Africa	21,521	British India	29,900
Germany	23,050	Poland	23,275
Poland	20,628	Germany	13,884
Japan	16,387	France	5,054
Trinidad and Tobago	10,000	French possessions in India	5,500
French Somaliland	6,159	Other countries	6,846
Canada	4,307		
Salvage from S.S. "Egypt"	2,500		
Other countries	3,109		
	£141,191		£116,859

Quotations during the week:

IN LONDON.		IN NEW YORK.	
Bar Silver per Ounce Standard.		Cents per Ounce .999 Fine.	
Cash.	2 Mos.		
Oct. 20	17 3/4 d.	Oct. 19	27 9-16
Oct. 21	17 1/4 d.	Oct. 20	27 7-16
Oct. 22	17 11-16d.	Oct. 21	27 1/2
Oct. 24	18d.	Oct. 22	27 1/4
Oct. 25	18d.	Oct. 24	27 5-16
Oct. 26	17 3/4 d.	Oct. 25	26 3/4
Average	17.843d.		

The highest rate of exchange on New York recorded during the period from the 20th inst. to the 26th inst. was \$3.40 and the lowest \$3.28.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)	Oct. 15.	Oct. 7.	Sept. 30.
Notes in circulation	17,558	17,540	17,577
Silver coin and bullion in India	11,465	11,491	11,529
Gold coin and bullion in India	1,144	1,134	1,134
Securities (Indian Government)	4,949	4,915	4,914

The stocks in Shanghai on the 22d inst. consisted of about 122,000,000 ounces in sycee, 240,000,000 dollars and 3,360 silver bars, as compared with about 120,900,000 ounces in sycee, 237,500,000 dollars and 3,740 silver bars on the 15th inst.

ENGLISH FINANCIAL MARKET—PER CABLE.

The daily closing quotations for securities, &c., at London, as reported by cable, have been as follows the past week:

Table with columns for days of the week (Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Nov. 5 to Nov. 11) and various securities including Silver, Gold, Consols, British, French Renten, and French War L'n.

The price of silver in New York on the same days has been: Silver in N. Y., per oz. (cts.) - 27

THE BERLIN STOCK EXCHANGE.

The Berlin Stock Exchange resumed trading on Friday, April 29 1932 after having been closed by Government decree since Sept. 18 1931. 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 days of the week (Nov. 5 to Nov. 11) and various German stocks including Reichsbank, Berliner Handels-Gesellschaft, and others.

In the following we also give New York quotations for German and other foreign unlisted dollar bonds as of November 11 1932.

Large table with columns for Bid and Ask prices for various international bonds from countries like Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, and others.

J Flat price.

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 days of the week (Nov. 5 to Nov. 11) and various French stocks including Bank of France, Banque de Paris, and others.

Table with columns for days of the week (Nov. 5 to Nov. 11) and various French securities including Courrieres, Credit Commercial de France, and others.

Preliminary Debt Statement of the United States Oct. 31 1932.

The preliminary statement of the public debt of the United States Oct. 31 1932, as made upon the basis of the daily Treasury statement, is as follows:

Table detailing the preliminary debt statement of the United States, categorized by Bonds (Consols, Panama's, etc.) and Treasury Notes.

Table detailing Treasury Notes, including Series A-1932, Series B-1934, and others, with their respective maturities.

Table detailing Certificates of Indebtedness and Adjusted Service Certificate Fund Series.

Table detailing Treasury Bills (Maturity Value), Maturity Debt on Which Interest Has Ceased, and Debt Bearing No Interest.

COMPARATIVE PUBLIC DEBT STATEMENT. [On the basis of daily Treasury statements.]

Table with 4 columns: Date (March 31 1917, Aug. 31 1919, Oct. 31 1931), Description (Gross debt, Net balance in gen. fund, Gross debt less net balance in gen. fund), and Amount.

Treasury Money Holdings.

The following compilation, made up from the daily Government statements, shows the money holdings of the Treasury at the beginning of business on the first of August, September, October and November 1932:

Table with 5 columns: Holdings in U. S. Treasury, Date (Aug. 1 1932, Sept. 1 1932, Oct. 1 1932, Nov. 1 1932), and Amount.

* Includes Nov. 1, \$17,892,588 silver bullion and \$5,114,003 minor, &c., coin not included in statement "Stock of Money."

Commercial and Miscellaneous News

National Banks.—The following information regarding National banks is from the office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Treasury Department:

CHARTERS ISSUED.

Table with 3 columns: Date, Description (The American Nat. Bank & Trust Co. of Eau Claire, Eau Claire, Wis.), and Capital (\$100,000).

VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATIONS.

Table with 3 columns: Date, Description (The First National Bank of Richmond, W. Va., The Nequaunee National Bank, Nequaunee, Mich., The Farmers National Bank of Canton, Pa.), and Amount (\$40,000, 100,000, 50,000).

CONSOLIDATIONS.

Table with 3 columns: Date, Description (The Downingtown National Bank, Downingtown, Pa., The Grange National Bank of Chester County at Downingtown, Pa.), and Amount (\$125,000, 100,000).

Auction Sales.—Among other securities, the following, not actually dealt in at the Stock Exchange, were sold at auction in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Buffalo on Wednesday of this week:

By Adrian H. Muller & Son, New York:

Table with 4 columns: Shares, Stocks, \$ per Sh., Description (The Chase Nat. Bank of the City of New York, 300 New York United Hotels, Inc., etc.), and Amount.

By R. L. Day & Co., Boston:

Table with 4 columns: Shares, Stocks, \$ per Sh., Description (30 Jones McDuffee & Stratton 8% par \$100, 115 Western & Southern Associates, par \$100, etc.), and Amount.

By Barnes & Lofland, Philadelphia:

Table with 4 columns: Shares, Stocks, \$ per Sh., Description (40 Smith, Kline & French Laboratories, common, no par, 10 Philadelphia Nat. Bank, par \$20, etc.), and Amount.

By A. J. Wright & Co., Buffalo:

Table with 4 columns: Shares, Stocks, \$ per Sh., Description (5 Zenda Gold Mines, par \$1, 10 Angel Internat. Corp., par \$1, etc.), and Amount.

DIVIDENDS.

Dividends are grouped in two separate tables. In the first we bring together all the dividends announced the current week. Then we follow with a second table, in which we show the dividends previously announced, but which have not yet been paid.

The dividends announced this week are:

Table with 4 columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, and Books Closed Days Inclusive.

Table listing dividends for various companies including Champlon Coated Paper Co., Chatham Mfg. Co., and others. Columns include Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, and Books Closed.

Table listing dividends for various companies including Public Utilities, Central Vermont Pub. Serv., and others. Columns include Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, and Books Closed.

Below we give the dividends announced in previous weeks and not yet paid. This list does not include dividends announced this week, these being given in the preceding table.

Table listing dividends for various companies including Railroads (Steam), August & Savannah RR, and others. Columns include Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, and Books Closed.

Table listing dividends for various companies including Public Utilities, Toledo Edison Co., and others. Columns include Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, and Books Closed.

Table with columns: Name of Company, Per Cent., When Payable, Books Closed, Days Inclusive. Lists various companies under 'Miscellaneous (Concluded)' and their stock details.

The New York "Times" publishes regularly each week returns of a number of banks and trust companies which are not members of the New York Clearing House.

INSTITUTIONS NOT IN THE CLEARING HOUSE WITH THE CLOSING OF BUSINESS FOR THE WEEK ENDED FRIDAY, NOV. 4 1932.

NATIONAL BANKS—AVERAGE FIGURES.

Table showing average figures for National Banks with columns: Loans, Disc. and Investments, Gold, Other Cash, Res. Dep., Dep. Other Banks and Trust Cos., Gross Deposits.

TRUST COMPANIES—AVERAGE FIGURES.

Table showing average figures for Trust Companies with columns: Loans, Disc. & Investments, Cash, Reserve Dep., Dep. Other Banks and Trust Cos., Gross Deposits.

*Includes amount with Federal Reserve as follows: Empire, \$867,600; Fulton, \$2,005,300.

Boston Clearing House Weekly Returns.—In the following we furnish a summary of all the items in the Boston Clearing House weekly statement for a series of weeks:

BOSTON CLEARING HOUSE MEMBERS.

Table with columns: Week Ended Nov. 9 1932, Changes from Previous Week, Week Ended Nov. 2 1932, Week Ended Oct. 26 1932. Lists various bank and trust company items.

Philadelphia Banks.—Beginning with the return for the week ended Oct. 11 1930, the Philadelphia Clearing House Association began issuing its weekly statement in a new form.

Reserve requirements for members of the Federal Reserve System are 10% on demand deposits and 3% on time deposits, all to be kept with the Federal Reserve Bank.

Beginning with the return for the week ended May 14 1928, the Philadelphia Clearing House Association discontinued showing the reserve required and whether reserves held are above or below requirements.

† The New York Stock Exchange has ruled that stock will not be quoted ex-dividend on this date and not until further notice.

Weekly Return of New York City Clearing House.—Beginning with March 31 1928, the New York City Clearing House Association discontinued giving out all statements previously issued and now makes only the barest kind of a report.

STATEMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE NEW YORK CLEARING HOUSE ASSOCIATION FOR THE WEEK ENDED SATURDAY, NOV. 4 1932.

Table with columns: Clearing House Members, Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits, Net Demand Deposits, Average, Time Deposits, Average.

* As per official reports: National, Sept. 30 1932; State, Sept. 30 1932; trust companies, Sept. 30 1932.

Table with columns: Week Ended Nov. 5 1932, Changes from Previous Week, Week Ended Oct. 29 1932, Week Ended Oct. 22 1932. Lists various bank and trust company items.

The Commercial and Financial Chronicle

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

Terms of Subscription—Payable in Advance

Table showing subscription rates for various regions: 12 Mos. 6 Mos. \$10.00 \$6.00 \$11.50 \$6.75 \$13.50 \$7.75 \$15.00 \$8.50

The following publications are also issued: COMPENDIUMS—PUBLIC UTILITY... MONTHLY PUBLICATIONS—BANK AND QUOTATION RECORD...

The subscription price of the Bank and Quotation Record and the Monthly Earnings Record is \$6.00 per year each; for all the others is \$5.00 per year each. Foreign postage extra.

NOTICE.—On account of the fluctuations in the rates of exchange, remittances for foreign subscriptions and advertisements must be made in New York funds.

Terms of Advertising

Table showing advertising rates: Transient display matter per agate line... 45 cents Contract and Card rates... On request

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LONDON OFFICE—Edwards & Smith, 1 Drapers' Gardens, London, E. O.

WILLIAM B. DANA COMPANY, Publishers, William Street, Corner Spruce, New York.

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Wall Street, Friday Night, Nov. 11 1932.

Railroad and Miscellaneous Stocks.—The review of the Stock Market is given this week on page 3308.

The following are sales made at the Stock Exchange this week of shares not represented in our detailed list on the pages which follow:

Table with columns: STOCKS, Week Ending Nov. 11, Sales for Week, Range for Week (Lowest, Highest), Range Since Jan. 1. (Lowest, Highest). Includes categories like Railroads, Indus. & Miscell., and various stock listings.

* No par value.

Quotations for United States Treasury Certificates of Indebtedness, &c.—Friday, Nov. 11.

Table showing Treasury certificate data: Maturity, Int. Rate, Bid., Asked. Columns for dates from Sept. 15 1933 to June 15 1935.

U. S. Treasury Bills.—Friday, Nov. 11.

Rates quoted are for discount at purchase.

Table showing Treasury bill data: Bid., Asked. Columns for dates from Nov. 16 1932 to Dec. 28 1932.

The Curb Exchange.—The review of the Curb Exchange is given this week on page 3311.

A complete record of Curb Exchange transactions for the week will be found on page 3336.

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 and Treasury certificates on the New York Stock Exchange. The transactions in registered bonds are given in a footnote at the end of the tabulation.

Table titled 'Daily Record of U. S. Bond Prices' with columns for dates (Nov. 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11) and various bond types like First Liberty Loan, Treasury, etc.

Note.—The above table includes only sales of coupon bonds. Transactions in registered bonds were:

Small table showing registered bond transactions: 3 4th 4 1/2s, 1 Treasury 3s, etc.

Foreign Exchange.—

To-day's (Friday's) actual rates for sterling exchange were 3.29 1/4 @ 3.32 3/4 for checks and 3.29 3/4 @ 3.33 for cables. Commercial on banks, sight, 3.29 @ 3.32 3/4; 60 days, 3.29 1/4 @ 3.30 1/2; 90 days, 3.28 3/4 @ 3.30 3/4; and documents for payment, 60 days, 3.29 1/4 @ 3.31. Cotton for payment, 3.31 7-16.

Table showing exchange rates for Sterling, Paris Bankers' Francs, Germany Bankers' Marks, and Amsterdam Bankers' Guilders.

CURRENT NOTICES.

—Sawyer Securities Co., Inc., have opened offices in Suite 1080, 208 So. La Salle St., Chicago, to conduct a general investment business.

—Announcement is made of the formation of Wayne Martin & Co., with offices in the Citizens & Southern Bank Building, Atlanta, for the transaction of a general investment business.

—Harold E. Wood & Co. announce the opening of offices in the First National Bank Bldg., St. Paul, for the transaction of a general investment securities business.

—A. S. Shoninger, formerly with Ross Beason & Co., Inc., has become associated with Lord, Westerfield & Co., Inc., in the wholesale distribution of American Business Shares.

—The Axton-Fisher Tobacco Co., Inc., is the subject of analysis prepared by the New York Stock Exchange firm of Henning Chambers & Co., Louisville, Ky.

—Wood, Low & Co., members of the New York Stock Exchange, have published a special study in circular form on "The Railroads and Business Recovery."

—Olen R. Clements is with Hoyt, Rose & Troster, 74 Trinity Place, New York, in their out-of-town department.

—Bond & Goodwin, Inc. have prepared a special circular on "The Price Trend of Real Estate Bonds."

FOR SALES DURING THE WEEK OF STOCKS NOT RECORDED IN THIS LIST, SEE THIRD PAGE PRECEDING.

Main table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT., Sales for the Week, STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, PER SHARE Range for Year 1932, PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1931. Rows include various stock listings like Indus. & Miscell. (Con.) Par, Briggs & Stratton, Brooklyn Union Gas, etc.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. r Ex-dividend.

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 price ranges per share. Includes sub-sections for Stock, Exchange, Closed, Election, and Day.

Main table listing various stocks and companies under 'NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE'. Columns include 'PER SHARE' (Lowest, Highest) and 'PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1931'. Lists include Duquesne Light, Eastern Rolling Mills, and many others.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. x Ex-Right. y Ex-Rights.

FOR SALES DURING THE WEEK OF STOCKS NOT RECORDED IN THIS LIST, SEE FIFTH PAGE PRECEDING.

Main table with columns: HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT. (Saturday Nov. 5 to Friday Nov. 11), Sales for the Week, STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, PER SHARE Range for Year 1932, PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1931. Lists various stocks like Hawaiian Pineapple Co Ltd, Hercules Powder, etc.

* Bid and asked prices: no sales on this day. x Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights.

FOR SALES DURING THE WEEK OF STOCKS NOT RECORDED IN THIS LIST, SEE SEVENTH PAGE PRECEDING.

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday Nov. 5 to Friday Nov. 11) and price ranges per share. Includes sub-sections for Stock, Exchange, Closed, and Election.

Sales for the Week.

Table listing sales volume for various stocks, including Indus. & Miscell. (Con.), Pittston Co, Plymouth Oil Co, etc.

STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Main table of stock prices with columns for stock names, per share prices (Lowest and Highest), and previous year's prices (Lowest and Highest).

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. z Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights.

FOR SALES DURING THE WEEK OF STOCKS NOT RECORDED IN THIS LIST, SEE EIGHTH PAGE PRECEDING.

HIGH AND LOW SALE PRICES—PER SHARE, NOT PER CENT.

Table with columns for days of the week (Saturday Nov. 5 to Friday Nov. 11) and rows for various stock prices per share.

Sales for the Week

STOCKS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

PER SHARE Range for Year 1932 On basis of 100-share lots.

PER SHARE Range for Previous Year 1931.

Main table listing various stocks (e.g., Indus. & Miscell., Thompson Products, etc.) with columns for sales, share prices, and historical performance.

* Bid and asked prices; no sales on this day. / Ex-dividend. v Ex-rights. z Ex-warrants.

On Jan. 1 1909 the Exchange method of quoting bonds was changed and prices are now "and interest"—except for income and defaulted bonds.

Main table with columns for Bond Description, Interest Period, Price (Bid/Ask), Week's Range (Low/High), Range Since Jan. 1, and various other metrics. It is divided into 'U. S. Government', 'State & City', and 'Foreign Govt. & Municipals' sections.

* At the exchange rate of \$4.865 to the £ Sterling. NOTE.—State and City Securities.—Sales of State and City securities occur very rarely on the New York Stock Exchange and usually only at long intervals, dealings in such securities being almost entirely at private sale over the counter. The Stock Exchange record here is imperfect and misleading, and accordingly we omit it here. Bid and Asked quotations, however, by active dealers in these securities will be found on a subsequent page under the general head of "Quotations for Unlisted Securities."

Main table containing bond listings for 'N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ended Nov. 11.' with columns for Bond Name, Interest Period, Price, Week's Range, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1., and various other details.

† Cash sales. ‡ Deferred delivery. ◆ Look under list of Matured Bonds on page 3333.

Main table containing bond listings with columns for 'BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ended Nov. 11.', 'Interest Period', 'Price Friday Nov. 11.', 'Week's Range or Last Sale.', 'Bonds Sold', 'Range Since Jan. 1.', and 'BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ended Nov. 11.' with various sub-columns for bid/ask, low/high, and range.

r Cash sale. a Deferred delivery

Look under list of Maturity Bonds on page 3333.

Table with columns: N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE, Week Ended Nov. 11, Interest Period, Price Friday Nov. 11, Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1. Includes various bond listings such as Og & L Cham 1st gu g 4s, Ohio Connecting Ry 1st 4s, etc.

Table with columns: N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE, Week Ended Nov. 11, Interest Period, Price Friday Nov. 11, Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1. Includes various industrial bond listings such as Southern Ry 1st cons g 5s, Devel & gen 4s series A, etc.

† Cash sale ‡ Due May. § Due Aug. ¶ Deferred delivery ♦ Look under list of Maturity Dates on page 3333.

Table with columns: BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ended Nov. 11, Interest Period, Price Friday Nov. 11, Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1, and another set of columns for BONDS N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE Week Ended Nov. 11, Interest Period, Price Friday Nov. 11, Week's Range or Last Sale, Bonds Sold, Range Since Jan. 1. The table lists numerous bond issues with their respective details.

r Cash sale. a Deferred delivery.

Look under list of Matured Bonds on page 3333.

Main table containing bond listings for 'New York Stock Exchange' and 'Matured Bonds'. Includes columns for bond name, interest rate, price, week's range, and range since Jan 1.

* Cash sale. a Deferred delivery. d Union Oil 5s series C 1935 sold on Jan. 5, \$1,000 at 73 "deferred delivery." Look under list of Matured Bonds.

Outside Stock Exchanges

Boston Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at the Boston Stock Exchange Nov. 5 to Nov. 10, both inclusive (Friday, Armistice Day, being a holiday), 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 Railroads, Miscellaneous, and Bonds.

* No par value. x Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights.

Chicago Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Chicago Stock Exchange, Nov. 5 to Nov. 10, both inclusive (Friday being Armistice Day, and a holiday) compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks—, Par., Thurs. Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes sections for Amer Pub Serv, Chicago Invest Corp, and various other companies.

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 Natl Securities Inv, Public Service of Nor III, and various other companies.

* No par value. x Ex-dividend. y Ex-rights.

Toronto Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at the Toronto Stock Exchange, Nov. 5 to Nov. 10, both inclusive (Friday, Nov. 11, Memorial Day, being a holiday), compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks—, Par., Thurs. Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Includes sections for Abitibi P & P, Canadian Cement, and various other companies.

* No par value.

Toronto Curb.—Record of transactions at the Toronto Curb, Nov. 5 to Nov. 10, both inclusive (Friday, Nov. 11, Memorial Day, being a holiday), compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par., Thurs. Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Lists various stocks like Billmore Hats, Can Bud Brew, etc.

* No par value.

Philadelphia Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Nov. 5 to Nov. 10, both inclusive (Friday, Nov. 11, Armistice Day, being a holiday), compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par., Thurs. Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Lists various stocks like American Stores, Bell Tel Co of Pa, etc.

* No par value. x Ex-dividend.

Baltimore Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Baltimore Stock Exchange, Nov. 5 to Nov. 11, 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). Lists various stocks like Arundel Corp, Atlantic Coast L (Conn), etc.

* No par value.

Milwaukee Grain & Stock Exchange.—Following is the record of transactions at the Milwaukee Grain & Stock Exchange, Nov. 5 to Nov. 11, 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). Lists various stocks like Briggs Stratton, Bucyrus Erie, etc.

* No par value.

Pittsburgh Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Pittsburgh Stock Exchange, Nov. 5 to Nov. 10, both inclusive (Friday, Armistice Day, being a holiday), compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par., Thurs. Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Lists various stocks like Armstrong Cork Co, Blaw-Knox Co, etc.

* No par value.

Cincinnati Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Cincinnati Stock Exchange, Nov. 5 to Nov. 10, both inclusive (Friday, Nov. 11, Armistice Day, being a holiday), compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par., Thurs. Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Lists various stocks like Amer Laundry Mach, Amer Rolling Mill, etc.

* No par value.

Cleveland Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at Cleveland Stock Exchange, Nov. 5 to Nov. 10, both inclusive, (Friday, Nov. 11, Armistice Day, being a holiday), compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par., Thurs. Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Lists various stocks like Allen Industries, City Ice & Fuel, etc.

* No par value.

St. Louis Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at St. Louis Stock Exchange Nov. 5 to Nov. 10, both inclusive (Nov. 11 being Armistice Day and a holiday), compiled from official sales lists:

Table with columns: Stocks, Par., Thurs. Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). Lists various stocks like Brown Shoe common, Burkart Mfg common, etc.

* No par value.

Los Angeles Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at the Los Angeles Stock Exchange, Nov. 5 to Nov. 11, 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).

* No par value.

San Francisco Stock Exchange.—Record of transactions at San Francisco Stock Exchange, Nov. 5 to Nov. 11, 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).

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).

New York Produce Exchange Securities Market.—Following is the record of transactions at the New York Produce Exchange Securities Market, Nov. 5 to Nov. 11, 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 (Nov. 5 1932) and ending the present Friday (Nov. 11 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.

Table with columns: Week Ended Nov. 11, Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High), Stocks (Continued) 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: Stocks (Continued) Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High), Stocks (Concluded) Par., Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices (Low, High), Sales for Week (Shares), Range Since Jan. 1. (Low, High). The table lists numerous companies and their stock performance metrics.

Table with columns: Bonds (Continued), Friday Last Sale Price, Week's Range of Prices, Sales for Week, Range Since Jan. 1., and Bonds (Continued) with similar sub-columns. The table lists various financial instruments and their market performance.

New York State Bonds. Friday Nov. 11

Table of New York State Bonds with columns for Bid, Ask, and bond descriptions including World War Bonus and Highway Imp.

Public Utility Bonds. Friday Nov. 11

Table of Public Utility Bonds with columns for Bid, Ask, and bond descriptions including Amer S P S 5 1/2% 1948 M&N.

New York City Bonds.

Table of New York City Bonds with columns for Bid, Ask, and bond descriptions including a3s May 1935 and a3 1/2s May 1954.

Public Utility Stocks.

Table of Public Utility Stocks with columns for Par, Bid, Ask, and stock descriptions including Arizona Power 7% pref. 100.

Port of New York Authority Bonds.

Table of Port of New York Authority Bonds with columns for Bid, Ask, and bond descriptions including Arthur Kill Bridges 4 1/2s series A 1933-46.

U. S. Insular Bonds.

Table of U. S. Insular Bonds with columns for Bid, Ask, and bond descriptions including Philippine Government 4s 1934.

Federal Land Bank Bonds.

Table of Federal Land Bank Bonds with columns for Bid, Ask, and bond descriptions including 4s 1957 optional 1937 M&N.

New York Bank Stocks.

Table of New York Bank Stocks with columns for Par, Bid, Ask, and stock descriptions including Bank of Yorktown and Bensonhurst Natl.

Trust Companies.

Table of Trust Companies with columns for Par, Bid, Ask, and company names including Banca Comm Italiana Tr 100.

Guaranteed Railroad Stocks.

(Guarantor in Parenthesis.)

Table of Guaranteed Railroad Stocks with columns for Par, Dividend in Dollars, Bid, Ask, and stock descriptions including Albany & Susquehanna.

Investment Trusts.

Table of Investment Trusts with columns for Par, Bid, Ask, and trust names including Amer Bankstocks Corp and Mass Investors Trust.

Telephone and Telegraph Stocks.

Table of Telephone and Telegraph Stocks with columns for Par, Bid, Ask, and stock descriptions including Cuban Telephone and North Bell Tel.

Sugar Stocks.

Table of Sugar Stocks with columns for Par, Bid, Ask, and stock descriptions including Haytian Corp Amer and Sugar Estates Oriente.

* No par value. † Last reported market. ‡ Defaulted. § Bid price less 1/4. ¶ Due in 10 years or longer. ** Ex-stock dividend. *** Ex-dividend. **** Ex-rights.

Quotations for Unlisted Securities—Concluded

Chain Store Stocks. Friday Nov. 11

Table with columns: Par, Bid, Ask, Description, Par, Bid, Ask. Includes Butler (James) com, Preferred, Diamond Shoe pref, etc.

Insurance Companies. Friday Nov. 11

Table with columns: Par, Bid, Ask, Description, Par, Bid, Ask. Includes Aetna Casualty & Surety, Aetna Fire, Aetna Life, etc.

Industrial Stocks.

Table with columns: Par, Bid, Ask, Description, Par, Bid, Ask. Includes Alpha Port Cement pf, American Book \$4, Bilss (E W) 1st pref, etc.

Realty, Surety and Mortgage Companies.

Table with columns: Par, Bid, Ask, Description, Par, Bid, Ask. Includes Bond & Mortgage Guar, Empire Title & Guar, Guaranty Title & Mortgage, etc.

Industrial and Railroad Bonds.

Table with columns: Bid, Ask, Description, Bid, Ask. Includes Adams Express 4s '47 J&D, American Term 6s 1946, Amer Tobacco 4s 1951 F&A, etc.

New York Real Estate Securities Exchange Bonds and Stocks.

Table with columns: Active Issues, Bid, Ask, Active Issues, Bid, Ask. Includes Allerton N Y Corp 5 1/2s '47, 60 Broad St Bldg 6s 1939, etc.

Chicago Bank Stocks.

Table with columns: Par, Bid, Ask, Description, Par, Bid, Ask. Includes Central Republic, Continental Ill Bk & Tr, First National, etc.

Aeronautical Stocks.

Table with columns: Bid, Ask, Description, Bid, Ask. Includes Alexander Indus 8% pt.100, American Airports Corp, Central Airports, etc.

Other Over-the-Counter Securities

Short Term Securities.

Table with columns: Bid, Ask, Description, Bid, Ask. Includes Allis-Chal Mfg 5s May 1937, Amer Metal 5 1/2s 1934 A&O, etc.

Railroad Equipments.

Table with columns: Bid, Ask, Description, Bid, Ask. Includes Atlantic Coast Line 6s, Equipment 6 1/2s, Baltimore & Ohio 6s, etc.

Water Bonds.

Table with columns: Bid, Ask, Description, Bid, Ask. Includes Alton Water 5s 1956 A&O, Ark Wat 1st 5s A 1956 A&O, Ashtabula W W 5s '58 A&O, etc.

* No par value. a And dividend. d Last reported market. e Flat price. z 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 with columns: Name, Period Covered, Current Year, Previous Year, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-), and Amount. Lists various railroad companies and their weekly earnings for different periods.

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 showing Gross Earnings and Length of Road by month for 1932 and 1931. Columns include Month, 1932 Gross, 1931 Gross, Inc./Dec., 1932 Length, and 1931 Length.

Table showing Net Earnings by month for 1932 and 1931. Columns include Month, 1932 Net, 1931 Net, Amount, and Per Cent.

Net Earnings Monthly to Latest Dates.

Table for Alton RR showing monthly net earnings from October 1932 to September 1931. Columns include Month, 1932 Net, 1931 Net, 1930 Net, and 1929 Net.

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.

Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Co.

Large table for Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Co. showing monthly and quarterly earnings from September 1932 back to September 1929. Includes freight, passenger, and other revenue, and various expenses.

Table for (The) Philippine Ry. Co. showing monthly and quarterly earnings from August 1932 back to August 1929. Includes gross and net revenue, and operating expenses.

INDUSTRIAL AND MISCELLANEOUS CO'S.

Table for Alaska Juneau Gold Mining Co. showing monthly earnings from October 1931 back to October 1932. Includes gross income and net profit.

American Light & Traction Co.

Table for American Light & Traction Co. showing monthly earnings from September 1932 back to September 1931. Includes operating revenue, expenses, and profit.

American Ship & Commerce Corp.

Table for American Ship & Commerce Corp. showing 9 months ended Sept. 30 for 1932 and 1931. Includes income from dividends and other sources.

American Steel Foundries.

Table for American Steel Foundries showing 9 months ended Sept. 30 for 1932 and 1931. Includes net loss after expenses and depreciation.

Air-Way Electric Appliance Corp.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30—1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—9 Mos.—1931. Net loss after deprec., taxes, &c. \$127,753 \$195,850 \$308,922 \$225,090

American Telephone & Telegraph Co.

Table with columns for Month of September—1932. 1931. 1932. 1931. Telephone oper. revenues \$7,215,781 \$8,638,771 \$68,658,475 \$82,957,466

Anaconda Wire & Cable Co.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30—1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—9 Mos.—1931. Net loss after deprec., taxes, &c. \$372,992 \$50,061 \$932,834 \$229,632

Art Metal Construction Co.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30—1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—9 Mos.—1931. Sales \$669,887 \$1,159,046 \$2,540,221 \$4,126,202

Atlanta Gas Light Co.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30—1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—12 Mos.—1931. Gross revenues \$443,631 \$436,249 \$2,302,139 \$2,126,735

Baltimore Tube Co.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30—1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—9 Mos.—1931. Net loss after charges & depreciation \$46,358 \$52,630 \$152,119 \$72,252

Bangor Hydro-Electric Co.

Table with columns for Month of September—1932. 1931. 1932. 1931. Gross earnings \$174,123 \$202,075 \$2,087,708 \$2,276,678

Barnsdall Corp.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30—x1932—3 Mos.—1931. x1932—9 Mos.—1931. Profit after taxes \$576,632 \$410,082 \$1,822,073 \$1,688,224

Berkshire Street Railway Co.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30—1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—9 Mos.—1931. Rev. fare pass. carried 1,137,096 1,549,908 4,414,884 5,594,145

Briggs Manufacturing Co.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30—1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—9 Mos.—1931. Net loss after depreciation, taxes, &c. \$397,233 prof \$524,643 \$1,003,266 \$1,076,732

British Columbia Power Corp., Ltd.

Table with columns for Month of September—1932. 1931. 1932. 1931. Gross earnings \$1,059,379 \$1,148,408 \$3,172,889 \$3,536,214

Central Illinois Electric & Gas Co.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30—1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—12 Mos.—1931. Gross revenues \$920,198 \$1,063,970 \$4,318,856 \$4,848,190

Chain & General Equities, Inc.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30—1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—9 Mos.—1931. Net profit before losses on securities sold \$675 \$30,505 \$19,121 \$94,089

Chain Store Investment Corp.

Table with columns for Earnings for 3 Months Ended Sept. 30 1932. Dividends income \$1,281 Managers' commissions 105

Community Power & Light Co.

Table with columns for Month of September—1932. 1931. 1932. 1931. Consol. gross revenue \$339,478 \$418,499 \$4,083,259 \$4,470,777

Crown Cork & Seal Co., Inc.

Table with columns for 9 Mos. End. Sept. 30—1932. a1932. a1931. 1930. Net sales \$5,853,248 \$7,679,166 \$8,411,337

Darby Petroleum Corp.

Table with columns for Earnings for 9 Months Ended Sept. 30 1932. Number of net barrels of crude oil produced 1,027,696.51

Drug Incorporated.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30—1932—3 Mos.—1931. 1932—9 Mos.—1931. Net profit after int., deprec. & Fed. taxes \$2,846,246 \$4,475,394 \$10,526,943 \$15,127,904

Duquesne Light Co.

Table with columns for 12 Months Ended Sept. 30—1932. 1931. Gross earnings \$25,985,460 \$28,337,836

East Kootenay Power Co.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30, 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Gross earnings, Operating expenses, Net earnings.

Eastern Steamship Lines, Inc.

Table with columns for Month of September, 1932, 1931, 9 Mos. End. Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows include Operating revenue, Operating expense, Operating income, Other income, Other expense, Net income.

Erie Lighting Co.

Table with columns for 12 Months Ended Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows include Electric revenue, Steam heating revenue, Total operating revenues, Operating expenses & maintenance, Provision for retirement, Taxes, Operating income, Other income, Interest on funded debt, Interest on unfunded debt, Net income.

Exeter Oil Co., Ltd.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-9 Mos., 1931. Rows include Profit after operation & maintenance charges, Depreciation & depletion, Deficit.

Fifth Avenue Bus Securities Corp.

Table with columns for Earnings for 3 Months Ended Sept. 30 1932. Rows include Divs. received from N. Y. Transport. Co., Interest received, Total income, Dividends paid, Surplus, Earns. per share on 591,915 shares capital stock (no par), For nine months ended Sept. 30 1932, net income was \$282,806, equal to 47 cents a share.

Finance Service Co.

Table with columns for 9 Months Ended Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows include Net income after expenses, Federal taxes, &c., Net income for the quarter ended Sept. 30 1932, was \$22,701 after expenses, taxes, &c., against \$24,649 in the March quarter of this year.

Gabriel Company.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-9 Mos., 1931. Rows include Net loss after taxes, charges, deprec., &c., Net income.

General Steel Castings Corp.

Table with columns for 9 Months Ended Sept. 30, 1932, 1931, 1930. Rows include Loss from operation, Depreciation, Loss, Other income, Loss, Bond interest & amortization, Amortization of patents & organization expenses, Federal taxes, Prof. for shrinkage in marketable securities, Net loss, Preferred dividends, Deficit.

Grand Union Co.

Table with columns for Period End. Oct. 1, 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-9 Mos., 1931. Rows include Net income after charges, Shares common stock outstanding (no par), Earnings per share.

Hagerstown Light & Heat Co. of Washington County.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-12 Mos., 1931. Rows include Operating revenues, Non-operating revenues, Total revenues, Operating expenses, Maintenance, Uncollectible accounts, General taxes, Net earnings, Interest deductions—On funded debt, All other charges, incl. amortization of debt discount and expense, Interest during construction, Net income before provision for retirements and Federal income tax, Provision for retirements, Provision for Federal income tax, Net income.

(Byron) Jackson Co.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-9 Mos., 1931. Rows include Net loss after interest, depreciation, &c., Net income.

Hayes Body Corp.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Months, 1931, 1932-9 Months, 1931. Rows include Gross income, Operating costs, Operating loss, Other income, Loss, Other charges, Depreciation, Interest, &c., Net loss.

Houdaille-Hershey Corp.

Table with columns for Earnings for Nine Months Ended Sept. 30 1932. Rows include Gross profit, Expenses, Depreciation, Other deductions (net), Loss, Losses applic. to minority holdings in Biflex Products Co. and Muskegon Motor Specialties Co., Net loss.

Illinois Bell Telephone Co.

Table with columns for Month of September, 1932, 1931, 9 Mos. End. Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows include Telep. oper. revenues, Telep. oper. expenses, Net telep. oper. revs., Uncoll. oper. revenues, Taxes assign. to oper., Operating income.

International Railway Co.

Table with columns for 9 Mos. End. Sept. 30, 1932, 1931, 1930, 1929. Rows include Operating revenue, Operation and taxes, Operating income, Non-operating income, Gross income, Fixed charges, Net income.

Lion Oil Refining Co.

Table with columns for 9 Mos. Ended Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows include Gross operating profit, General expenses, Net operating profit, Other income, Power charge, income, Total income, Interest & discount, Dep., refinery & equip., Dep. & depl. prod. prop., Wells, &c., written off, Net income.

Loblaw Groceries Ltd.

Table with columns for Period End. Oct. 15, 1932-4 Weeks, 1931, 1932-20 Weeks, 1931. Rows include Sales, Net profit after charges and income taxes.

Los Angeles Gas & Electric Corp.

Table with columns for 12 Months Ended Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows include Gross earnings, Net income after taxes, int., deprec., &c., Net income.

Louisville Gas & Electric Co. (Del.).

Table with columns for 12 Months Ended Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows include Gross earnings, Operating expenses, maintenance and taxes, Net earnings, Other income, Net earnings including other income, Interest charges—net, Balance, Preferred dividends, Retirement (depreciation) and depletion reserves, Amortization of debt discount and expense, Balance, Common dividends, Surplus.

Ludlum Steel Co.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-9 Mos., 1931. Rows include Net loss after charges & taxes.

McGraw Hill Publishing Co., Inc.

Table with columns for Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-9 Mos., 1931. Rows include Net loss after taxes deprec., &c., Earns. per sh. on 600,000 shs. cap. stk. (no par), The losses reported for 1932 include the deficit sustained in operation of the McGraw-Hill Building opened the first of this year.

Mengel Co.

Table with columns: Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos.-1931, 1932-9 Mos.-1931, 1931. Rows: Net sales, Cost of sales, Depreciation, Interest charges, Misc. P. & L. items (net), Profit on bonds, Loss.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle April 30 '32, p. 2387

(Conde) Nast Publications, Inc.

Table with columns: Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Months-1931, 1932-9 Months-1931, 1931. Rows: Net income after charges & taxes, Shares capital stock outstanding (no par), Earnings per share.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle April 9 '32, p. 2737

National Candy Co.

Table with columns: Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Months-1931, 1932-9 Months-1931, 1931. Rows: Net loss after deprec. & other charges.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle May 28 '32, p. 3992

National Supply Co. of Delaware.

Table with columns: 9 Months Ended Sept. 30, 1932, 1931, 1930. Rows: Gross income from operations, Expenses, Operating loss, Other income, Total income, Depreciation, Interest, discount, &c., Federal taxes, Transfer to reserve funds, Pref. divs. of Superior Engine Co., Prof. divs. of Spang, Chalfant & Co., Inc., Loss appl. to Spang, Chalfant & Co., Net loss.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle Mar. 19 '32, p. 2164

New Jersey Zinc Co.

Table with columns: Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos.-1931, 1932-9 Mos.-1931, 1931. Rows: Income, Divs. from sub. cos., Total income, Dividends, Deficit, Shares cap. stock outstanding (par \$25), Earnings per share.

x After deductions for expenses, taxes, depreciation, depletion, maintenance, repairs and contingencies.

Noranda Mines Ltd.

Table with columns: 9 Months Ended Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows: Gross earnings, Costs and expenses, Reserve for taxes, Profit, Other income, Total income, Depreciation and contingencies, Estimated net profit, Earnings per share.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle April 2 '32, p. 253

Northern States Power Co. (Del.)

Table with columns: 12 Months Ended Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows: Gross earnings, Operating expenses, maintenance and taxes, Net earnings, Other income, Net earnings including other income, Interest charges-net, Balance, Preferred dividends, Retirement (depreciation) reserve, Amortization of debt discount and expense, Balance, Common dividends, Surplus.

Note.—Annual requirements for dividends on common stocks at present rate of 6% per annum is \$2,486,806. The operating expenses for the 12 months ended Sept. 30 1931, include \$105,000 credit for withdrawal from contingent reserve. Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle May 7 '32, p. 3444

Northern States Power Co. (Minn.)

Table with columns: 12 Months Ended Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows: Gross earnings, Operating expenses, maintenance and taxes, Net earnings, Other income, Net earnings including other income, Interest charges-net, Balance for pref. divs., retirement (deprec.) reserve, amortiz. of debt discount & expense, common dividends and surplus.

Note.—The operating expenses for the 12 months ended Sept. 30 1931, include \$105,000 credit for withdrawal from contingent reserve.

Ohio Oil Co.

Table with columns: Earnings for Nine Months Ended Sept. 30 1932. Rows: Sales, Cost of sales, Other deductions, Taxes, Depreciation and depletion, Net profit, Preferred dividends, Common dividends.

Surplus, Earnings per share on 6,562,607 shs. com. stock (no par), Net income for the quarter ended Sept. 30 1932, was \$2,177,348, equal to 20 cents a share on 6,562,607 (no par) shares of common stock, comparing with \$2,442,092 or 24 cents a share on 6,562,406 common shares in the preceding quarter, and \$1,656,106, or 12 cents a share, on 6,562,005 common shares in the March quarter of this year.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle Mar. 19 '32, p. 2166

(The) Orange & Rockland Electric Co.

Table with columns: Month of September, 1932, 1931, 10 Mos. End. Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows: Operating revenues, Oper. exps., incl. taxes but excl. depreciation, Depreciation, Operating income, Other income, Gross income, Interest on funded debt, Balance, Other interest, Amortization deductions, Other deductions, Divs. accrued on pf. stk., Fed. inc. taxes incl. in operating expenses.

Pacific Coast Co.

Table with columns: 3 Mos. End. Sept. 30, 1932, 1931, 1930. Rows: Gross earnings, Expenses, depreciation & depletion, Profit.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle Mar. 19 '32, p. 2166

Pacific Public Service Co.

Table with columns: Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos.-1931, 1932-9 Mos.-1931, 1931. Rows: Net profit after charges.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle Apr. 9 '32, p. 2721

Packard Motor Car Co.

Table with columns: Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos.-1931, 1932-9 Mos.-1931, 1931. Rows: Net loss after chgs. & taxes.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle Apr. 30 '32, p. 3290

Parmelee Transportation Co.

Table with columns: Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos.-1931, 1932-9 Mos.-1931, 1931. Rows: Net loss after interest, depreciation, &c.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle May 28 '32, p. 3993

Pet Milk Co.

Table with columns: Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos.-1931, 1932-9 Mos.-1931, 1931. Rows: Net profit after charges & Federal taxes, Shares com. stock outstanding (no par), Earnings per share.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle Mar. 19 '32, p. 2167

Philadelphia Co.

Table with columns: 12 Months Ended Sept. 30, 1932, 1931. Rows: Gross earnings, Operating expenses, maintenance & taxes, Net earnings, Other income, Net earnings including other income, Int. charges, rentals, contract payments & miscellaneous income charges, Balance, Preferred dividends, Retirement (depreciation) reserve, Amortization of debt discount & expense, Balance, Common dividends, Surplus.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle April 23 '32, p. 3092

Price Bros. & Co., Ltd.

Table with columns: Earnings for Seven Months Ended Sept. 30 1932. Rows: Operating profits, &c., after English newspaper price adjustment of \$108,546, Miscellaneous revenue incl. interest and dividends received, Exchange credits, Total income, Net loss before deprec. & deplet. & without taking into acct., \$491,692 sinking fund requirements not provided for.

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle June 11 '32, p. 4336

Pullman, Inc.

Table with columns: Period End. Sept. 30, 1932-3 Mos.-1931, 1932-9 Mos.-1931, 1931. Rows: Earnings after exp. & taxes, Depreciation & charges, Net income, Earnings per sh. on 3,875,000 shs. cap. stock (no par).

Last complete annual report in Financial Chronicle Mar. 26 '32, p. 2327

(The) Pullman Co.

Revenues and Expenses of Car and Auxiliary Operations.

Table with columns for 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Sleeping Car Oper'ns, Berth revenue, Seat revenue, Charter of cars, etc.

Solvay American Investment Corp.

(Controlled by Solvay & Co.)

Table with columns for 1932, 1931. Rows include 3 Months Ended Sept. 30, Profit after charges but before Federal taxes, etc.

Southland Royalty Co.

(And Subsidiaries)

Table with columns for 1932, 1931, 1930. Rows include 9 Months Ended Sept. 30, Net income after depreciation, etc.

Spicer Manufacturing Corp.

(And Subsidiaries)

Table with columns for 1932, 1931. Rows include 9 Months Ended Sept. 30, Profit from operation, Expenses, etc.

Reo Motor Car Co.

(And Subsidiaries)

Table with columns for 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-9 Mos., 1931. Rows include Sales, Costs and expenses, Operating loss, etc.

Roanoke Gas Light Co.

Table with columns for 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-12 Mos., 1931. Rows include Gross revenues, Operation expenses, Maintenance, etc.

Rochester Gas & Electric Corp.

Table with columns for 1932, 1931. Rows include 12 Months Ended Sept. 30, Electric revenues, Gas revenues, etc.

San Diego Consolidated Gas & Electric Co.

—Month of September— 12 Mos. End. Sept. 30

Table with columns for 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Gross earnings, Net earnings, Other income, etc.

Seattle Gas Co.

Table with columns for 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-12 Mos., 1931. Rows include Gross revenues, Operation expenses, Maintenance, etc.

Southern Colorado Power Co.

Table with columns for 1932, 1931. Rows include 12 Months Ended Sept. 30, Gross earnings, Operating expenses, etc.

Standard Oil Company of California.

Table with columns for 1932-3 Mos., 1931, 1932-9 Mos., 1931. Rows include Operating income, Dividends, Other non-oper. inc. (net), etc.

Staten Island Edison Corp.

Table with columns for 1932, 1931. Rows include 12 Months Ended Sept. 30, Operating revenue (electric), Operating expenses, etc.

United-Carr Fastener Corp.

(And Subsidiaries)

Table with columns for 1932, 1931, 1930. Rows include 9 Months Ended Sept. 30, Gross profit from operations, Commercial expenses, etc.

United Light & Power Co.

(And Subsidiaries)

Table with columns for 1932, 1931. Rows include 12 Months Ended Sept. 30, Gross oper. earns. of sub. & controlled cos., etc.

Income Account for 12 Months Ended June 30 1932 (not consolidated).

Table with columns for various income and expense categories. Total income: \$6,534,399. Net income: \$2,606,333.

Condensed Balance Sheet (not consolidated).

Table comparing assets and liabilities as of June 30 '32 and Dec 31 '31. Total assets: \$175,652,529. Total liabilities: \$175,652,529.

Although the successor trustee now has on hand funds sufficient to pay the interest coupons which became due on July 1 1932, defaults of a serious nature still exist with respect to other payments required to be made under the mortgage.

- (a) Failure to pay the serial maturity of bonds which became due on Jan. 1 1932 \$36,500
(b) Failure to pay the serial maturity of bonds which became due on July 1 1932 39,000
(c) Failure to make monthly payments on the first days of July, August, September, October and November 1932 on account of \$39,000 in principal amount of bonds maturing on Jan. 1 1933 32,500
(d) Failure to make monthly payments on the first days of July, August, September, October and November 1932 on account of \$82,080 in principal amount of coupons becoming due on Jan. 1 1933 68,400

Total \$176,400. As at Nov. 1 1932, the successor trustee had on hand the sum of \$7,517 in addition to the amount required to pay the July 1 1932 coupons.

Real estate taxes for the second half of the year 1932 aggregating \$43,117 which were due and payable on Nov. 1 1932 and which become delinquent on Nov. 30 1932, are also unpaid.

S. W. Straus & Co., Inc., in a letter to the bondholders, states in part:

On June 28 1932 we submitted for consideration a plan of adjustment which was designed to preserve the net income of this property for the certificateholders and to avoid a certificateholders' committee and receivership with the obvious expense and damage to the property necessarily incident to a receivership.

Although a majority of the certificateholders assented to the plan, the amount of assents required to make it automatically operative was not reached.

We are informed that the net income from the property is being deposited with the successor trustee under the mortgage securing your certificates and funds now on hand are sufficient to pay the interest coupons which became due on July 1 1932, and accordingly such coupons will be paid upon presentation at the office of the successor trustee or S. W. Straus & Co., Inc.

We believe that the best interests of the certificateholders now require the information of a committee to act in your behalf.

This committee is composed of the following: George E. Roosevelt, Chairman, Roosevelt & Son; Charles G. Edwards, Pres., New York Real Estate Securities Exchange; Frederic J. Fuller, Vice-Pres., Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co.; Harvey D. Gibson, Pres., Manufacturers Trust Co.; Peter Grimm, Pres., Wm. A. White & Sons; Henry R. Kinsey, Pres., Savings Bank Association of the State of N. Y.; George McAneny, Pres., Regional Plan of New York; George V. McLaughlin, Pres., Brooklyn Trust Co.; Robert E. Simon, Real Estate; J. Barstow Smull, New York State Chamber of Commerce.

Allegheny Steel Co.—New Mills.—See Follansbee Bros. Co. below.—V. 135, p. 3168.

Allied Chemical & Dye Corp.—Subs. Shipments Heavy.—As the closing of the season of navigation approaches, the Solvay Process Co., a subsidiary, is making heavy shipments of soda ash and caustic soda by way of the New York State barge canal.

American Chicle Co.—Usual Extra Dividend.—The directors have declared an extra dividend of 25c. a share and the regular quarterly dividend of 50c. a share on the common stock, both payable Jan. 1 to holders of record Dec. 12.

American Colortype Co.—Listing of Common Stock (\$10 Par).—The New York Stock Exchange has authorized the listing of 182,000 shares common stock (par \$10) upon official notice of issuance in exchange share for share for common stock without par value previously issued and outstanding.—V. 135, p. 3169.

American Securities Investing Corp.—Initial Distribution on Income Debentures.—The New York "Times" of Nov. 11 had the following:

The directors of this corporation, the so-called bond pool organized by banks here last June under the leadership of J. P. Morgan & Co., met on Nov. 10 and declared an initial distribution for the first half year of operations of 1 1/2% on the corporation's outstanding income debentures, payable on Dec. 1.

The pool was organized with subscribed capital of \$100,000,000, of which \$23,000,000 has been paid in from time to time. The distribution, which is being made on the entire outstanding amount of debentures, amounts to about \$345,000, which is at the rate of 3% annually.

This payment does not represent the full earnings of the corporation for the period. A large part of these earnings is not at this time available for distribution because, although they have piled up in the form of accrued interest on the bonds in which the corporation's funds are invested, in the case of many bonds the dates on which the coupons are payable have not yet been reached because none of the corporation's money has been invested for a full period of six months and much of it has been invested for a much shorter period.

The pool began operations early in June, at a time when the bond market was close to its lows for the depression to date. As soon as the announcement of the formation of the organization was made bond prices started up and soon thereafter the general recovery in security prices set in. As a result of this movement the pool never got a chance to get all its capital to work under the conditions it was formed to take advantage of. In recent months the corporation has not been very active, but it has retained all the investments it made.

American Ship & Commerce Corp.—Earnings.—For income statement for 9 months ended Sept. 30 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 135, p. 2833.

American Steel Foundries.—Earnings.—For income statement for three and nine months ended Sept. 30 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 135, p. 989.

Wheeling Traction Co.—Sale Continued.—

For the second time, Judge Frank W. Nesbitt, Special Master appointed by Judge William E. Baker, of the United States Court, in the Federal receivership, was compelled on Oct. 15 to continue the sale. Not a single bid was received and Mr. Nesbitt continued the sale until Nov. 12. The sale was originally set for Sept. 17, when no bids were offered and a continuance was granted.—V. 135, p. 2656.

INDUSTRIAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Price of Lead Advanced.—American Smelting & Refining Co. has advanced the price of lead 15 points to 3.15 cents a pound, New York. "Wall Street Journal," Nov. 9, p. 1.

Tugboat Workers Accept Wage Cut.—A new wage agreement for the 4,000 men employed by tugboat lines was signed by representatives of the men and the owners, meeting at the New York Tugboat Exchange, 17 Battery Place. Peace was thus assured for 6 months after a series of conferences held in the last 4 weeks at which threats of a strike to tie up traffic were conveyed to the employers. "N. Y. Times," Nov. 8, p. 43.

Matters Covered in the "Chronicle" of Nov. 5.—(a) Prices of new Plymouth six announced, p. 3060; (b) Price of milk reduced in Philadelphia—New retail price 9 cents a quart and 5 cents a pint, p. 3061; (c) Copper sales show moderate improvement at lower prices—Call for lead better, p. 3064; (d) World lead output declined in September, p. 3064; (e) Steel output up 1%, increasing operations to 20% of capacity—Production of pig iron higher in October—Price of steel scrap lower, p. 3064; (f) Decrease of \$55,099,384 reported in outstanding brokers' loans on New York Stock Exchange during October—Decline follows two consecutive increases—Total Oct. 31, \$324,702,199, as against \$379,801,583 on Sept. 30, p. 3073; (g) New York Stock Exchange removes 23 matured bond issues from list—Other issues to remain on list pending further investigation, p. 3074; (h) Michigan Securities Commission reinstates license of Halsey, Stuart & Co.—South Dakota Securities Commission also lifts suspension of firm's license to sell securities in that State, p. 3075; (i) Mark O. Steinberg & Co., St. Louis, failure—Receivership terminated at request of company in order that bankruptcy court may proceed with hearing on firm's composition offer, p. 3075; (j) Limit set in New Jersey on securing loans from Reconstruction Finance Corporation p. 3098.

Administrative & Research Corp.—New Vice-President.—Col. Benjamin F. Castle, recently elected Vice-President of the Administrative & Research Corp., New York, has resigned from the Presidency of the American Women's Realty Corp., New York, operating corporation for the American Women's Association. Mr. Castle's duties with the Administrative & Research Corp. are given as the reason for his resignation. He will remain on the board of directors of the Realty corporation and will be succeeded in the Presidency by Alfred Smer.—V. 135, p. 2496.

Air-Way Electric Appliance Corp.—Earnings.—For income statement for 3 and 9 months ended Sept. 30 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 135, p. 1656.

Ajax Rubber Co., Inc.—Bonds Off List.—See details in last week's "Chronicle," page 3075.—V. 133, pp. 12763.

Alaska Juneau Gold Mining Co.—Earnings.—For income statement for month and 10 months ended Oct. 31 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 135, p. 2656.

Alden Apartment Building, New York, N. Y.—Call for Deposit of Bonds.—

The holders of first mortgage 6% serial coupon gold bond certificates dated Jan. 12 1926 and the holders of receipts therefor issued by S. W. Straus & Co., Inc. are advised that it has been decided not to proceed with the plan set forth in a letter dated June 28 1932, from S. W. Straus & Co., Inc. Because of the defaults existing under the mortgage securing the bond certificates it is essential that a committee be empowered to take such action as may be necessary to protect the bondholders in any situation which has arisen or may arise with respect to the property securing their bonds.

American Woman's Realty Corp.—New President.— See Administrative & Research Corp. above.—V. 134, p. 3277.

American Writing Paper Co.—Wage Cut.— Further pay readjustments to meet conditions were announced by Pres. S. L. Willson. Wages of workers are to be reduced from 4% to 10%, while 25% of the amount to be saved will come from officers of the company, as has been the case in previous reductions. Mr. Willson said the cut had been deferred in the hope of better conditions.—V. 135, p. 3000.

Anaconda Wire & Cable Co.—Earnings.— For income statement for 3 and 9 months ended Sept. 30 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 135, p. 1166.

Anglo-American Corp. of So. Africa, Ltd.—Earnings.— The following are the results of operations for the month of October 1932:—(South African Currency)—

Table with 5 columns: Tons Milled, Revenue, Costs, Profit. Rows include Brakpan Mines, Ltd., Springs Mines, Ltd., West Springs, Ltd., Daggafontein Mines, Ltd.

Arcadian Consolidated Mining Co.—Dealings in Stock Suspended by Boston Stock Exchange.—

The Governing Committee of the Boston Stock Exchange on Nov. 10 took the following action: A report from the Committees on Law and Insolvency and of Arrangements acting jointly, with regard to their investigation of the recent market activities in shares of Arcadian Consolidated Mining Co. was read and thereupon, on a motion duly made and seconded, it was Voted, That under conditions now existing it is detrimental to the best interests of the public and of the Exchange that trading in shares of Arcadian Consolidated Mining Co. be continued and therefore dealings in such shares are suspended until further notice.—V. 135, p. 3169.

Arrowhead Lake Co.—Deposits, &c.— The committee for the first mortgage gold bonds announced that Nov. 7 was the final date within which the holders of the bonds may deposit their bonds with the committee and participate in the plan of reorganization. Over 97% of the outstanding bonds are on deposit with Union Bank & Trust Co., Los Angeles, depository.

Trustee's sale was scheduled for Nov. 9 at the Court House in San Bernardino, Calif. Non-depositing bondholders will receive only their pro-rata share of the sale price, less expenses. The committee is composed of P. A. English, R. E. Roberts and L. M. Burntrager. Edna M. Cutler, Secretary, 626 South Spring St., Los Angeles, Calif.—V. 119, p. 1449.

Art Metal Construction Co.—Earnings.— For income statement for 3 and 9 months ended Sept. 30 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 135, p. 1333.

Aviation Corp. (Del.)—Proposed Acquisition of North American Aviation, Inc., Delayed—Fight on for Control.—

A contest between E. L. Cord and the present management to gain control of the Aviation Corp. of Delaware loomed on Nov. 10 when Mr. Cord's representatives presented a letter to the company's directors asking that a stockholders' meeting be called for Dec. 21 to increase the directors from 35 to 68.

LaMotte T. Cohu, President of the corporation, said he interpreted the demand as an indication that Mr. Cord would attempt to elect 33 additional directors to represent his interest and to control the company. The Cord Corp. is the owner of approximately 750,000 shares of Aviation Corp. stock. Mr. Cord is already a director and is also represented on the board by two other directors.

The struggle for control of the company was precipitated by the management's proposal to issue 1,997,776 additional shares of stock to acquire practically all of the assets of North American Aviation, Inc., which, like the Aviation Corp. is a holding company. The management of Aviation Corp. proposes also to acquire the Transamerica Airline Corp. operating from Michigan, Ohio and Indiana to Buffalo by issuing 1,975 shares of Aviation Corp. stock for each share of Transamerican Airline stock.

These deals would increase the outstanding stock of Aviation Corp. from 2,770,000 to more than 4,770,000 shares. At the same time, Mr. Cord's stock interest of approximately 25% in Aviation Corp. stock would be reduced to about 15%.

An order restraining North American Aviation, Inc., from selling certain of its assets to the Aviation Corp. of Delaware for 1,997,776 shares of the latter company's common stock was issued at Wilmington, Del., on Nov. 10 by J. O. Wolcott, Chancellor of the Court of Chancery. The order is returnable on Jan. 4, when the defendants are directed to show cause why an injunction should not be issued.

On Nov. 9, Mr. Cord had sent telegrams to the directors of Aviation Corp. and of North American Aviation, protesting against the deal on the ground that it was not to the best interests of either company.

As a result of the injunction, the Aviation Corp. meeting was adjourned until Nov. 15.

After the meeting held on Nov. 10, Mr. Cohu issued the following statement:

"At a meeting of Aviation Corp. directors to-day, a representative of the Cord Corp. presented a letter demanding that a stockholders' meeting be called on Dec. 21 for the purpose of increasing the directors from 35 to 68.

"At that time Mr. Cord will undoubtedly attempt to elect 33 directors representing his interests and thereby dominate Aviation Corp. through control of the board.

"The directors' meeting of the Aviation Corp. was adjourned for the reason that Mr. Cord obtained an injunction to prevent Aviation Corp. directors recommending to the stockholders the purchase of the major assets of North American Aviation, Inc., which would increase the outstanding stock of Aviation Corp. from 2,770,000 shares to over 4,770,000 shares. The meeting was adjourned until Tuesday next at the same hour, when it is expected that the restraining order will be lifted and the board permitted to function.

"At the meeting representatives of Messrs. Sarderson and Porter and Day and Zimmerman, industrial engineers, stated that they considered the purchase constructive and fair to stockholders of both corporations.

"This fight between Mr. Cord and the management and directors of Aviation Corp. is the culmination of the battle which has been brewing since Mr. Cord's entrance into the Aviation Corp. because of his continued insistence that the present airplanes and engines be discarded and replaced by Stinson airplanes and Lycoming engines manufactured by Cord.

"The present management has as much stock as Mr. Cord. We should have no difficulty in retaining control of the company."

The plan provides for the acquisition by the Aviation Corp. substantially all assets of North American Aviation, including Sperry Gyroscope, Eastern Air Transport, B-J Aircraft Corp. and several other subsidiaries, as well as all the company's cash with the exception of \$1,000,000. The assets to be acquired include approximately \$5,000,000 in securities of aviation companies, including a 25% interest in the Douglas Aircraft Co., a 10% interest in the Curtiss-Wright Corp. and a substantial minority interest in Transcontinental Air Transport. Properties of North American which are not included in the deal are the Ford Instrument Co. and a small amount of bonds.

Acquisition of Eastern Air Transport, which operates between New York and many cities in the Southeastern part of the country, would round out the transport facilities of the Aviation Corp., Mr. Cohu said. Replying to Mr. Cord's remark that the deal was contrary to the anti-trust laws, he said the Eastern Air Transport lines were not in competition with the Aviation Corp. lines, but would supplement the latter.

By acquiring Transamerican Airline, Mr. Cohu said the Aviation Corp. was placing itself in a position whereby it could establish a route from Boston to Chicago merely by adding service between Boston and Buffalo.

Herbert Bayard Swope on Nov. 9 announced his resignation as a director of North American Aviation, Inc., as a protest against the alleged secrecy surrounding the above deal.

To Increase Capitalization and Change Par Value.—

The Committee on Securities of the New York Stock Exchange on Nov. 10 received notice from the Aviation Corp. of the proposed change in the par value of the common stock from \$5 to \$4 per share and an increase in the authorized number of shares from 5,000,000 to 6,500,000.—V. 135, p. 3169.

Baldwin Co.—New Stock Listed.— The New York Curb Exchange has removed from trading privileges the old common stock (par \$20) and admitted the new common stock (par \$8) which was issued on a share-for-share basis in accordance with notices addressed to stockholders Sept. 26 and Nov. 4.—V. 135, p. 2497.

Baldwin Locomotive Works.—October Bookings Higher.— Business booked by the Baldwin Locomotive Works and affiliated companies for the month of October amounted to \$572,000 as compared with \$501,000 in September and \$1,016,000 in October 1931. It marked the third consecutive month to show an increase over preceding period, and although volume is still way below normal the month's bookings were the largest for any month since April when total was \$663,000. For the period from Jan. 1 to Oct. 31 bookings amounted to \$5,849,000 as compared with \$19,426,000 in corresponding period of 1931.

Shipments for October on a consolidated basis amounted to \$757,000 as compared with \$584,000 in September and with \$1,688,000 in October 1931. For the 10 months ended with October shipments amounted to \$9,694,000 as compared with \$19,564,000 in corresponding period of 1931. Unfilled orders on Oct. 31 amounted to \$2,962,000 as compared with \$8,053,000 at the beginning of the year. (Philadelphia "Financial Journal")—V. 135, p. 3169, 3001.

(N.) Bawlf Grain Co., Ltd.—Earnings.—

Table with 4 columns for years ended July 30 '32, July 31 '31, July 31 '30, July 31 '29. Rows include Operating profit, Bond interest, U. S. A. exch. on bond int. & bond redempt'n, Depreciation, Federal income tax, Sundry property adjust, Net profit, Preferred dividend, Common dividend, Special reserve, Balance, Previous surplus, Over prov. for inc. tax, Profit and loss surplus, Earns. per sh. on 60,000 shs. com. stk. (no par).

Comparative Consolidated Balance Sheet July 31. Table with 4 columns for years 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Fixed assets, Cash, Accts. receivable, Inventor's of grain and coal, Fgt. chgs. against grain in elev'trs (net), Life insurance, cash surrender value, Prepaid expenses, Invest. & memberships, Total, Preferred stock, Common stock, Bank loans, Accounts payable, Special reserve, 1st mtce. bonds of Bawlf Terminal Elevator Co., Surp. on reorganiz., Operating surplus.

x Represented by 60,000 shares of no par value.—V. 133, p. 3633.

Bay State Fishing Co.—Earnings.—

Table with 4 columns for years April 30—1932, 1931, 1930, 1929. Rows include Fish sales, Cost of fish sales and fileet oper. expenses, Gr. prof. on fish sales, Other oper. income, Gr. prof. from oper., Oper. & adm. expenses, Non-oper. income (net), Estimated Fed. inc. taxes, Res. for uninsured losses, Net income, Prior prof. dividends, Preferred dividends, Common dividends, Deficit, Shares com. stock outstanding (no par), Earnings per share.

x On April 11 1929 stockholders voted to increase the authorized common stock from 22,000 shares to 50,000 shares. As of April 30 there were outstanding 23,697 shares of common stock. The earnings per share are figured on 22,000 shares which were outstanding the greater part of the year. y Does not include common dividends which were omitted for the entire year.

Balance Sheet April 30. Table with 4 columns for years 1932, 1931, 1932, 1931. Rows include Mach., equip., real estate, &c., Cash, Accts. receiv., less reserve for doubtful accounts, Inventories, Temporary Invest., Prepaid Insurance, Inv. in other co.'s, Deferred bond and other expenses, Total.

x After deducting \$1,209,364 reserve for depreciation. y Represented by 23,785 shares of no par value.—V. 134, p. 2726.

Beneficial Industrial Loan Corp.

Comparative Balance Sheet. Table with 4 columns for years Sept. 30 '32, Dec. 31 '30, Sept. 30 '32, Dec. 31 '30. Rows include Cash, Instal. notes rec., Misc. notes & accts. receivable, Due from sub. for cap. stock employ. subscrip., Investments, Purch. fund for acquisition of 6% conv. debentures, Furn. & fixtures, Expend. for business develop., Unamort. deb. disc. & expenses, Total, Notes payable to banks, Federal income tax, Other curr. liab., Due to Assoc. Co., Employ. thrift acct., Res. for insur., &c., 6% conv. debts., due Mar. 1 1946, Preferred stock, Common stock, Paid-in surplus, Earned surplus.

a Represented by 215,663 no par shares less 250 shares in treasury. b Represented by 2,094,859 no par shares less 2,385 shares treasury stock. c After reserve for doubtful loans of \$2,111,680. d After reserve for depreciation of \$488,859.—V. 135, p. 2835.

Baltimore Tube Co.—Earnings.— For income statement for three and nine months ended Sept. 30 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 135, p. 1166.

Barnsdall Corp.—Earnings.— For income statement for 3 and 9 months ended Sept. 30 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 135, p. 1658, 1166.

(T. E.) Bissell Co., Ltd.—Earnings.— Years Ended May 31— 1932. 1931. 1930. 1929. Net profit after deprec...

Comparative Balance Sheet May 31. Assets— 1932. 1931. Liabilities— 1932. 1931. Cash— \$512 \$927 Investments— 51,434 51,434

Blue Ribbon Corp., Ltd.—Earnings.— Years Ended June 30— 1932. 1931. 1930. Profit for year— \$128,313 \$265,929 \$254,688 Depreciation— 30,000 30,000 18,914

Consolidated Balance Sheet June 30. Assets— 1932. 1931. Liabilities— 1932. 1931. Cash— \$45,837 \$42,393 Accts. receivable— 304,345 434,125

Bonanza Development Co.—To Be Dropped from List.— The capital stock of the company has been dropped from the Boston Stock Exchange (the Boston transfer and registration agencies having been discontinued).—V. 110, p. 1292.

Booth Fisheries Co.—Stock to Go Off List.— The New York Stock Exchange has received notice from the receivers in bankruptcy of Booth Fisheries Co. that they are unwilling to incur any expense in the employment of a transfer agent for the common and preferred stocks of the subject company.

(Richard) Borden Mfg. Co.—Comparative Bal. Sheet.— Assets— Sept. 24'32. Sept. 26'31. Liabilities— Sept. 24'32. Sept. 26'31. Real estate, bldgs., mach'y & equip— \$772,105 \$805,477

Boston Ground Rent Trust.—Smaller Dividend.— A semi-annual dividend of \$2 per share was recently declared on the capital stock, par \$100, payable Nov. 15 to holders of record Nov. 5.

Boston Wharf Co.—Smaller Distribution.— A semi-annual dividend of \$2.50 per share has been declared on the common stock, payable Dec. 31 to holders of record Dec. 1.

Briggs Manufacturing Co.—Adds Workers.— The company has added over 3,000 men during the past 30 days and is operating with a force of 8,437 employees on a 6-day schedule, according to a dispatch from Detroit.

Earnings.— For income statement for three and nine months ended Sept. 30 see "Earnings Department" on a preceding page.—V. 135, p. 1167.

British-American Oil Co.—Earnings, &c.— At the recent meeting of stockholders, President A. L. Ellsworth stated that the net profit for the first nine months of this year, after deprec. interest, depreciation and allowance for income taxes, was \$1,926,305.

With respect to the proposed issue of \$5,000,000 6% debentures, maturing in 1945, which was ratified by the stockholders, Mr. Ellsworth said it would be desirable that the company should be in an independent position and this could be done by converting a current liability into a time liability.

Operating profit— 9 Mos. End. Sept. 30 '32. Cal. Year 1931. Interest— \$3,259,000 \$4,415,745 Depreciation— 176,000 244,436

(E. T.) Bruce Co.—Balance Sheet June 30.— Assets— 1932. 1931. Liabilities— 1932. 1931. Fixed assets— \$1,784,410 \$1,816,431

Total— \$5,294,421 \$6,450,276 Total— \$5,294,421 \$6,450,276 x Represented by 130,000 no par shares. y After \$2,332,401 reserved for depreciation. z Less amortization, \$791.—V. 135, p. 3170.

(Edward G.) Budd Mfg. Co.—Bonds, &c., Extended.— We have been informed that the outstanding \$149,000 1st mtge. 6% serial bonds and the \$550,000 outstanding 6% purchase money mortgages, both of which were due Aug. 1 1932, have been extended for a period of three years, or until Aug. 1 1935.—V. 135, p. 3170.

Burns & Co., Ltd.—Committee Report Encouraging.— Holders of bonds have received from the committee which was appointed last May a report of the company's situation. The committee records its belief that "some real improvement has already taken place and that further progress will be made in improving the operation and management of the company."

The report is signed on behalf of the committee by A. E. Pequegnat, its Chairman, is dated Oct. 31, and reads in part as follows: "At a meeting of bondholders on May 25 a resolution was passed appointing a committee to represent the bondholders' interest with authority to examine into and investigate the condition of the company's business and its financial situation, to employ advisers and assistants, to consult and co-operate with the company and the trustees, National Trust Co., Ltd., and take such other action as may be considered advisable."

"Following this commission the committee met with the officers of the company and the trustee, on numerous occasions, examined carefully the financial statements and other material obtained from the company and informed themselves generally on the company's affairs. It was then considered advisable to employ expert assistance to make a survey of the company's properties, operating situation and business generally, with a view to obtaining full information on all angles of the company's operating situation."

"The committee retained the services of an independent packer of wide experience who commenced his investigation in July. Towards the end of that month the committee held a meeting in Calgary with the officers of the company and with the expert to consider the developments arising from the preliminary report of the committee's investigator. As a result certain changes in executive responsibility were made which the committee believed will be beneficial. W. J. Blake Wilson of Vancouver has assumed the presidency of the company, John Burns continuing as General Manager and to provide representation for the bondholders, Col. A. M. Brown of Vancouver, and R. W. Pearson of the National Trust Co., Edmonton, have been elected to the board of directors."

"We are pleased to report that since the meeting of the committee in Calgary further substantial economies in the conduct of the company's business have been effected."

"The investigator's report which of course must be confidential has been favorable on the whole and indicates that while company's financial position has suffered from too rapid expansion, a very considerable part of the company's difficulties has arisen from general business conditions in the West."

"The report is directed particularly to the physical condition of the properties, business organization and management. It states that the company's plants are located at strategic points for the economical handling of Western livestock and farm products, and that these plants are amenable in excellent operating condition, with ample refrigeration—a most important factor—available for proper handling of products; that these plants are in a position to produce meat products at as low a cost as any plant in Canada, and in export trade should have a strong position; that the company's products are of excellent quality and enjoy a fine reputation, and the key men have a competent grasp of the business and their own particular work. The report covers the situation fully and contains constructive suggestions in regard to operations which either have been put into effect or are now under consideration by the management."

"As a result of changing conditions company has altered its selling policy and recently disposed of 46 of its retail markets to Sterling Food Markets, Ltd., which now operates retail stores in Greater Vancouver, Nanaimo and Calgary and Edmonton districts. The company is considering the disposition of its markets in other centres as it is believed that the disposal of these retail markets will enable company to expand its wholesale trade. This transaction has been approved by the bondholders' committee, and the consideration received is being pledged with the trustee for the bondholders."

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, Nov. 11 1932.

COFFEE on the spot was quiet with Santos 4s, 10 1/2c.; Rio 7s, 8c. and Victoria 7-8s, 7 3/4c. Cost and freight offerings from Brazil to-day range from 5 to 15 points lower. For prompt shipment, they included Santos Bourbon 2s at 10.40 to 10.75c.; 2-3s at 10.50 to 10.80c.; 3s at 10.25 to 10.62 1/2c.; 3-4s at 10.10 to 10.45c.; 3-5s at 9.65 to 10.10c.; 4-5s at 9.80 to 10.00c.; 5-6s at 9.35c.; 6s at 9.30 to 9.45c.; 7s at 8.75c.; 7-8s at 8.75c.; Peaberry 3s at 10.35c.; 3-4s at 10.05 to 10.15c. and 4s at 10.00 to 10.10c. On the 5th futures here were 11 to 15 points lower for Santos and 6 to 9 for Rio. On the 7th futures declined 11 to 14 points. The trade, Europe and Brazil sold. Shorts covered and there was some profit taking. The sales of Santos were 21,250 bags and of Rio, 1,750. On Nov. 5 it was cabled that 52,000 bags had been destroyed by the National Coffee Council; the total to date being 10,050,000 bags. Spot coffee was quiet at 10 3/4c. for Santos 4s; 8c. for Rio 7s and 7 3/4c. for Victoria 7-8s; cost and freight Santos basis 4s, 10 to 10.30c.; delayed shipments under 10c. It is reported that a change may be made in the collection of the express tax in Brazil. This caused selling of futures.

On the 9th Santos futures here advanced 10 to 13 points on the confirmation of the report about the change in the method of collecting taxes on coffee exports from Brazil. Rio futures here ended 1 to 7 points lower with sales of only 15 lots; Santos sales amounted to 50 lots. On the 10th Santos futures advanced 3 to 10 points and Rio 3 to 7 on small trading. Spot coffee was also quiet. Cost and freight Santos 4s prompt 9.80 to 10.15c. Spot Santos 4s, 10 1/2 to 10 3/4c. Rio 7s, 8c; Victoria 7-8s, 7 3/4c. Maracaibo-Trujillo, 10 to 10 1/2c.; Cucuta Fr. to g'd, 10 1/2 to 11c.; Pm. to ch., 11 to 11 1/2c.; Washed, 10 3/4 to 11c.; Ocana, 9 3/4c.; Bucaramanga Natural, 10 1/2 to 11c.; Washed, 10 3/4 to 11 1/4c.; Honda, Tolima and Giradot, 10 1/2 to 10 3/4c.; Medellin, 11 1/4 to 11 1/2c.; Armenia, 11 1/4; Manizales, 10 1/2 to 10 3/4c. Mexican, washed, 12 1/4 to 13 1/4c.; Liberian, Surinam, 9 1/2c.; East India Ankola, 26 to 35c.; Mandheling, 26 to 33c.; Genuine Java, 21 1/2 to 22 1/2c.; Robusta, washed, 8 1/2c.; Natural, 8 1/4c.; Mocha, 13 1/2 to 14c.; Harrar, 12 1/2 to 13c. To-day Rio futures here ended 5 to 7 points lower with sales of 6,000 bags and Santos futures 5 to 9 points lower with sales of 14,000 bags. Final prices are 13 to 26 points lower for the week.

Rio coffee prices closed as follows:

Spot (unofficial).....	8.00@	-----	May	-----	5.59@nom.
December.....	6.05@nom.	-----	July	-----	5.47@nom.
March.....	5.70@nom.	-----	September	-----	5.40@nom.

Santos coffee prices closed as follows:

Spot (unofficial).....	10 1/2@	-----	May	-----	8.20@nom.
December.....	9.14@	-----	July	-----	8.08@nom.
March.....	8.50@	-----	September	-----	7.97@nom.

COCOA to-day ended 1 point lower to 1 point higher with sales of 85 lots. December closed at 3.95c.; January at 3.98c.; March at 4.13c.; May at 4.24c.; July at 4.35c. and Sept. at 4.46c. Final prices are unchanged to 2 points higher for the week.

SUGAR.—On the 5th futures closed unchanged after being 1 point lower in some cases with the trading estimated at only 1,800 tons. On the 7th futures closed unchanged to 2 points higher with spot raws quiet. Prompt Cuba was held at 1.15c. with 1.10 bid. Refined 4.25c. The Cuba movement for the week ended Nov. 5 as follows: Arrivals, 30,014; exports, 51,176; stock, 672,295. Exports were to: New York, 28,138; Philadelphia, 2,784; Boston, 6,644; Baltimore, 2,595; Norfolk, 1,106; Tampa, 1,150; interior United States, 29; United Kingdom, 8,201; Uruguay, 529. London term market on the 7th was quiet but steady. November shipments in the raw market were held at 5s 11 1/4d, equal to .77c. per pound, f.o.b. Cuba. There were indications that bids at this basis for December shipment would be accepted. Refiners, however, were interested only in January shipments.

On the 9th futures ended unchanged to 2 points lower with sales of only 2,800 tons. As the full extent of the damage done by the tropical storm in Cuba was unknown it had little effect marketwise: 4,000 tons of Philippines for November shipment sold at 3.03, an unchanged price since the last transaction. Cuba spot held at 1.15 with 1.10 bid. London was steady. Peru afloat sold at 5s. 10 1/2d. equal to .75c. f. o. b., Cuba. On the 10th further reports of damage to the crop by the great Cuban hurricane caused a rise in futures of 3 to 8 points. Mills, warehouses and cane in the fields were said to have been damaged. Wall Street and Cuba bought. The sales were 12,800 tons. Denver wired, Nov. 10th, that the Great Western Sugar Company will pay

nearly \$10,000,000 to farmers Nov. 15 as the first payment on the 1932 beet sugar crop. To-day futures ended unchanged to 3 points lower with sales of 22,750 tons. Final prices are 3 to 4 points higher for the week.

Closing quotations follow:

Spot (unofficial).....	1.12@	-----	May	-----	1.03@1.04
December.....	1.07@1.08	-----	July	-----	1.07@1.08
January.....	1.02@1.03	-----	September	-----	1.12@
March.....	0.98@0.99	-----			

LARD on the spot was quiet; prime 5.70 to 5.80c.; refined to Continent, 6 1/4c.; South America, 6 3/4c. On the 5th inst. futures closed 25 points higher on nearby deliveries while distant months were 7 to 13 points up. Cash houses were good buyers. On the 7th inst. futures ended 35 points higher on near months and 3 points higher on the distant deliveries. Hogs were 10 to 20c. higher with the top \$3.60. Exports of lard were heavy, i.e., 1,668,275 lbs. On the 9th inst. futures after early firmness on the strength of the hog situation declined and ended unchanged to 10 points lower on hedge selling by packers. Futures on the 10th inst. closed 5 points lower to 2 points higher. To-day the market was closed. Final prices are unchanged to 3 points higher than a week ago.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF LARD FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
January.....	4.30	4.30	---	4.17	4.17	---
March.....	4.35	4.37	---	4.30	4.25	---
May.....	4.42	4.45	---	4.35	4.32	---

Season's High and When Made.	Season's Low and When Made.
January.....	January.....
March.....	March.....
May.....	May.....

PORK steady; Mess, \$16.50; family, \$17.75; fat backs, \$10.50 to \$11.75. Beef quiet; Mess nominal; packet, nominal; family, \$13 to \$14; extra India mess nominal; No. 1 canned corned beef, \$1.97 1/2; No. 2, \$3.90; six pounds, South America, \$12; pickled tongues, \$33 to \$35. Cut meats steady; pickled hams, 10 to 12 lbs., 9c.; 14 to 16 lbs., 8 3/4c.; 18 to 20 lbs., 8 1/2c.; pickled bellies, clear, 10 to 12 lbs., 7 1/2c.; 8 to 10 lbs., 7 3/4c.; 6 to 8 lbs., 8c.; bellies, clear, dry salted, boxed, New York, 18 to 20 lbs., 5 1/2c.; 14 to 16 lbs., 6 1/2c. Butter, lower grades to higher than extra, 18 1/2 to 23c. Cheese, flats, 12 to 17 1/2c. Eggs, mixed colors, checks to special packs, 17 1/2 to 36c.

OILS.—Linsed was firm at 6.7c. for ear lots. The flax crop was estimated as of Nov. 1 at 12,800,000 bushels against 11,100,000 bushels the final last year. This is 400,000 below the October figure. Coconut, Manila, Coast, tanks 3c.; tanks, New York, spot 3 3/4c.; corn, crude tanks f.o.b. Western mills 3 1/2c. Olive, denatured, spot, drums 52 to 55c.; shipment 50 to 51c. China wood, N. Y. drums-car lots 5 1/4 to 5 3/4c.; tanks, spot 5 1/4 to 5 3/4c.; Pacific Coast, tanks 4 1/2c. Soya bean, tank cars, f.o.b. Western mills 2.25c.; ear lot, delivered, drums, N. Y. 3 1/4 to 4c.; L. C. L. 4 to 4 1/4c. Edible, olive oil \$1.25 to \$1.40. Lard, prime 9c.; extra strained winter 7 3/4c. Cod, Newfoundland 23c. Turpentine 45 3/4 to 50 3/4c. Rosin \$3.50 to \$6.65.

PETROLEUM.—Gasoline demand fell off a little recently and the tone was easier. The Mid-continent market was weaker. Low octane was quoted in Tulsa at as low as 4 1/2c. and it was intimated that 3 3/4c. would be accepted on a firm bid. Yet no transactions were reported at that price. Locally 6 1/4 to 6 1/2c. was quoted for 65 octane and 6 1/2 to 7c. for above 65 octane. Heating oils were in better demand and firmer. Grade C bunker fuel oil was firmer at 75c. at refineries. Diesel oil was steady at \$1.65. Kerosene demand increased and prices were firm at 5 1/2c. for 41-43 water white. Some were asking 6c. in tank cars.

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 5th futures closed 2 to 4 points higher. On the 7th futures advanced for the third day in succession rising on the 7th 9 to 16 points with cables firm and English stocks decreasing. London closed unchanged to 1 1/2-16d. higher. London's stock decreased for the week 500 tons now being 42,114 tons; Liverpool's fell off 395 tons to a total of 57,311 tons. The sales of futures here were 1,188 tons closing with No. 1 Standard for Dec., 3.51c.; March, 3.71 to 3.72c.; No. 1 B for May, 3.81c.; July, 3.88c.; Sept., 3.96 to 3.97c.; Sept., Nov. and Dec., 3 9-16c.; first latex, 4c. On the 9th futures fell 12 to 18 points with sales of 300 tons. An increase in stocks on hand and a decline in other markets affected rubber. Eastern dealers' stocks increased from 23,622 tons in September to 26,270 tons in October, dry basis. No. 1 Standard closed with Nov., 3.36c. and March, 3.57c.; No. 1 B for May, 3.65 to 3.70c.; Sept., 3.83 to 3.86c.; spot and Nov. outside, 3 3/8 to 3 1/2c.; Dec., 3.96c.; first latex crepe, 4c. London declined 1-32 to 1-16d.; Singapore un-

changed to 1-32d. lower. On the 10th futures advanced 5 to 10 points with sales of 1,050 tons. London was 1-32d. lower to 1-32d. higher. No. 1 Standard closed with Dec., 3.45c.; March, 3.62 to 3.63c.; No. 1 B for May, 3.71c.; July, 3.80c.; Sept., 3.88 to 3.90c.; spot outside $3\frac{3}{8}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ c.; first latex, 4c. To-day futures closed 5 to 9 points higher with sales of 40 lots of No. 1 Standard and 35 lots of No. 1 "B." London ended 1-16d. higher with Nov., 2 21-32d.; Dec., 2 21-32d.; Jan.-March, 2 23-32d.; Apr.-June, 2 13-16d.; July-Sept., 2 29-32d. Final prices here show a rise for the week of 11 points. November ended at 3.43c.; Dec. at 3.45c.; March at 3.62c.

HIDES.—On the 5th closed 4 to 5 points lower. On the 7th futures closed 15 points lower to 5 higher with sales of 1,000,000 lbs. Also 4,000 Argentine frigerifico steers sold at 6 5-16c. Futures closed with old December 5.15c.; new March 5.70 to 5.80c.; new June 5.35 to 5.45c.; Sept. new 6.85 to 6.95c. On the 9th closed 10 points lower with sales of 1,240,000 lbs. Spot hides were more active; 5,000 Nov. frigerifico steers sold at 6 5-16c.; 24,000 domestic August-September light native cows at 6c. and 75,000 Sept.-Oct. packer hides as follows: Light native cows at 6, heavy native steers at $6\frac{1}{2}$, butt branded steers at $6\frac{1}{2}$, branded cows $5\frac{1}{2}$, heavy Texas steers at $6\frac{1}{2}$, extra-light native steers at 6. Dec. old closed at 5.05c.; new 4.90c.; March new 5.60 to 5.75, June 6.25 to 6.40, Sept. 6.75 to 6.90c.; New York City calfskins 9-12s \$1.25; 7-9s 95c.; 5-7s 65 to 70c. On the 10th futures opened 5 to 15 points lower but rallied later closing with old contracts 15 points higher and new up 10 to 15. Dec. old ended at 5.20 to 5.25c., March new 5.75c., June 6.40 to 6.45c. To-day futures ended 14 to 20 points higher with sales of 46 lots. Nov. closed at 5.10c.; Dec. at 5.25c.; March at 5.95 to 6c.; May at 6.35c.; June at 6.54c.; Sept. at 7.00 to 7.05c. Final prices are 15 to 25 points higher for the week.

OCEAN FREIGHTS were rather active, especially for grain.

CHARTERS included: Grain, 32,000 qrs. 10, Montreal, 14-21, Mediterranean, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; Antwerp, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. 21,000 qrs. Montreal November picked United Kingdom, 1s. 9d. to 2d. 35,000 qrs. Montreal November 10-20, Antwerp-Rotterdam, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. 35,000 qrs. Montreal, November picked United Kingdom ports, 9s. 9d., A. R., 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; a few loads Montreal, November A. R. basis, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. 35,000 qrs. Montreal, spot, United Kingdom, 1s. 9d.; second half November, Montreal, 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. Mediterranean. Booked: 25 loads State elevator New York-Antwerp, November, 4c.; 6 loads Montreal-Antwerp, November, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; 17 loads Montreal, November Marseilles, 9c.; 25 loads Montreal, middle November, Antwerp, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; few loads Rotterdam, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Trips: West Indies round, 90c.; trip down from Canada, 90c.; West Indies round, 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. prompt. Sugar: November, Cuba, United Kingdom-Continent, 15s. 6d.; United Kingdom-Continent, November, Cuba, 15s.; Santo Domingo, 14s. Tankers: 11,000 tons steamer, consecutive 1933 voyages, Gulf, Port de Bouet, 8s. 6d.; California, Ocean, Continent, December, 14s.

TOBACCO has been quiet. At Richmond, Va., the Richmond tobacco market, which handles the sun-cured products exclusively, will open Dec. 6 with prospects for another comparatively light season. Havana dispatches to the "United States Tobacco Journal" said: "The local tobacco market was stirred this week by the purchase of 7,000 bales of Vuelta Abajo tobacco for clear Havana manufacture, Henry Clay and Bock & Co. bought 5,600 bales and the Partagas factory bought 1,400 bales. Prices for top grades ranged from 70 to 75c. per pound and for lower grades 30 to 35c. per pound. This is the largest transaction in this type of tobacco that has taken place here in several months. Tampa, Fla., cigar factories manufactured a total of 36,328,321 cigars during the month of Oct., a gain over Sept. of 7,680,000. In October, 1931, the factories turned out 41,346,687 cigars, approximately 5,000,000 more than were made the same month this year. The comparison of October figures against those of the same month last year were more favorable than the preceding several months. At Danville, Va., the market improved last week. The average for 250,000 pounds was \$9.40 rising from \$8.12 the previous day. Receipts were small. With nearly 300,000 pounds of tobacco on the South Boston, Va., warehouse floors, selling for an average of \$10.16, the market there has about struck its regular stride. The average prices paid for graded tobacco on the markets of Chatham, Kenbridge, Petersburg, South Boston and South Hill last week were as follows: Orange leaf, B5F, \$10.20; B6F, \$5.90; B7F, \$3.30. Orange lugs, X3F, \$14.10; X4F, \$8.30; X5F, \$4.70. Chatham sales were light; offerings averaged better in quality. Prices firm. Kenbridge sales were heavy. The offerings consisted of a small quantity of cutters and good quality lugs. At Petersburg the sales were fairly heavy. An increased quantity of cutters and good quality leaf grades was offered. Medium to low grade leaf and lugs composed the bulk of the offerings. South Hill sales were heavy. Offerings included a larger percentage of medium to common leaf grades. Small volumes of cutters and good quality of lugs were offered. Average tobacco prices were irregular at Henderson and Oxford, N. C., in the Middle North Carolina belt. Sales were heavy. Sales were light at Farmville and Smithfield, N. C., in the new bright belt."

COAL has been in moderate demand at generally unchanged prices. Screenings have been rather steadier. Bottom prices quoted on screenings and slack are: Southern Illinois, 85c.; central No. 4, 30c.; central No. 6, 30c.; northern screenings, \$1.75; Danville, 60c.; Fulton Peoria, 70c.; Belleville, 20c.; Elkhorn, 40c.; Harlan slack, 40c.; eastern premiums, 75c.; western screenings, 10c.; Indiana 4 vein, 80c.; 5 vein, 30c.; Brazil, \$1; Pike County, 65c.; Booneville, 50c.; Pocahontas, Sewell, 15c.; Beckley, 25c.

SILVER futures on the 5th inst. closed about 5 points lower. There was no trading. On the 7th inst. futures closed 23 to 28 points higher with sales of 575,000 ounces; December, 27.65 to 27.70c., and March, 27.88c. On the 9th inst. futures ended 25 points lower with sales of 550,000 ounces. December closed at 27.40 to 27.45c.; February at 27.54c.; March, 27.60 to 27.67c.; May, 27.85c. On the 10th inst. futures closed unchanged at 27.40 for December; 27.47c. for January, and 27.85@27.90c. for May. Sales were 700,000 ounces. To-day futures ended 13 to 17 points lower with sales of 1,350,000 ounces. November closed at 27.50c.; December at 27.56 to 27.58c.; January at 27.60c.; March at 27.80c.; May at 28.02 to 28.10c.; July, 28.22c.; Sept., 28.42c., and October, 28.52c. Final prices are 8 to 15 points higher than a week ago.

COPPER sales abroad during the past week were estimated at 8,000 tons. Prices there ranged from $5\frac{1}{2}$ @5.65c. on the 10th inst. against the high of 5.75c. the preceding day. Copper Exporters, Inc. quoted 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. There was a flurry of business on the 9th, but this was shortlived. The volume of buying on the 10th inst. was very small. The domestic price was $5\frac{1}{4}$ @5 $\frac{3}{8}$ c. In London on the 10th spot standard declined 11s. 3d. to £32 3d.; futures off 12s. 6d. to £32 10s.; sales 10 tons of spot and 1,100 futures; electrolytic unchanged at £37 10s. bid and £38 asked; at the second London session standard advanced 5s on sales of 650 tons of futures. Futures here on the 10th inst. were unchanged ranging from 4.35c. for November to 4.91c. for Oct. 1933. Futures to-day ended with American, Nov., 4.35c.; Dec., 4.40 to 4.50c.; Jan., 4.47c.; Feb., 4.55c.; March, 4.60c.; Apr., 4.65c.; May, 4.70c.; June, 4.75c.; July, 4.80c.; Aug., 4.85c.; Sept., 4.90c.; Oct., 4.95c.; sales 175 tons.

TIN was quiet and easier with spot Straits available on the 10th inst. at 23.50 to 23.60c. Futures on that day closed at a decline of 40 to 45 points with sales of 410 tons. November ended at 22.75c.; Dec. at 22.80 to 22.95c. and Jan. at 22.90c. London was £1 to £1 5s. lower at the first session, but recovered 5s. to 7s. 6d. at the second session. Futures to-day ended with Nov., 23.25c.; Dec., 23.30c.; Feb., 23.50c.; March, 23.60 to 23.75c.; May, 23.80c.; July, 24c.; Sept., 24.20c.; Oct., 24.30c.; sales 5 tons.

LEAD was in good demand and firm. Many expected an advance of \$2.00 to-day. Sales of pig lead for the past week were 4,000 tons. London on the 10th inst. fell 2s. 6d. on the spot to £12 8s. 6d. and 1s. 3d. on futures to £12 16s. 3d.; sales, 50 tons spot and 100 tons of futures.

ZINC was dull with the price still 3c. East St. Louis. London on the 10th inst. dropped 1s. 3d. on the spot to £15 7s. 6d.; futures rose 1s. 3d. to £15 16s. 3d.; sales, 200 tons of futures.

STEEL has remained as quiet as ever. The ingot production in October increased 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ %. It averaged a total of 19% according to the Iron & Steel Institute in that month. A later statement credited the U. S. Steel Corporation with a production of a little less than 18% against 17 the week before, and the independents with 21% compared with 22 in the previous week.

PIG IRON has been quiet at \$14 for Buffalo, at furnace and \$12.75 to \$13 for Eastern Penn. area foundry. For New England delivery Eastern Penn. it is stated at \$16.75. While Dutch and Indian iron are offered in the New England territory at \$14 to \$15.

WOOL.—A Government report from Boston dated Nov. 9th said: "Scattered sales are being closed on 64s and finer Western grown wools. The shorter staple combing wools principally are called for at present. Moderate quantities of 64s and finer territory wools in original bags are available at 40 to 45c., scoured basis, with the bulk of the sales at the low side of the range." A late Government report from Boston said: "A moderate amount of business is being transacted in 64s and finer Western wools. Fair quantities of new Mexican wools have sold in original bags at 36@38c. scoured basis for average to short French combing staple. Offerings of territory wools of similar grade and staple bring around 40c., scoured basis. Current demand is largely for the shorter staple combing fine wools. The bulk of the average to good French combing 64s and finer territory wools are held at around 42c., scoured basis. Domestic fleeces, unwashed, Ohio & Penn., fine delaine, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 20c.; fine clothing, 16 to 17c.; $\frac{1}{2}$ -blood comb'g, 20c.; $\frac{1}{2}$ -blood clothing, 17 to 18c.; $\frac{3}{8}$ combing, 21c.; $\frac{3}{8}$ clothing, 17 to 18c.; Ohio & Penn., combing, 20 to 21c., low $\frac{1}{4}$ -blood, 18 to 19c.

WOOL TOPS futures to-day ended unchanged. Sales included March at 52.90c. and May at 53.40c. Closing prices were: Nov. and Dec., 51c.; Jan. and Feb., 51.50c.; April and May, 52.50c.; June, July and Aug., 53c., and Sept., 53.50c.

SILK.—On the 5th inst. futures closed 1 to 3c. higher with sales of 1,630 bales. Nov. ended at \$1.42 to \$1.46; Dec. at \$1.45 to \$1.46; Jan., Feb., \$1.45; March, April and May, \$1.46, and June, \$1.45. On the 7th inst. early prices were higher in sympathy with the strength of grain and stock markets but later on scattered selling caused a decline and prices ended unchanged to 1 point lower. Sales were 880 bales. On the 9th inst. futures closed 1c. lower to 1c. higher with sales of 1,750 bales. Nov. and Dec., \$1.46 to \$1.48; Jan., \$1.46 to \$1.47 and Feb. and June incl., \$1.47.

corresponding periods of the previous year—is set out in detail below:

Table showing Movement to Nov. 11 1932. and Movement to Nov. 13 1931. Columns include Towns, Receipts, Shipments, and Stocks for both periods.

Total, 56 towns 250,439 2,465,221 181,628 220,160 323,892 2,640,252 176,177 205,223
*Includes the combined totals of 15 towns in Oklahoma.

The above total shows that the interior stocks have increased during the week 68,318 bales and are to-night 149,563 bales more than at the same period last year.

OVERLAND MOVEMENT FOR THE WEEK AND SINCE AUG. 1.—We give below a statement showing the overland movement for the week and since Aug. 1, as made up from telegraphic reports Friday night.

The foregoing shows the week's net overland movement this year has been 12,714 bales, against 20,579 bales for the week last year, and that for the season to date the aggregate net overland exhibits an increase over a year ago of 16,385 bales.

In Sight and Spinners' Takings. Table showing Receipts at ports to Nov. 11, Net overland to Nov. 11, Southern consumption to Nov. 11, Total marketed, Interior stocks in excess, Excess of Southern mill takings over consumption to Oct. 1, Came into sight during week, Total in sight Nov. 11, North spinners' takings to Nov. 11 Decrease.

Movement into sight in previous years: 1930—Nov. 15—555,003 1930—7,585,299 1929—Nov. 16—568,556 1929—8,421,454 1928—Nov. 17—558,927 1928—7,701,570

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:

Closing Quotations for Middling Cotton on— Table with columns for Week Ended Nov. 11, Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and market locations like Galveston, New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah, Norfolk, Montgomery, Augusta, Memphis, Houston, Little Rock, Dallas, Fort Worth.

NEW ORLEANS CONTRACT MARKET.—The closing quotations for leading contracts in the New Orleans cotton market for the past week have been as follows:

Table showing New Orleans Contract Market prices for November from Nov. 5 to Nov. 11. Columns include Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and contract types like November, December, January (1933), February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, Spot, and Options.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT ESTIMATE OF SIZE OF CROP.—The Agricultural Department at Washington on Wednesday (Nov. 9) issued its report on cotton production and yield per acre as of Nov. 1. The probable yield is now placed at 11,947,000 500-lb. bales, as against 17,096,000 bales harvested a year ago and 13,932,000 bales harvested two years ago.

The 1932 United States cotton crop is forecast at 11,947,000 bales by the United States Department of Agriculture, based upon indications as of Nov. 1. This is an increase of 522,000 bales, or 4.6% above the Oct. 1 forecast. The average yield forecast as of Nov. 1 is 156.2 pounds per acre compared with 201.2 pounds in 1931 and a 10-year average yield (1921-1930) of 151.4 pounds.

Table showing Production (Ginnings) 500-Lb. Gross Weight Bales. Columns include State, Acreage Harvest 1932 (Prelim.), 10-Yr. Aver-1921-1930, 1931, Indicated 1932, 1930 Crop a, 1931 Crop a, 1932 Crop Indicated Nov. 1.

* Allowances made for inter-State movement of seed cotton for ginning. b Less than a 10-year average. c Including Pima Egyptian long staple cotton, 22,000 acres and 13,000 bales. d Not included in California figures nor in United States total.

COTTON GINNING REPORT.—The Bureau of the Census on Nov. 9 issued the following report showing the number of bales of cotton ginned in each of the cotton-growing States the present season up to Nov. 1 in comparison with corresponding figures for the two preceding seasons. It appears that up to Nov. 1 1932 only 9,245,534 bales of cotton were ginned, against 12,124,295 bales for the corresponding period a year ago and comparing with 10,863,896 bales two years ago. We give below the report in full:

REPORT ON COTTON GINNING. Number of bales of cotton ginned from the growth of 1932 prior to Nov. 1 1932, and comparative statistics to the corresponding date in 1931 and 1930.

Table showing Running Bales (Counting Round as Half Bales and Excluding Liniers). Columns include State, 1932, 1931, 1930, and market locations like Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, All other States, and United States.

* Includes 71,063 bales of the crop of 1932 ginned prior to Aug. 1 which was counted in the supply for the season of 1931-32, compared with 7,307 and 78,188 bales of the crops of 1931 and 1930.

000,000 in the preliminary estimate. This was construed as rather bullish.

To-day the Exchange was closed for Armistice Day. Final prices on Thursday were 1/8 to 1/4c. higher than last Friday.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT IN NEW YORK.

Table with columns: No. 2 red, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Values range from 63 to 63 1/2.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with columns: December, May, July, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Values range from 43 3/8 to 51.

Table with columns: Season's High and When Made, Season's Low and When Made. Values include 66 1/4, 65, 60 1/2 and dates like Apr. 26 1932.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF WHEAT FUTURES IN WINNIPEG.

Table with columns: November, December, May, July, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Values range from 46 1/4 to 51 3/8.

INDIAN CORN has latterly been firmer with wheat higher. The Government report was about as expected. On the 5th inst. corn rose 1/8 to 1/4c., closing unchanged to 1/8c. net higher...

On the 9th inst. prices declined 1/4c., partly in response to the drop in wheat, although corn showed more steadiness, as a good export trade is expected. Modification of the Prohibition Act would also sooner or later have a stimulating effect...

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN IN NEW YORK.

Table with columns: No. 2 yellow, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Values range from 40 3/4 to 42.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF CORN FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with columns: December, May, July, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Values range from 25 to 31 1/2.

Table with columns: Season's High and When Made, Season's Low and When Made. Values include 39 1/4, 40 1/4, 34 1/4 and dates like Apr. 26 1932.

OATS have been firmer of late, with other grains, and their intrinsic value at present prices is considered sound. On the 5th inst. prices closed 1/4 to 3/8c. higher, with small trading. July acted particularly well...

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS IN NEW YORK.

Table with columns: No. 2 white, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Values range from 26 1/4 to 27 1/2.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with columns: December, May, July, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Values range from 16 to 18 1/2.

Table with columns: Season's High and When Made, Season's Low and When Made. Values include 25, 23 1/4, 19 and dates like Apr. 26 1932.

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF OATS FUTURES IN WINNIPEG.

Table with columns: December, May, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Values range from 22 1/2 to 24 1/2.

RYE has of late advanced in conformity with wheat. On the 5th inst. prices closed 1/8c. higher, helped by wheat, but with no feature of special interest. On the 7th inst. prices, spurred by the rise in wheat, advanced 1/4 to 1 1/2c. On the 9th inst. prices declined 7/8 to 1c. and closed 3/8 to 1/2c. net lower...

A Chicago dispatch to the Associated Press said: "Barley, a foundation stock of beer, was recalled to-day from a nine-year exile by traders on the Chicago Board of Trade. Apparently believing that modification of the Volstead Act to per-

mit the manufacture of beer was imminent as a result of Tuesday's election, traders gathered around the small rye pit as the gong boomed to start the day, and quickly began dealings in barley. It was the first time in nine years that future delivery of that grain had been traded on the Exchange. Barley was fairly active when a great amount of the grain was used for beer. With the advent of the Eighteenth Amendment demand began to lag, and eventually trading was discontinued by common consent. The first deal completed was for barley to be delivered next month. The price was 25c. a bushel. Bidding was brisk, however, and the grain quickly ran up in price. The final sale was at 29c., with 29 1/2c. bid just before the close. Directors of the Board of Trade will meet on Tuesday to consider a change in the grading of barley. Present business was for export and also based on feeding types."

DAILY CLOSING PRICES OF RYE FUTURES IN CHICAGO.

Table with columns: December, May, July, Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. Values range from 27 3/8 to 33 3/8.

Table with columns: Season's High and When Made, Season's Low and When Made. Values include 45 1/4, 42 3/4, 36 1/2 and dates like June 3 1932.

Closing quotations were as follows:

GRAIN.

Table listing prices for Wheat, Oats, Corn, and Barley in New York. Values range from 31 1/4 to 40 1/2.

FLOUR.

Table listing prices for various flour types like Spring pat. high protein, Spring patents, Clear's Firstspring, etc. Values range from 3.90 to 4.30.

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 showing receipts of flour and grain at various ports (Chicago, Minneapolis, Duluth, etc.) from Aug 1 to 1930. Columns include Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, Barley with values in bushels and barrels.

Total receipts of flour and grain at the seaboard ports for the week ending Saturday, Nov. 5 1932 follow:

Table showing total receipts of flour and grain at seaboard ports for the week ending Saturday, Nov. 5 1932, compared with 1931 and 1930. Values range from 314,000 to 13,724,000.

* 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, Nov. 5 1932, are shown in the annexed statement:

Table showing exports from various ports (New York, Albany, Philadelphia, Baltimore, etc.) for Wheat, Corn, Flour, Oats, Rye, and Barley. Values range from 457,000 bushels to 224,000 bushels.

The destination of these exports for the week and since July 1 1932 is as below:

Table showing exports of Flour, Wheat, and Corn by destination (United Kingdom, Continent, etc.) with columns for Week Nov. 5 1932 and Since July 1 1932.

The visible supply of grain, comprising the stocks in granary at principal points of accumulation at lake and seaboard ports Saturday, Nov. 5 was as follows:

GRAIN STOCKS. Table with columns for United States, Canadian, and American, and sub-columns for Wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, and Barley.

increases in the production estimates for corn, tobacco, potatoes, sweet potatoes, beans, apples and grapefruit, and slight decreases in the estimates for grain sorghums, flax, peanuts and Louisiana sugar cane.

The corn crop is estimated at 2,920,689,000 bushels compared with 2,563,000,000 in 1931 and the 5-year average (1924-28) of 2,625,000,000 bushels.

The average yield per acre is 26.9 bushels against 24.4 bushels in 1931 and the 10-year average (1919-28) of 27.2 bushels.

Farm reserves of old corn on November 1 were placed at 7.0% of the crop harvested for grain in 1931, or 154,974,000 bushels, compared with 78,951,000 bushels on farms a year ago and 61,063,000 bushels on Nov. 1 1930.

CORN.a

Table showing Yield Per Acre and Production for various states, with columns for State, Yield Per Acre (1919-28, 1931, 1932), Production (Average 1924-28, 1931, 1932 Preliminary Estimate), and Stocks on Farms Nov. 1 (1931, 1932).

The world's shipments of wheat and corn, as furnished by Broomhall to the New York Produce Exchange for the week ended Friday, Nov. 4, and since July 2 1932 and 1931, are shown in the following:

Table showing world shipments of Wheat and Corn by destination (North Amer., Black Sea, Argentina, etc.) with columns for Week Nov. 4 1932 and Since July 2 1932.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT'S REPORT ON CEREALS, &c.

The Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture made public late on Nov. 10 its forecasts and estimates of the grain crops of the United States as of Nov. 1, based on reports and data furnished by crop correspondents, field statisticians and co-operating State Boards (or Departments) of Agriculture.

Pending final check on the acreages harvested, crop prospects appear about as estimated a month ago. The most important changes are slight

a Grain equivalent on acreage for all purposes.

The buckwheat crop is estimated to be 7,113,000 bushels, or less than 1% above the October 1 forecast, estimates for the leading producing areas remaining practically unchanged.

BUCKWHEAT.

Table showing Yield Per Acre and Production for various states, with columns for State, Yield Per Acre (1919-28, 1931, 1932), Production (Average 1924-28, 1931, 1932 Preliminary Estimate), and Stocks on Farms Nov. 1 (1931, 1932).

Flaxseed production is estimated at 12,770,000 bushels. Abandonment of acreage in North and South Dakota, two of the principal producing States, largely accounts for the 3% reduction from October 1 forecast.

The preliminary estimate of grain sorghum production for all purposes is 105,992,000 bushels or 9% below the October 1 forecast. In the dry area in the Southwest yields are far below October 1 indications.

Estimated potato production in the 30 late States, based on reported harvested yields, is approximately 294,500,000 bushels or about 1,600,000 bushels more than was indicated by the October 1 reports on condition

Georgia.—Atlanta: Mostly moderate temperatures, though frost north and west-central Wednesday; generally light to moderate rains. Harvesting all crops continues. Picking and ginning cotton practically completed. Corn mostly gathered. Grinding cane and making sirup continues. Some wheat, oats, and rye sown; generally good stands where up. Fall truck good.

Florida.—Jacksonville: Temperature and rainfall above normal; sunshine deficient. Rain heaviest on northeast coast and locally in Everglades section; much damage by rain on east coast of Lake Okeechobee. Oats, truck, cane, and sweet potatoes good. Citrus ripening and coloring slowly account warm weather. Strawberries good; increasing bloom.

Alabama.—Montgomery: Unseasonably cool at beginning, but unseasonably warm latter half; frequent rains middle and latter parts, mostly light. Cotton picking continues locally in central and north, otherwise finished. Condition of corn poor to good; harvesting good progress. Sowing oats progressing slowly; some up and looking well. Condition of potatoes, sweet potatoes, truck, pastures, and miscellaneous crops mostly fair to good.

Mississippi.—Vicksburg: Generally moderate temperature, mostly cloudy throughout, and occasional light to moderate rain latter half, rain locally heavy in extreme north. Housing cotton and corn about completed in south and nearing completion in central; poor to only fair progress in north. Progress of gardens and truck fair; pastures fair to good.

Louisiana.—New Orleans: Moderate temperatures and mostly dry weather favored harvesting corn, threshing rice, picking remnants of cotton, digging sweet potatoes, and cutting and grinding sugar cane. Good results from grinding continue. Truck and pastures improved by rains of Oct. 31, but more rain needed.

Texas.—Houston: Warm and generally dry. Favorable for harvesting corn, miscellaneous feed crops, and picking and ginning cotton which is practically completed. Condition and progress of wheat, oats, and barley only fair. Dryness caused some truck deterioration on lower coast. General rain needed for all crops. Citrus, ranges, and livestock good.

Oklahoma.—Oklahoma City: Ideal fall weather; favorable for field work. Rains in east on one day, but little or none in west. Picking and ginning cotton advanced rapidly; nearly finished in south-central and east. Harvesting corn and grain sorghums well advanced. Progress of winter wheat poor to very good, according to soil moisture; still some planting in west where rain needed. Pastures poor to fair.

Arkansas.—Little Rock: Favorable for picking and ginning cotton most of week; practically all of crop open, except on low places; considerable in fields on lowlands north of Arkansas River; about gathered elsewhere. Favorable for harvesting fall crops, threshing rice and growth of winter crops. Fall truck still plentiful in many localities.

Tennessee.—Nashville: Frost damaged late crops, but much still growing. Corn harvesting progressing, although delayed by wet fields locally. Condition of cotton poor to very good; mostly favorable for picking and ginning. Fall seeding continued; early-sown grains making excellent progress.

Kentucky.—Louisville: First half cool and grass and grain retarded; last half warm, with better growth. Wheat, rye, and barley excellent stands and fair size. Pastures still fairly good, but some feeding required. Showers interfered with corn gathering and digging late potatoes. Favorable for tobacco stripping.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE

New York, Friday Night, Nov. 11 1932.

The Presidential election, closing with a landslide for Roosevelt and the Democratic party in general, brought little apprehension into business channels and, on the other hand, rather positive approbation on a number of points. It is pointed out that the result, as foreshadowed, quite apart from removing the disturbing effect of campaign oratory and the tendency toward misconfidence and procrastination which inevitably invades the business world at such a time, will place in power next March a President who will not only have the manifested confidence of the general public but also the co-operation of a Congress composed largely of his own adherents. Responsible comment from financial and industrial circles almost unanimously deprecates the fears recently expressed that Mr. Roosevelt will lend himself to dangerous inflationary financial policies, or, for that matter, depart to any radical extent from the conservative attitude toward fundamentals adhered to by his predecessor. Great stress is placed upon the heavy majority given to the President-elect as indicating a confidence in him which should prove an enormous help to both the new administration and the people themselves in their battle to turn the tide of depression. The obvious wet mandate contained in the election of a largely wet Congress is also regarded as portending an early legalization of beer, quite probably during the December session, which would be a very important source of additional budget-balancing revenue for the Government. These considerations have contributed to markedly better sentiment in textile channels, among other branches of industry. While no appreciable upturn in actual business has followed immediately on the heels of the election, indicating that caution remains the predominant characteristic of buyers, the latter have shown a decidedly greater interest in the appreciably greater number of inquiries which are at present in evidence. This interest, apparently confirming previous indications that the trade has a definite need of further goods at this time, is believed by many observers to be a forerunner of further considerable buying in the near future, if the confidence of buyers can only be strengthened a little more. The bearish Government cotton crop report acted as a temporary deterrent to cotton goods, but the recovery of the staple was sufficiently rapid to quickly reassure goods markets. Strength in raw silk, and an increasingly firm stand in the wool goods trade against concessions from current prices, are similar sources of improving confidence, which prevented further appreciable price weakness. Relatively good business continues at retail, the recent slackening being attributed to election influences and considered temporary. With the public apparently responding to a materially greater need of textile products which they have long delayed purchasing, and to very low prices which have gone a long way toward bridging the gap created by deflated purchasing power, the outlook for consumption is considered bright for the spring season. Meanwhile the problem of threatening overproduction continues to create considerable misgiving. While wool and silk goods mills have been curtailing production during the current lull, it is said that the reduction has not been proportionate to the contraction of new business, and cotton and rayon goods output meanwhile continues around the year's

highest. It is feared that such conditions, especially in regard to cotton goods, may bring about serious congestion before the spring season can get properly under way and so undermine prices and prolong the present paralysis of buying initiative. Slight increase in orders for January delivery is reported in the rayon goods division, with further indications of reviving buying interest hoped for soon now that the election is over. Silk goods conditions were strengthened by higher raw silk values, and buyers who have been holding off resolutely for some time bought small quantities immediately following the election. Good business at retail, especially in silk dress goods, is fostering the expectation in a number of quarters that the trade is to experience an unusually successful spring season.

DOMESTIC COTTON GOODS.—Cotton goods markets were given little chance to digest the election results before a new complication of a very unsettling character in the shape of a Government crop report showing an excess of some 500,000 bales over expectations was forced into the lime-light. Raw cotton sagged and cotton goods reflected that trend immediately, abruptly checking moderate rallying tendencies which had developed earlier in the week and selling down rather sharply in a number of directions, print cloths yielding from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ c., while broadcloths and some sheetings fell in line with the downward trend. However, the amount of business transacted at these concessions was relatively small, and while buying hesitance was in good measure responsible for this, strong resistance by sellers, many of whom turned down business at the lower levels, also had a considerable deal to do with it. No sign of panic selling developed, and when raw cotton turned round yesterday and soared upward the goods market promptly recovered most of the losses registered on the previous day, as sellers refused a substantial volume of business offered at the figures which ruled then. The election results were received with prevalent equanimity, and a good many cotton goods men subscribe to the general disposition to take a more constructive view of the political and business outlooks, and their interrelated aspects, than was popular previous to the election, notwithstanding the fact that its result was clearly foreshadowed. Production fears, of course, remain in evidence, but it is hoped that a resumption of buying activity will materialize soon to modify this danger, while at the same time next week's conference at Spartanburg on night operations is looked forward to as a probable harbinger of closer regulation of output. A trend that is causing considerable satisfaction in the trade is that toward fine and fancy cottons at retail, where their excellent construction and styling, together with their extremely low prices make them great competitors of other textiles. Coarse cottons which go into work-shirts, overalls, light coats, and children's play suits are attaining increasing popularity among consumers. Reordering of fine goods is beginning to follow the recent promotion of such fabrics by converters. Print cloths 27-inch 64x60's constructions are quoted at 2 7/16c., and 28-inch 64x60's at 2 9/16c. Gray goods 39-inch 68x72's constructions are quoted at 3 3/4 @ 3 3/8c. and 39-inch 80x80's at 4 5/8c.

WOOLEN GOODS.—The election results met with little or no immediate response, one way or the other, in woolen and worsted markets, unless the somewhat firmer undertone in prices now in evidence is partly traceable to this source. Volume continued slow, with the distributing and retail end of the trade still busy on fall goods and large buyers still not completely decided on what lines to select for spring. Price considerations remain an uncertain quantity, notwithstanding a noticeably stronger disposition to turn down business at concessions, and are perhaps the greatest single deterrent at the moment. Some talk of possible tariff readjustments by the new administration which might prove harmful to the trade has been heard, but is not generally taken seriously. Some commentators fear increased competition and consequent undermining of values as the spring season gets under way, but others stress the satisfactory business done by retailers on fall lines, which has put retail buyers in a more confident frame of mind to lay in stocks, and the better credit conditions which exist in a number of directions. Responsible mills are strongly agitating for a generally firm stand on prices, as a sound method of ending the current buying lull and misconfidence of buyers in values in the shortest possible time. Prospects for more general holding of values are at the moment brighter, as several sellers have proved that it could be done without sacrificing business. An excellent season is anticipated in women's wear goods, and some predict that the heavy movement of such fabrics into consumption will noticeably influence the statistical position of the raw product. Retailers are still placing replenishment business on men's clothing and women's coats and dresses, it is reported. Low prices and well-styled products are said to be attracting the public appetite in satisfactory manner.

FOREIGN DRY GOODS.—Initial ordering of linen dress goods and men's suitings for the forthcoming season is getting gradually under way, and household lines are being taken in substantial quantities, particularly those suitable for the holiday trade. Burlaps were unchanged in price, with buying still meagre, offerings being plentiful notwithstanding further reduction of surplus goods here, reflecting reduced shipments. Light weights are quoted at 3.05c., and heavies at 4.35c.

