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The Financial Situation

The Securities and Exchange Commission has come forward with another of its remarkable findings concerning the "liquid savings" of the people of the United States. What business it has in this field is not explained, but that aspect of the matter is less important than the misleading nature of the material it is placing before a rather credulous public with the seal of the national government upon it.

This sentry of the securities markets, now turned economist, announces that "individuals" in the United States during the year of our Lord, 1943, accumulated "liquid savings" in the amount of \$37.7 billion, against \$29.5 billion in the previous year. The total of such "liquid savings" accumulated during the past four years is set forth at \$81.8 billion. Notwithstanding the enormous size of these figures the Commission is convinced that anti-inflationary appeals are falling upon deaf ears, or else the sums would be considerably larger—in which it may well be right, since such appeals usually lack a good deal in effectiveness.

"The ratio of liquid saving to income after taxes has remained relatively constant since the middle of 1942, in contrast to the rapid increase in the proportion of income saved prior to that time," the SEC remarks in making its figures public. "It is noteworthy that during this 18-month period individuals did not show any disposition to curtail the proportion of their income, after taxes, spent on goods and services in spite of patriotic appeals, and the 'normal' tendency on the part of individuals to save a larger proportion of their earnings as income increases." To us, it appears hardly strange that relative to dollar income, savings have not been increasing during the period in question—in light of the rising costs of living and the probable decline in the stocks of consumers.

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From Washington Ahead Of The News

By CARLISLE BARGERON

One gathers from reading the magazines and otherwise, that there is a tremendous worry on the part of a lot of people as to whether the Republicans will "throw away their opportunity" in the forthcoming election. As we understand it, these sources think it is tremendously important to get Mr. Roosevelt out and this is the reason they are worrying so much about the Republicans, who are the only ones to get him out. We have doubted the genuineness of this worry but on the theory that there ought not to be this sort of worry, either phoney or genuine, abroad in the land, your correspondent has been making a study to find out if there is a basis for it.

We haven't concluded our study and this should by no means be considered a final report. It is what might be called a preliminary report such as the Truman Committee, for example, is wont to issue. But so far, we find that it is the New Dealers, or more specifically, the President, who is making the mistakes. We shan't go back to the tax bill veto which aroused Senator Barkley's ire. Take the soldier vote controversy. The Republicans outmaneuvered him on it all over the place.

In an effort to get the Federal bob-tailed ballot which he so dearly wanted and for quite obvious reasons, Mr. Roosevelt stamped the State, complete ballot plan as a "fraud" and it followed that he would veto a fraud. Nevertheless, Congress went right ahead and passed it. Because of the crisis with Congress which he had just

provoked, the President stalled for time by sending telegrams to the Governors. He asked them just what they would do under the bill passed by Congress and said he would be guided by their answers. His political lieutenants went around shouting huzzahs. This was a political master stroke, they said. It showed the Chief had lost none of his political cunning. What he was doing was putting the Governors on the spot.

The Republicans, being right on top of him, immediately pointed out that there was not the slightest necessity for his action, that the Governors, or 46 of them, had already said what their Legislatures had done to facilitate voting by the armed forces and what they were making ready to do. All of this information had been spread in the Congressional Record for several weeks and had been the subject of considerable debate. Furthermore, they pointed out that it had made not the slightest difference what the President did. Congress had only proposed a formula. It had to be adopted by the various States to

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This Must Be A Century Of Opportunity For The Plain Folks: Henry A. Wallace

Vice-President Holds Only Full Use Of All Resources Can Give Full Employment To Individuals And Business Firms, Create A Large National Income And Enable Us To Carry The National Debt Safely—He Believes Title To War Plants Should Remain With Federal Agency To Create New Competition And New Production.

"It was part of the American tradition for more than 100 years that every man could make a living and prosper if he worked hard and was honest," Vice-president Henry A. Wallace said in an address before the Post-War Conference of Independent Enterprise of the American Business Congress, in New York City on March 17. "In 1930, however," Mr. Wallace continued, "innumerable businessmen

found themselves bankrupt and millions of men who were anxious to work could find no jobs. There were 10,000,000 unemployed people in the United States in 1932 and the savings of millions had been wiped out and countless thousands had lost their homes." The balance of Mr. Wallace's address follows:



Henry A. Wallace

"Action was needed if we were to escape disaster. We got action. A bank holiday was declared which gave us an opportunity to separate the sound banks from the unsound banks. Bank deposits up to \$5,000 were guaranteed and depositors took their money back to the banks. Appropriations were made for unemployment relief, and the hungry were fed. The Government of the United States carried out a program of public works, flood control and the prevention of soil erosion, which gave us a better land in which to live. Crop loans stopped farm bank-

ruptcy in the South and West. Farm mortgages were refinanced and interest rates reduced. Hundreds of thousands of farmers saved their farms and the loan companies and insurance companies were paid money, which they needed, and gave up farms, which they could not use. The Agricultural Adjustment Act was passed, which aided agriculture, and which has helped us feed our people and our allies during the war. The food stamp plan was adopted, which handled surpluses

sensibly. The Securities and Exchange Act was passed protecting investors and outlawing Blue Sky Schemes. The Tennessee Valley Authority and a series of great dam projects were started, without which we could not have produced the electric power we are using so effectively in wartime. Unemployment compensation, old-age pensions and social security passed from the realm of dreams into reality. America met the challenge.

"In 1937 the President, realizing that aggressor nations were threatening the peace and well-being of the rest of the world, made his famous speech in Chicago in which he called upon us to quarantine the aggressors.

"Long before Pearl Harbor we shipped arms and destroyers to Britain, increased our army and navy and began to convert our civilian plants into war plants.

"Since Pearl Harbor we have trained and equipped more than 10,000,000 men who are fighting

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Further Comments On Subject Of World Peace Organization

In an article given in the "Chronicle" of March 9, captioned "Why A New League of Nations Will Not Ensure Permanent Peace," Alexander Wilson maintained among other things that the failure of the erstwhile league underscored his contention that any future attempt to "permanently enforce world peace and security" through an international organization is destined to failure. In taking issue with this thesis, William Garfield

Lightbowne, whose views were contained in a letter published on the cover page of Section Two of our issue of March 16, contended that the horrors of the current world conflict only serves to emphasize the urgent necessity toward establishing a world peace organization. Mr. Lightbowne also referred to the potential danger of warfare in Asia on the issue of "white supremacy" as pointing out the need for unremitting efforts in the development of measures to assure peaceful settlement of disputes. A number of other communications have been received regarding the subject and these are given herewith:

Editor, The Commercial & Financial Chronicle:

Alexander Wilson's "League of Nation" article in the March 9 issue is a very realistic approach to the subject under discussion. I like it so well that I have practically committed it to memory.

Mr. Lightbowne's comment in the March 16 issue is likewise very interesting, in that it represents the opposite viewpoint. I wish, however, that Mr. Lightbowne had gone a little further and specified whom he thought qualified to head the world peace body.

Who is qualified to dominate such an organization, assuming that one is formed?

Will it be dominated by the imperialistic nations which heretofore have hogged the choicest

areas of the earth and are fighting now because they want to continue doing so; or will it be a truly democratic organization subject to majority rule? And if it is the latter, how will we white skins react to decisions unfavorable to our interests which might well be since we are greatly outnumbered by yellow, red and black combined.

Mr. Lightbowne answers that question himself in the following paragraph quoted from his article:

"The time may come when the 'Yellow Peril' will be a reality and not just a nightmare; when the white races may have to pool all their resources to hold their own against the 'rising tide of color'."

Any world peace organization which does not afford equal rights of control to all peoples regardless of race, color or previous status (whether friends or enemies) will be just another military alliance, sure to be in trouble as soon as some outside group grows strong enough to challenge its authority if indeed it is not broken up sooner by rivalries engendered in its own body.

After all, aren't we being a trifle naive in dreaming about "Universal and Everlasting Peace." Such a thing has never been known and I for one doubt that it will ever be known. Men will go on fighting until their civilization is destroyed and the world

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Atlantic Charter vs. Atlantic Charter

"Two criteria are plainly and indisputably relevant to a territorial settlement after the war. The first is the principle of self determination, the second is the necessity for so framing the settlement as to assure the attainment of those aims, 'freedom from fear' and 'freedom from want' which are implicit in the charter as a whole. The first of these criteria may on occasion have to yield to the second.

"Whatever may have been true in past centuries, the division of Europe today into 20 or 30 sovereign independent units, owing no allegiance to any higher authority, is incompatible with the military security and economic well being of the European peoples. This is a hard, irrefutable fact. To attempt to override it on the grounds of any general theory of self determination would be an act not of high political principle but of political madness."—The "Times" of London.

In matters such as these the "Times" of London has in the past been perhaps the most influential press organ in the world.

It is now injecting an element of realism into a situation which is badly in need of it.

The State Of Trade

The overall picture of industrial production and the state of trade the past week revealed a tendency to maintain, if not surpass, the gains established in previous weeks. Steel production was expected to display a modest advance, while carloadings declined by less than one point. Electric kilowatt output, however, rose 12.2% over a year ago, with retail trade enjoying a substantial increase of business induced in part by heavier consumer demand prior to the levying of increased excise taxes and the advent of an early Easter this year.

Touching upon production of electricity, we find that output decreased to 4,425,630,000 kilowatt hours in the week ended March 11, from 4,464,686,000 in the preceding week, as reported by the Edison Electric Institute. This was a gain of 12.2% over the year ago total of 3,944,679,000. Consolidated Edison Company of New York reports system output of 212,200,000 kilowatt hours in the week ended March 12, an increase of 25.9% over the 1943 total of 162,600,000.

Carloadings of revenue freight for the week ended March 11, totaled 781,533 cars, the Association of American Railroads announced. This was a decrease of 6,722 cars, or nine-tenths of one per cent below the preceding week this year, but an increase above the corresponding week of 1943 of 12,488 cars, or 1.6%, and a decrease of 17,823 cars or 2.2% below the same week in 1942.

In connection with the statement on freight loadings, it is interesting to note that the railroad companies put into service in January and February of this year, 5,174 new freight cars and 180 locomotives, as against 2,996 cars and 99 locomotives one year ago. On March 1, the roads had on order 33,012 freight cars and 779 locomotives as compared with 19,329 cars and 499 locomotives on Mar. 1, 1943, as reported by the same source.

Steel production in the United States is at the second highest level on record for the industry this week. According to the American Iron & Steel Institute, scheduled output is placed at 99.2 per cent of rated capacity for the week beginning March 20, equivalent to 1,777,000 tons of steel ingots and castings. This compares with operations at the rate of 99.1 per cent and output of 1,775,200 tons a week ago, representing a peak since the industry established its record of 1,781,300 tons in the week beginning October 11, 1943, when, however, a smaller capacity was available.

The dominant feature of the steel market, says "Steel" magazine, is the continued and increased demand for steel sheets and plates with war requirements increasing rather than lessening as the year advances. "Shipwork, landing craft, pontons, landing

the Bulletin reports, with the most important increase occurring in output of iron and steel, which regained its November level, and in the manufacture of textile products, which recovered about one-half of the December loss. Small advances were noted in the production of leather, stone, clay and glass and food products. As an offset to these advances, further declines took place in the output of transportation equipment, tobacco products and chemicals.

The Department of Commerce of the United States, in its March issue of Domestic Commerce, revealed a gradual easing of the war need for machine tools. This was demonstrated, Domestic Commerce states, "by heretofore confidential data on shipments, which totaled \$1,119,343,000 for 11 months ending with November, 1943, compared with \$1,321,748,000 for the full year of 1942. Monthly shipments declined steadily after last March, and in November were \$71,811,000, far below the peak of \$131,960,000 reached in December, 1942. November unfilled orders of the industry (\$246,509,000) represent less than a four month output at the current rate of production.

The United States Department of Labor, reporting on commodity prices in primary markets during the week ended March 11, states that they were generally unchanged, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics' index, covering nearly 900 price series, remained at 103.4 per cent of the 1926 average. Continued seasonal advances for certain fruits and vegetables and higher prices for wheat, hogs, and cotton were offset by lower prices for eggs, wheat flour and anthracite.

Bringing to a close the extended monthly decline in New York City department store inventories in comparison with the previous year, stocks on hand at the close of February, 1944 were 12 per cent higher than on the same date in 1943 as taken from a report issued last Monday by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. The report further stated, that merchandise stocks of apparel specialty shops, chiefly in this city, were 25 per cent higher.

An increase of 17 per cent in department store sales in New York and Brooklyn took place during the week ended March 18, over the corresponding period of 1943. Reasons given for the sharp upturn were heavier consumer demand prior to the effective date for increased excise taxes and an earlier Easter this year. For the month of February of the current year, figures for the entire Second Federal Reserve District reflected a decline of 3 per cent in department store sales from a year ago, while stocks on hand were up 11 per cent. Department store sales on a country-wide basis rose 11 per cent for the week ended March 11, compared with the like week a year ago, the Federal Reserve Board reports, while sales for the four week period ended March 11, slumped 2 per cent compared with a similar period last year, and by 1 per cent for the year to March 11, over a like period one year ago.

An indication of the drastic effects of war-time shortages of civilian goods on mail order houses was gleaned from the annual report of Montgomery Ward & Co., released this week. Sales of this company fell off 6.2 per cent in 1943 compared with 1942, notwithstanding the heavy demand for merchandise. As a consequence, its normally profitable mail-order division was operated at a loss.

A bright spot in the week's news was the release by the Securities and Exchange Commission of its analysis wherein it showed that liquid savings of individuals during 1943 amounted to \$37,700,000, the highest on record, and compared with \$29,500,000,000 in 1942 and \$10,600,000,000 in 1941.

New York Board Of Trade Opposes Creation Of A State Division Of Aviation

Also Opposes State Technical Institute Of Aeronautics

In two separate meetings on March 15th, the Aviation Section and the Executive Committee of the New York Board of Trade, opposed the Assembly introductory bills proposing the creation of a State Division of Aviation and likewise, the provision of a State Technical Institute of Aeronautics.

The Board points out that pending in the Legislature of the New York Assembly is an Introductory Bill 980, the purpose of which is to create in the Executive Department of the State, a Division of Aviation and to designate the powers and duties of this Division. The bill would provide for a Commissioner at \$10,000 per year and would appropriate \$50,000 of tax revenues for the expenses of the Division.

Commenting on this bill, Matthew G. Ely, President of the New York Board of Trade said:

"It is obvious that air transportation crosses many state lines, and that seldom, if ever, is air travel a matter of intra-state concern. Air transportation and certain elements of the aviation industry are presently under the jurisdiction of the Civil Aeronautics Division of the U. S. Department of Commerce and the industry at large is closely supervised and regulated by the Federal government. It is entirely unnecessary for the several states to exercise additional jurisdiction over air transportation."

The Executive Committee of the New York Board of Trade went on record also, as opposing a State Assembly Introductory Bill 977 which is designed to au-

thorize and to provide for a State Technical Institute of Aeronautics, and to provide \$2,000,000, of tax funds for that purpose. At its meeting, held in the Lexington Hotel, the Executive Board of the Aviation Section, New York Board of Trade, also actively opposed both bills. This Board had made an intensive survey and study of both bills, because its membership embraces a broad and diverse cross section of the entire aviation industry of the Metropolitan area.

Summing up of the attitude of the Aviation Section, the Section Chairman, John F. Budd, Editor and Publisher of Air Transportation said especially of the bill to create a State Technical Institute of Aeronautics, "the war emergency has created all over the country facilities for the study of Aeronautics. In addition, there are many excellent private and civilian institutions, already fully qualified to give instruction in these lines on a high level of practical industrial benefit."

Telegrams petitioning the Governor and the Legislature were sent by Mr. Ely, President, stating the Board's stand on these bills.

Banks Well Equipped To Take Care Of Post-War Credit Needs, Says Gen. Ayres

Questions Recommendation In Baruch Report For Additional Federal Reserve Authority To Make Loans

Expressing the opinion that "American banks are exceedingly well equipped to take care of all the sound and bankable post-war credit needs that may develop," Brig.-Gen. Leonard P. Ayres, Vice-President of the Cleveland Trust Co. of Cleveland, Ohio., points out that "never before have they been in such a strong and liquid condition as they are at present."

He goes on to say that "it seems strange that Messrs. Baruch and Hancock should have recommended in their report on post-war planning and policy that the Federal Reserve Banks and the Smaller War Plants Corporation should be granted additional authority to make loans for industrial reconversion and to supply working capital for small business. Existing commercial banks are eagerly seeking sound loans, and their ability to extend credit is ample to meet almost any demand."

Gen. Ayres' views are contained in the trust company's "Business Bulletin" issued March 15, in which he also has the following to say regarding bank assets:

"Investments are now by far the most important assets of commercial banks, and nearly all of these investments are Federal securities. Ever since 1933 the proportion of investments in bank portfolios has been increasing, but the truly phenomenal growth in their volume has taken place during the war years. In the diagram the four superimposed areas represent for the past 34 years from 1910 through 1943 the four chief classes of earning assets of commercial banks. The data are taken from the annual reports of the Comptroller of the Currency, and represent the holdings of all commercial banks on June 30 of each year.

"Back in 1910 commercial loans composed more than 41% of the assets, and that proportion increased to more than 50% of them

in several years of the 1920's. Last year such loans made up only 15% of the earning assets. At the beginning of the period in 1910 loans secured by collateral made up over 29% of the assets. At the peak of the period of security speculation in 1929 they comprised about 25% of the assets. Now they have decreased so far, both in actual amount and in relative importance, that they make up only a little over 2% of the assets. They are now smaller in volume than they were 34 years ago in 1910.

"Loans secured by real estate have had a more nearly constant relationship to the total volume of earning assets than has any other class of holding. They made up a little more than 6% of the whole in 1910, and they were still a little over 6% of the total last year. In 1929 they comprised a little more than 9% of the assets.

"During almost all of the long period under discussion the relative importance of investments as components of the earning assets has been increasing. In 1910 they constituted nearly 23% of the holdings, and by 1933 the proportion had increased to almost 46%. By 1943 it was close to 77%, and the volume of such holdings amounted to nearly 60 billion dollars. These vast holdings of investments consist very largely, and in most banks almost wholly, of government securities."

This sharp increase reflected mainly "the higher level of income in the hands of individuals after payment of taxes," the SEC pointed out.

What's To Happen To Colored Workers?

Babson Urges Them To Save Money

BABSON PARK, FLA.—I am writing to the several million of colored people in this country. Moreover, I do so as a friend—one who has contributed money and time to help them.

America's Greatest Wasters

The way you are foolishly spending money today is a shame and disgrace. Not only are most of you now wasting money, but you are almost



Roger W. Babson

convincing your friends that you are unworthy to have good wages. You are showing an utter disregard of any knowledge of finances or economics. Present high wages cannot continue. Many of you will be out of employment after the War. Millions of war workers will be discharged and—although it will be unjust—you will be discharged first. Therefore you should save up money NOW to help you in these hard days ahead. Most white workers are now doing this.

Why So Lazy

Some of you foolishly refuse to work if you have a little cash in your pockets. This applies to great strong men and women as well as to you young people. Too many of you seem to have no regard for the needs of the country in this crucial hour. You are citizens as well as the white workers. You claim you are not treated right. I do not agree to this; but if it is true, it is because so many of you are lazy and wasteful.

I am writing this in the South where I have worked with colored people for twenty winters. I have fought for you and got you out of jail when the sheriff unjustly arrested you. I know your good points and weak points; but I never before saw you in the lazy, wasteful and saucy moods that some of you put on today. From letters which I get, I fear that you are behaving worse in the North than you are here in the South.

Don't Depend Upon Aunt Eleanor

Many of you say, "Aunt Eleanor will take care of me after the War". Perhaps Aunt Eleanor will not be the President's wife after the War! President Roosevelt may not be re-elected. Besides, even Mrs. Roosevelt is getting out of patience with you. She is beginning to wonder if she may not have made a mistake in praising you as she did. It is true that white workers strike when they shouldn't, but they are not lazy nor do they throw away money.

Does it ever occur to you what would happen to our country if all the people—white and colored—acted as so many of you colored people act? We would lose the War and we all, including you, would be slaves of the Germans or Japanese. Your attitude simply does not make sense from any point of view. Therefore, as a friend, I beg of you all to get all the work you can get; and save, save, save!

A True Story

Let me prove that colored boys have just as good an opportunity to succeed as white boys. A few years ago Webber College at Babson Park, Florida, employed colored boys in the kitchen. Among them was one named James Paul Goss. The dean noticed that whereas all the others went to the movies or shot craps in the eve-

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on many fronts, and who are winning this war. We are winning the battle of production. It is the biggest war production effort ever undertaken.

"I mention this record of great accomplishments because I am sure that a nation which courageously faced a great depression at the beginning of the New Deal Administration and which courageously prepared for a war can also face the challenge of the peace.

"The people of the United States are united in their determination to win this war. American industry, American business and American agriculture can look forward to a bright future if the markets of peace are expanded to take the place of the markets of war. We cannot have free enterprise unless the world is at peace.

"We must maintain the peace. The Teheran Conference has laid the groundwork. All peace-loving nations will be given an opportunity to cooperate in rebuilding the shattered world and perfecting a permanent organization for peace.

"During the war we have seen that it is possible to produce a national income of \$150,000,000,000 a year—the largest in our history. Large industry as well as small businesses have profited from selling their maximum production. The profits accruing from this maximum output have been enormous compared to profits from restricted production. Farmers are prosperous because they have been able to sell at fair prices all that they could produce, and workers in our factories have had steady incomes from full employment. The benefits of a full-production economy can give employment to all. And prosperity for small and large business alike depends on full employment.

"When this war has been won we want every man and woman in America who has ambition and a willingness to work hard to have the opportunity to prove, in a market free from unfair restrictions, that he has something to contribute to the productivity and happiness of this nation.

"I believe in free enterprise. I believe that an economy of abundance and full employment can be best achieved through our American system of free enterprise. Free enterprise does not mean artificial controls of production and distribution of goods. Free enterprise is inconsistent with monopolies and cartel domination of world markets. Free enterprise means equal opportunity for investors and businessmen, for farmers and workers to produce the goods and services which truly constitute our national wealth.

"Free enterprise means that each and every industry is open to new capital and new firms—that all business has free access to raw materials in labor, to technologies—that producers have free access to the markets in which they buy and sell—that all individuals, in accordance with their varying abilities and irrespective of color, race and creed, have equal opportunities to work at their chosen jobs.

"In the tasks assigned to them during the war small businessmen have done a magnificent job. It will be even more important that small business continues to function when reconversion begins—that adequate resources are available to permit them to participate in this great task. Small businessmen have always been the foundation of our American economic system—it is vitally important that they continue as producers and distributors in our American system.

"The building of our post-war national economy, particular

attention must be given to the opportunities for small business enterprises. Small business provides an outlet for new ideas and products, a training ground for new leaders and an effective competitive check on big business which might otherwise confuse mere size with efficiency. The greatest contribution which government can make to the progress of small business is the creation and preservation of genuine free enterprise. Given access to the necessary technologies and to the capital markets, small enterprise in industry and trade will flourish. And such small business, by reason of its inherent resilience and flexibility, can become the mainstay of our regional economies, the balance wheel of the national economy. Men of small vision after World War I believed the way out of the depression was to stop both production and consumption. Before we were plunged into World War II there were many in strategic places in business and industry who were still afraid of production—afraid that increased productive capacity for defense would be ruinous to business profits, and the result was that we entered the war with disastrously critical shortages of capacity in aluminum, in steel, in magnesium and in other industries. We must conquer this fear of production in industry as well as in agriculture—we must recognize that in peace as in war our national security and well-being lies in full production, that only full use of all resources can give full employment to individuals and business firms, create a large national income and enable us to carry the national debt safely.

"Specifically, there are a number of steps to be taken to make this possible.

"First, the greatest opportunity lies in the war plants built with government funds. In the manner of their post-war use lies the acid test of whether we are sincere in our determination to re-establish genuine free enterprise. We must not regard such plants as liabilities to be disposed of hastily; we must not allow the disposition of these plants to add to the concentration of control in industries which are already monopolistic. The plants must be kept in full production to create the enlarged national income required to support a new American standard of living. As a final sale of these war plants would probably result in their being acquired sooner or later by a few large concerns, I have suggested that title should remain in a Federal agency, and that these plants should be leased to independent producers who will create new competition and new production.

"Second, there must be adequate financing machinery to supply small business enterprises with the capital which they need for the purchase of equipment or plants. It is, of course, my hope that private banking institutions throughout the United States will recognize that small business is good business. But if concentration of investment financing in a few large cities becomes the order of the day and if financing activities are limited to a few large firms, government agencies will, of necessity, furnish financing services to the small businessman. I hope very much that this will not be necessary.

"Third, raw materials in government stockpiles, when offered for sale should be equally accessible to all—so that small concerns can buy their fair share. Precautions should be taken to prevent speculation in and cornering of surplus goods. There

should be the widest possible distribution of such surpluses.

"Fourth, the basic technologies of modern industry must be restored to and remain a part of the public domain. This is not an attack on the patent system; it is a necessary measure to make the patent system conform to its constitutional purpose—to promote the progress of science and useful arts. It must become impossible to use patents to monopolize entire industries.

"The solution is simple—all patents should be subject to open licensing at a reasonable fee—one which affords a reasonable return to the inventor and promotes the wider and wider use of the patent. And no license should be permitted to stipulate how much the licensee shall produce, what he shall charge or where he shall sell.

"Fifth, the government's tax policies have an important influence on business activity. In a peacetime economy, the tax program should have a double objective—to bring in the necessary revenue and to encourage the production of the largest possible national income. Taxes which impair the ability of consumers to purchase the products of agriculture and industry, or which discourage the investment of risk capital in new undertakings, must be avoided in our drive for all-out production. The tax program can and should be framed with attention to the large objectives of the economy—full use of all of our resources.

"No statement of general principles of policy, no matter how lofty or well-intentioned, will be of any use unless such policy is put into practice. Hence it is vital that our leaders in industry, agriculture and labor understand their own responsibilities and the responsibilities of the government in their common effort to assure continued full use of all resources. Business policies must be framed with this long-range objective in view. Forward-looking businessmen will welcome the cooperation of the Government in maintaining full employment and will work with government agencies toward that end. Business and government must cooperate in the enforcement of the anti-trust laws to assure free enterprise. Cooperation will further be necessary in the creation of a public works program which can be used by the Government during periods of business recession, and curtailed by the Government when business can provide full employment and maximum use of productive capacity. Individual businessmen and individual industries, as well as our whole economy, can be greatly helped by the stabilizing effect of public works programs carried out by competent administrative machinery. This machinery should be operated by Government officials, responsible to the people of our country. Decisions should be made by officials who can be held to account.

"Business can discharge its public responsibilities and preserve itself only by maintaining conditions of genuine free enterprise. Whether or not we have free enterprise and the full use of all productive resources will depend on our understanding that our way of life is at stake—and the determination of all of us to test every private and public policy by whether it contributes to the full use of all of our resources. The price of survival and progress is the whole-hearted acceptance of healthy, unrestrained competition—competition in price as well as in quality and service.

"We shall win the military victory. We must have a peaceful world thereafter. We must preserve America as a land of economic opportunity for all of our people. This must be the century of opportunity for the plain folks in all lands."

U. S. Gold To Aid China Stabilize Prices

The Chungking radio on March 17, in a broadcast reported by the U. S. Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service, said that Dr. H. H. Kung, Vice-Premier and Finance Minister of China, declared in a press interview at Kunming that China would use \$200,000,000 in gold purchased from the United States to stabilize prices and absorb idle capital "in order to strengthen the Chinese dollar." This was reported in the New York "Herald-Tribune" of March 18, which further stated:

"The United States and Great Britain in 1942 jointly lent China \$700,000,000 to put China's currency and fiscal affairs on a sound basis. The United States supplied \$500,000,000 of the loan, part in gold and part in dollars.

"Dr. Kung, the broadcast said, explained that 'people likely will abandon hoarding of commodities and invest their money in gold, hence stabilizing prices.'"

Ton-Miles Of Revenue Freight Up 10.3% In Feb.

The volume of freight traffic, measured in ton-miles of revenue freight, handled by the Class I railroads in February, 1944, was greater by approximately 10.3% than any corresponding month on record, the Association of American Railroads announced on March 22. Traffic in February amounted to approximately 60,000,000 ton-miles, according to preliminary estimates based on reports just received by this Association from Class I railroads. This was an increase of 10.3%, compared with the same month in 1943, 47% over February, 1942, and an increase of 160%, compared with February, 1939.

The following table summarizes actual ton-miles statistics for the year 1943, and preliminary figures for the first two months of 1944 (000 omitted):

	1943	1942	% Inc.
Mo. of Dec.	60,614,577	55,036,940	10.1
Year 1943	727,047,608	638,075,933	13.9
	1944		
Mo. of Jan.	60,800,000	55,120,899	10.3
Mo. of Feb.	60,000,000	54,419,933	10.3

*Revised estimate. †Preliminary estimate.

The Financial Situation

(Continued from First Page)

What Is An "Individual"?

But far more important are some of the other aspects of the figures and the interpretation the Commission places upon them. In the first place, the term "individual" apparently includes—indeed, must of statistical necessity, include—many businesses, including farms, operated by men and women as individuals. It is important that this fact be borne in mind, since it tends to alter somewhat the meaning one is warranted in finding in the figures as presented. According to Federal reserve authorities, the increase during 1943 in total deposits "adjusted" and currency in circulation outside the banks amounted to \$23.2 billion. The SEC has the increase in the currency and bank deposit holdings of "individuals" during the same period amounting to \$15.8 billion. What the SEC apparently is saying is that cash and deposits standing to the credit of all unincorporated holders increased \$15.8 billion in 1943. In view of the enormously increased volume of business being transacted and many drastic changes necessitating stronger cash position one may well question the accuracy of the term "saving" as applied in this instance.

Strangest of all probably is the sense in which the term "liquid" is used by the Commission—or at least it would be strange were it not today in such constant use in precisely this peculiar way. But the mere fact that many people are misusing the word or the concept does not in the least render such use accurate, or prevent widespread and serious misunderstanding arising from such misuse. According to the Commission, these enormous savings during 1943 took the form of (1) additions to holdings of currency and bank deposits standing to the names of individuals, \$15.8 billion; (2) increase in holdings of government bonds, \$13.8 billion; additions to equity holdings in government insurance, \$3.8 billion; increase in their equity in private insurance, \$3.1 billion; reduction in private debt, \$9 billion. As an offsetting factor, individuals reduced their holdings of corporate securities by \$300 million.

Liquid?

Apart from the \$15.8 billion in actual currency or bank deposits, in what sense can any of these items be termed "liquid"? One must suppose that the term when so used connotes ready convertibility into cash. But how could all those individuals who hold some \$13.8 billion in government obligations acquired

during the one year, 1943, turn their holdings into cash? They could do so only if (1) some one who now owns cash is willing to give it up for these bonds, (2) some one who in the future acquires and accumulates cash is willing to exchange it for the bonds, or (3) commercial banks add to their deposits for the purpose of providing cash with which to buy the bonds.

If the bonds are converted into cash by the first of these three methods, then whatever part of the \$15.8 billion of currency and bank deposits is necessary must be given up for the purpose. By what process of reasoning is it possible in such a case to justify adding the bonds to the cash and calling the sum liquid savings? It appears that it is necessary to give up the one in order to convert the other into cash—on the basis of past savings or present status. If the bonds are to be converted into cash by use of funds yet to be saved, then their liquidity depends upon future savings—and can not be posted as existing at present. If they are to be converted to cash by the arbitrary creation of the funds for the purpose, it may be questioned whether the term liquid has any meaning at all if so applied. The Brooklyn Bridge could be converted into cash on such a basis—provided all parties were willing to proceed.

But if this process of reasoning applies in the case of government bonds, it by the same token applies in all the other instances. Holders of equities in government insurance can obtain cash upon them only if the government is able to provide the cash. This cash it must acquire either by taxing the public in the future—that is, tapping future savings—or by borrowing from the public; that is, either tapping existing supplies of currency and deposits or future accumulations. Private insurance companies would be able to convert claims upon them into cash only by converting their assets into cash—a process in which they call upon the holders of savings. Those individuals who have saved by paying off debt, can of course cash in on their savings only by reinstating the debt.

A Matter Of Importance

To the unthinking, all this type of discussion may appear to be hardly more than academic. Such, however, is most emphatically not the case. Of such displays as this of the SEC, and of many others who have been guilty of about the same type of slovenly thinking blunders, disastrous blunders in public policy are born.

February Cotton Consumption Report

The Census Bureau at Washington on Mar. 15 issued its report showing cotton consumed in the United States, cotton on hand, and active cotton spindles for the month of February.

In the month of February, 1944, cotton consumed amounted to 811,274 bales of lint and 106,846 bales of linters as compared with 819,489 bales of lint and 99,117 bales of linters in January, 1944, and with 879,572 bales of lint and 98,259 bales of linters in February, 1944.

In the seven months ending with Feb. 29, cotton consumption was 5,902,172 bales of lint and 759,714 bales of linters, against 6,502,880 bales of lint and 784,493 bales of linters in the same seven months a year ago.

There were 2,351,174 bales of lint and 459,485 bales of linters on hand in consuming establishments on Feb. 29, 1944, which compares with 2,377,580 bales of lint and 466,076 bales of linters on Jan. 31, 1944, and with 2,552,163 bales of lint and 501,948 bales of linters on Feb. 28, 1943.

On hand in public storage and at compresses on Feb. 29, 1944, there were 11,518,942 bales of lint and 96,277 bales of linters, which compares with 12,120,142 bales of lint and 82,227 bales of linters on Jan. 31, 1943, and with 12,349,207 bales of lint and 96,277 bales of linters on Feb. 28, 1942.

There were 22,513,390 cotton spindles active during February 1944, which compares with 22,217,994 active cotton spindles during January, 1944, and with 22,906,562 active cotton spindles during February, 1943.

Non-Farm Mortgage Recordings Lower By \$302 Million In Jan.

During January, recordings of non-farm real estate mortgages throughout the nation totaled \$302,000,000, a decrease of 9% from December but nearly a third greater than in January, 1943, the Federal Home Loan Bank Administration reported on March 11. The December-January decline this year was less than normal at this season, the report said. The estimates are based on recordings of mortgages of \$20,000 or less, says the FHLBA, which added:

"Individuals" increased their total of recordings by 44% for the month, as compared with January 1943, while insurance companies gained 3%. Activity of savings and loan associations rose 38% over 1943 for the month and other types of lenders scored gains of 21% to 30%.

Of the total volume of mortgages recorded by all lenders during January savings and loan associations accounted for 30%. Individual lenders were second with 24%, while mutual savings banks showed the lowest percentage of the aggregate recordings, 3%.

The number and amount of mortgages of \$20,000 or less recorded in January, by type of lender, are as follows:

	Number	Amount	Per Cent
S. & l. assns.	29,315	889,887,000	30
Ins. cos.	4,214	20,585,000	7
Bk. & tr. cos.	17,518	62,180,000	21
Mut. svgs. banks	2,351	9,731,000	3
Individuals	28,923	72,600,000	24
Others	12,209	46,966,000	15
Totals	94,530	\$301,949,000	100

Report Of U. S. Steel Corporation

An all-time record production of 30,540,000 tons of ingots was set by the United States Steel Corporation in 1943, according to the 42nd annual report released for publication March 23. Corporation's rolled and finished steel products, according to Irving S. Olds, Chairman of the Board, were many and varied. Some in finished form went directly to the battle areas; others were used in the construction of equipment and many types of vessels; the remainder was absorbed in the fulfillment of other requirements of war. For the three years 1941-1943, total ingot production by U. S. Steel subsidiaries was more than 89,500,000 tons, exceeding the 1916-1918 production by 21,500,000 tons or 32%. Production of steel plates vital to the shipbuilding program exceeded by 11% the 1942 record of 4,000,000 tons. More than one-third of the nation's supply of plates last year came from the mills of U. S. Steel. The corporation is now operating steel mills, some of which belong to the Government, which will have when completed this year an annual ingot capacity in excess of 33,800,000 tons. To supply the raw materials required for this record-breaking production of ingots, U. S. Steel produced and transported in 1943, 96,729,023 tons of ore, coal and limestone. U. S. Steel produced in its plants during 1943 hundreds of types of war materials, ranging from bomb fins and gun foundations to troopships, destroyers and other naval vessels.

Mr. Olds states that during 1943 United States Steel Corp. continued to do its utmost toward the winning of the war. Its great facilities have aided materially in making possible a vital service of supply, beginning with mining operations in the ore and coal fields of America and extending to the delivery of steel and instruments of war for the plains of Russia, the wide stretches of North Africa, the islands of the Pacific, the hills of Italy, and the mountains and valleys of Burma and China. Operating under governmental directives determining wage rates and terms of employment, manpower orders, ceiling prices, and production controls largely regulating the character of its business, U. S. Steel met fully the war demands made upon it during the year. It recognized a duty to provide the maximum production and otherwise serve the nation to the best of its ability. But, because rising costs pressed upward against the Government-imposed price ceilings, U. S. Steel was not able, after the payment of modest dividends to its common stockholders, to make an adequate addition to the fund carried forward for future needs. A continuation of such a state of affairs may prove serious to U. S. Steel and ultimately to the nation, as this fund constitutes insurance against the times when the customers' demand for steel may be small and the need for cash may be great.

The report describes in simple language the disposition made of the \$1,976,844,751 received by the corporation for products and services sold during 1943. Of this amount, \$912,929,963 were expended for wages, salaries, pensions and other employment costs, an increase of 45% over the similar figure for 1941. Products and services bought in 1943 amounted to \$706,763,355, an increase of 22% over 1941. By reason of increased labor and other costs in 1943, profits subject to Federal taxes were lower, resulting in lesser taxes than for the years 1942 or 1941. Taxes for 1943 aggregated \$129,566,379, an amount 23% less than the tax provision for 1941. Dividends to preferred and common stockholders in 1943 remained unchanged at \$60,032,685. The amount of \$3,415,861 carried forward for future needs of the corporation was 94% less than the amount so carried forward in 1941.

Referring to these figures, the report states "U. S. Steel has no paying power beyond the dollars received from customers. It has no power to operate its facilities or to hire men and women if it has no customers for its goods and services; nor does it have the power to turn out first-class, well-priced goods with worn-out tools or against uncontrollable costs. It is apparent that rising labor costs pushing against price ceilings are absorbing the payments to both Government and owners. Substantial increases in wages could reduce them to nothing."

Income of United States Steel Corporation and subsidiaries was \$63,448,546 in 1943—a decrease of 11% from the preceding year, although total sales volume was 6% greater than in 1942. The relatively small sum of \$3,415,861 carried forward for future needs in 1943, after the payment of dividends, was about one-third of the amount so carried forward in 1942, and was equivalent to about one-sixth of 1% of the total amount received from customers in 1943. The report comments that this sum would cover costs at current operating rates for less than one day.

Contracts of thirteen of the fourteen subsidiary companies subject to the renegotiation Act were renegotiated by the Navy Price Adjustment Board, acting for all Governmental agencies, and the thirteen companies were found to

have realized no excessive income up to December 31, 1942. The renegotiation with the remaining subsidiary of this group, Federal Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., resulted in a reduction of \$3,000,000 in the selling prices of deliveries under Navy Department contracts up to December 31, 1942. After Federal taxes, this amounts to a refund of \$570,000, which is a reduction of the reported income of U. S. Steel for the year 1942.

Achievements of U. S. Steel's shipyards during the past year are described in the report. Federal Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co. delivered from its yards at Kearny and Port Newark, N. J., 80 ships. These included destroyers, destroyer escorts, transports and naval auxiliaries, worth about \$300,000,000, exceeding the value of all vessels produced by this company in the 25 years from its founding in 1917 to December 7, 1941. For the seventh year in succession this subsidiary increased ship production over the previous year by more than 50%. In 1943, it again completed more destroyers in shorter building time than any other shipyard in the country.

Quoting from the report: "U. S. Steel has always endeavored to anticipate the nation's needs for steel, whether in war or peace, and since 1929 has spent or authorized for expenditure about \$1,050 million of its own funds for additions, improvements and replacements. From 1930 to 1939, inclusive, it so spent about \$600 million of this sum and since 1939 it has authorized the expenditure of \$450 million for further facilities and for the conversion of existing facilities to wartime uses. In order to produce the types, quality and volume of products required for the war effort and for the home fronts, U. S. Steel in 1943 constructed or rebuilt various coke ovens, blast furnaces, open hearth and electric furnaces, and made many changes in finishing equipment, including the installation of new wire mills and of additional electrolytic tinning lines designed to conserve tin. Certain of these changes and additions necessitated the expansion of raw material facilities. The expenditures by the subsidiaries in 1943 for additions to and betterments of properties were: Raw material, \$16,427,122; manufacturing, \$49,156,888; transportation, \$22,803,928; miscellaneous, \$564,398; total, \$88,952,336.

"Since the beginning of the emergency, \$500 million of Government funds has been authorized to be expended by U. S. Steel on behalf of the Government."

The total number of employees of the corporation in 1943 averaged 340,498, the highest on record. Among them were 31,500 women. Nearly 100,000 employees are now serving in the armed forces. Average weekly pay of all wage earners of the corporation during 1943 was \$48.94, with weekly hours of work averaging 42.2. Eliminating the effect of employee turnover, the average weekly pay of wage earners in the steel-producing subsidiaries in the last quarter of 1943 was \$51.42, and the average work week was 44.6 hours.

In discussing employment and labor matters, the report states: "U. S. Steel's production performance during 1943 was made possible by effective cooperation on the part of its employees. A fine record of wartime production, of which both management and workers may properly be proud, was marred by the action of small groups in bringing about a series of strikes and work stoppages during the year at various U. S. Steel properties."

In 1943, income of United States Steel Corp. and subsidiaries amounted to \$63,448,546, a decrease of \$7,800,023 from the \$71,248,569 income of 1942. As in 1942, there were declared out of the income for the year four dividends of \$1.75 per share each, totalling \$25,219,677, on the preferred stock, and four dividends of \$1 per share each, totalling \$34,813,008, on the common stock. After declaration of dividends, \$3,415,861 was carried forward for future needs, compared with \$11,215,884 in 1942 and \$56,138,390 in 1941.

In 1943, total direct tax provisions, excluding Social Security taxes, were \$129,566,379, a decrease of \$71,758,778 from the \$201,325,157 of 1942. This decrease was occasioned primarily by increased labor and other costs. The provision in the year 1943 for Federal taxes on income included \$65,500,000 for normal and surtax and \$22,500,000 for excess profits taxes, after deducting post-war excess profits credit of \$2,500,000 resulting from debt retirement. Tax equivalents in 1943 were: \$380 per employee; \$6 per ton of finished steel shipped.

For the 43 years of U. S. Steel's history, average income was 5.06% of the amount of the net assets, the latter being the total assets less current liabilities. Income in 1943, plus interest and other costs on long-term debt, was 3.97% of the amount of U. S. Steel's net assets. The percentage for 1943 was thus one-fifth less than the long-term average, even though operations were at near capacity.

In last year's report it was noted that U. S. Steel in 1942 received from customers the largest sum of money in any year of its history and earned for its owners the smallest

sum per dollar of sales in any year of large production. Receipts from customers in 1943 were greater than in 1942 by \$114 million but income was \$7.8 million less. Thus the downward trend in income was intensified and 1943 became the record year for low income in a period of high production and sales.

Net current assets of United States Steel Corp. and its subsidiaries at December 31, 1943, after deducting current dividend declarations, were \$519,342,100, compared with \$515,068,497 at December 31, 1942.

The amount of net current assets at December 31, 1943, was after setting aside \$75 million to segregate in cash the \$25 million included in costs during each of the past three years for additional costs applicable to the period caused by war. Such costs include deferred maintenance and repairs, reconverting and relocating facilities from wartime to peacetime use, costs arising out of re-employment of returning service men and retraining them to new skills, losses on raw materials and supplies not needed in the post-war period, and other similar costs. This entire amount has been invested in U. S. Government securities of the Fourth War Loan issue. During 1943 there was charged to this reserve, for replacement of depleted inventories, an amount of \$1.1 million representing war costs applicable to and provided for in prior years.

There was relatively little change during 1943 in the long-term obligations of the corporation. A total of approximately \$15,000,000 indebtedness was redeemed during the year, leaving the total outstanding at December 31, 1943, \$137,000,000.

In conclusion, Mr. Olds states: "The full resources of U. S. Steel are pledged and again dedicated to the fulfillment of its part in the war task still ahead, to the end that victory over our enemies shall be complete and the eventual peace long lasting."

New York Metropolitan Area Production At Peak Despite Loss Of 1,000,000 Men To Services

The New York region has performed an apparent production miracle in reaching an all time high level in manufacturing employment of 1,860,000, notwithstanding the withdrawal of over 1,000,000 men into the armed forces, according to the Regional Plan Association in a statement based on the fifth section of its report on the region's economic resources. The Association recently completed study of the business and industrial trends and prospects of the New York metropolitan area, comprising the 22 counties of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, surrounding the Port of New York. The study was prepared under the general direction of Frederick P. Clark, Executive Director, by Honer Hoyt, director of economic studies.

The seeming paradox of how employment in the war industries and Federal civilian employment in the region could be expanded by 775,000 persons at the same time that a million men were withdrawn from the labor pool of the region into the Army and Navy, is explained in the Association's latest report.

The total draft of 1,775,000 imposed by the war upon the manpower of the region was obtained by taking 860,000 from the unemployed labor force, thereby reducing unemployment from 955,000 in 1940 to less than 100,000 today; by attracting approximately 300,000 women, older men and boys into industries, who were not previously gainfully occupied; by taking 200,000 from the manufacture of civilian goods; and by withdrawing about 415,000 persons from the professions and service lines, from construction activities, utilities and retail trades. The Association emphasized, however, that these figures were approximations based on the best available evidence, and were to be regarded as indicators of broad economic trends rather than as exact measurements of the changes that have occurred.

The number of persons engaged in manufacturing in the area today, the Association says, is about 1,860,000, which far exceeds the factory employment figure for metropolitan New York at any previous time, and is 72% higher than the region's industrial employment in 1939.

An interesting and encouraging aspect of the figures arises from the fact that the New York area's huge upswing in industrial employment represents a relatively

small loss in connection with the manufacture of civilian goods.

Many war boom communities are worrying now because their activity is so largely concentrated in war goods, the manufacture of which presumably will stop almost completely the moment the war ends. In some instances this is because of the introduction of new war plants which, as employers, completely overshadow the normal civilian industries of the communities. In others, of which Detroit is a foremost example, war work has taken over civilian plants and converted them so completely that there must be a troublesome period of reconversion.

New York has approximately 700,000 men and women engaged in war industry. But the region also has about 1,160,000 men and women still manufacturing civilian goods which is only 200,000 less than the pre-war number. And while details cannot be cited, many of the persons allocated to war industries actually are making goods which civilians are anxious to buy, so that the end of the war will not require the extent of reconversion or the finding of new products for manufacture which will be necessary in some areas.

These figures on the war-time employment economy of the New York region, taken together with those on the normal economy which have been cited by the Regional Plan Association in previous reports, combine to state and measure the postwar re-employment problem which was the Association's reason for making these studies.

The studies show that, with the return of those now in the armed forces, the New York region will have a maximum of 6,000,000 men and women who will need or want jobs.

This figure is obtained by adding 300,000 to the region's labor force of 5,700,000 in 1940 to account for the number of boys and girls reaching working age for the

first time in excess of shrinkages in the labor force due to deaths and retirements. This total labor force of 6,000,000 in the New York region after the war includes those returning from the armed forces who were withdrawn from this area but does not allow for future migrations of civilian workers normally residing in other parts of the nation to this region. This figure also assumes that most of the women who entered industry for the first time during the national emergency will return to household duties. In setting up a program designed to provide jobs for 6,000,000 persons after the war, the New York metropolitan region would be merely seeking to take care of its own pre-war residents and their children who have become of age since the beginning of the war.

While the normal labor force of the New York region will consist of 6,000,000 persons after the war, it will not be necessary to find this many civilian jobs to insure the sound economic prosperity of the region. It is estimated that about 200,000 men from the region may be in our enlarged postwar military and naval forces. Allowing also for a normal unemployment of about 200,000 persons consisting of the least efficient workers and of persons shifting from one job to another, would leave 5,600,000 persons for whom jobs must be provided if the metropolitan region is to achieve the goal of reasonably full employment.

"This presents the best available picture of the labor force for which jobs must be found, and of the diversified employment structure which must provide these jobs," said Frederick P. Clark, executive director of the Regional Plan Association, said on Mar. 20.

"The question is: How can the New York metropolitan region hope to put every employable resident to work?"

"Nobody can give a final, unarguable answer. But the Regional Plan Association will offer in a few days some considered suggestions as to the employment goals which must be substantially met, if we are to avoid mass unemployment after the war."

Farmers Warned Labor Will Try To Compel Them To Join Unions

P. C. Turner, President of the Inter-State Farmers' Council, speaking at the 9th annual meeting of the Northeastern Dairy Conference at the Hotel Commodore in New York City, on March 15, warned that the days were coming when labor leaders will tell farmers "join our union or we will not handle your product." The New York "Sun" of March 15, from which we quote further, indicated Mr. Turner's remarks as follows:

"The United Mine Workers Union, headed by John L. Lewis, is making little headway in organizing farm labor, Mr. Turner said, but is setting up skeleton groups throughout the nation "to cash in during the expected post-war depression when farmers will be so desperate they will join anything."

"Please note that gradually, like the growth of a cancer, organized labor is getting control of all the labor in transportation processing and distribution of all foodstuffs," he said.

At the same meeting Herbert W. Voorhees, President of the Free Farmers, warned that the struggle with the Lewis union was not finished, and asserted that another labor group was becoming interested in the agricultural field also. He did not identify the group.

Canada Proposes Industrial Development Bank As Subsidiary Of Bank Of Canada

Plans are under way for the setting up of a new institution, viz., the Industrial Development Bank as a subsidiary of the Bank of Canada, with total resources of \$100,000,000, it was announced at Ottawa on March 2 by Douglas Abbott, Parliamentary Assistant to Finance Minister J. L. Ilsley. Canadian Press advices from Ottawa on that date stated:

Speaking on second reading of the bill to establish the bank, aimed at aiding small industry in the post-war period, Mr. Abbott said the bank will have a board of 15 directors, comprising members of the board of directors and the Assistant Deputy Governor of the Bank of Canada, with the Governor of the Bank of Canada as President.

"The capital stock of the bank is to be \$25,000,000, all to be subscribed by the Bank of Canada, with \$10,000,000 or more to be paid up at the time this act comes into effect," he said.

"In addition the bank will be empowered to borrow up to three times the amount of its paid-up capital stock and reserve fund, by the issue of bonds and debentures, thus providing the bank with total resources of \$100,000,000.

"I would draw the attention of members to the fact that bonds and debentures issued by the bank will not be guaranteed by the Government of Canada. They will, however, be made eligible investment for the Bank of Canada and, in view of the protection afforded by the substantial proportion of capital stock, it is anticipated that they will be marketable elsewhere as well."

The "Financial Post" of Toronto, in its issue of March 11 in an item surveying the pros and cons of the proposed bank, had the following to say in part:

"What business men heard last week in the second reading of the bill to establish Canada's new industrial bank reminded many of them that the man who is to head it, Graham F. Towers, has already stated his opinion on how such an institution should be operated.

"Last year, at the Canadian Manufacturers' Association meeting, Mr. Towers stated in effect that the Government must take over 'residual' responsibilities for preserving a high level of business activity. Designed to provide credit where no other agency is doing the job and to a type of enterprise which is thought not to be looked after under the present scheme of things, the industrial bank is the first one of these residual agencies to be proposed.

"Features of the Industrial Development Bank, as explained in the preamble to the incorporating bill (No. 7) and by Douglas C. Abbott, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance, are that it:

"(1) Is only one part of the Government's program to facilitate a high level of employment after the war.

"(2) It is designed to supplement the activities of other money lenders and provide capital assistance to industry with particular consideration to the financing of small enterprises.

"(3) It is intended to supply credit for industrial enterprises only, not for mining, agricultural or housing activities.

"In financial circles interviewed by 'The Financial Post,' the Industrial Development Bank itself, as proposed, was seen as probably filling a gap in the Canadian credit organization whereby credit would be made available to enterprises which, while desirable, have not sufficient standing to obtain credit in the ordinary way, from established credit agencies, such as the chartered banks, or by means of an issue of securities through an investment dealer.

"There is, however, some uneasiness among men interviewed on these points:

"(1) It extends the operations of the Government into the field of business.

"(2) It may mean heavy losses

which the public will ultimately have to pay. A banker stated to 'The Financial Post' that the new bank was evidently designed to lend money to a great many borderline businesses which in some cases might go bad. Ordinarily when a loan becomes shaky there are only two alternatives: to close it out in the belief that the first loss is the smallest, or to put more money into it in the hope it would pull through. Eventually the Industrial Development Bank will be faced with some of these cases.

"The powers of the bank laid down in section 15 of the incorporating bill specifically indicate that its activities are confined to industrial enterprises only. Industrial enterprise is defined in the act as 'a business in which the manufacture, processing, or refrigeration of goods, wares and merchandise or the building of ships or vessels or the generating or distributing of electricity is carried on.'

Make Loans

"The bank can lend money to any person engaged in or about to engage in an industrial enterprise in Canada, or to a duly authorized receiver, manager, liquidator, custodian, etc., of an industrial enterprise; can underwrite an issue of securities of a corporation engaged in or about to engage in an industrial enterprise and can acquire for resale from any corporation or any persons with whom the corporation has entered into an underwriting agreement, securities of such corporation.

"It is given practically the same rights as the chartered banks in regard to warehouse receipts and the same rights as are given the chartered banks under Section 88 of the Bank Act, which, however, does not apply in itself to the Industrial Development Bank, it is stated.

"An important difference, however, is that the Industrial Development Bank is empowered to acquire and hold real estate and to lend money on mortgage to a greater extent than the chartered banks are allowed to do."

Perpetual Cooperation With U. S. Pledged By New Zealand

A policy of perpetual cooperation with the United States was enunciated by Prime Minister Peter Fraser in an interview published in the Government newspaper, "The Standard," on March 15, it was indicated in a cablegram from Wellington, New Zealand, to the New York "Times," which also had the following to say:

"It was the earnest hope of the New Zealand Government—and, he was sure, of Australia's also—Mr. Fraser said that arrangements could be made with Washington insuring the greatest possible cooperation, not only for the remainder of the war and in the post-war period, but permanently. "Not only does New Zealand recognize the important part which the United States must play in the Pacific's future but it is anxious to cooperate to the fullest extent in helping to carry out this role," he said.

"New Zealanders were also anxious that Britain, France, the Netherlands and Portugal should maintain their Pacific positions and that ultimately other countries around the Pacific Ocean's borders should cooperate. In this direction, Mr. Fraser said, lay the surest hope of peace in the Pacific."

436 Banks Report War Loans & Commitments

More than \$8,400,000,000 of war production loans and commitments by 436 of the nation's larger banks were outstanding on Dec. 31, 1943, according to the semi-annual report of war lending activity prepared by the American Bankers Association, made available March 14. The survey shows that bank loans and commitments for financing the manufacture of armaments and war supplies increased \$1,511,260,000 during the last half of 1943. It is further announced:

"Of the \$8,425,878,000 of total war loans and commitments by the banks outstanding at the end of the year, \$678,891,000 were for construction of war plants and factories, and \$7,746,986,000 were for the purchase of raw materials and other production expenses.

"The total of \$678,891,000 for war plant construction represents a slight decline below the amount outstanding at the end of the first half of 1943, but the \$7,746,986,000 of loans and commitments for production of war supplies and equipment is an increase of \$1,508,985,000 over the amount of these loans outstanding on June 30, 1943.

"The decrease in plant construction loans, coupled with the large increase in loans for production of war supplies and equipment, reflects the fact that need for the construction of new plants and factories has long since passed its peak and that a sharply increased of war material and supplies is now rolling from the factories financed by loans from the bank."

Stettinius To Head Group To Confer With London Officials

Under Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius Jr., who has been assigned to undertake a mission to London in behalf of the State Department, was the guest of President Roosevelt on March 17, along with Secretary Hull. Indicating that no agreements were to be reached by the group headed by Mr. Stettinius, Mr. Hull gave out a statement on March 17, saying:

"At my request the Under-Secretary of State will go to London soon with a small group for discussions with members of the British Government. Foreign Secretary [Anthony] Eden and other high officials of the British Government have made several trips to this country for a general exchange of views during the past two years and it has not been possible for me to return them. Mr. Stettinius is going to London to repay these visits. The talks which he and those who are accompanying him will have will be entirely informal and exploratory. The conversations will cover any current matters that are of interest to the two Governments at this time. However, the purpose of the visit is not to negotiate or conclude agreements."

According to Washington advices to the New York "Times" March 17 those going to London with Mr. Stettinius are Dr. Isaiah Bowman, President of Johns Hopkins University and noted geographer who was Chief Territorial Specialist of the American Mission to Negotiate the Peace in 1918-19; John L. Pratt, a commercial and economic adviser; H. Freeman Matthews, chief of the State Department's European Division; Wallace Murray, expert on Africa and the Middle East, and Robert J. Lynch, personal Secretary to Mr. Stettinius and Executive Secretary of the mission.

Lend-Lease Aid Estimated Almost \$20 Billion; Britain Repays \$2 Billion In Reverse Process

Lend-lease aid by the United States to the Allies totaled \$19,986,000,000 up to the close of 1943, according to the quarterly report of Leo T. Crowley, Foreign Economic Administrator on the operations of Lend-Lease on the third anniversary of the program on March 11. In his report, submitted to Congress, Mr. Crowley indicated that through a reverse process, the United States has received something over \$2,000,000,000 in varied items

from bananas to airfields. Regarding the information contained in the report, Associated Press advices from Washington March 11 said:

Tabulations were complete up to the end of last year. They showed total Lend-Lease aid of \$19,986,000,000 and a monthly average now over \$1,000,000,000. The next report is expected to show a total of about \$23,000,000,000 for a full three years' operations. For 1943 alone it was nearly \$12,000,000,000, against \$7,000,000,000 in 1942 and \$1,244,000,000 in 1941.

Planes, tanks, guns, ships and other munitions accounted for nearly \$11,000,000,000 of the \$19,986,000,000, industrial materials for \$4,000,000,000, and farm products and such services as ship repairing and ferrying of aircraft for \$2,500,000,000 each.

Many services were performed in this country and some of the goods turned over to Allies had not gone overseas, so that lend-lease reports at the end of 1943 added up to \$15,578,000,000.

The United Kingdom got about 42% and Russia 27%.

Reverse lend-lease came primarily from the British Commonwealth of Nations, but Mr. Crowley noted that Russia and China need all they can produce, plus what we have been able to send them to fight invaders on their own soil.

The report did not reveal how much Lend-Lease help actually had reached China, although it asserted that in December alone twice as much cargo was flown into China as in all of 1942. The volume of air freight over the Himalayas is a military secret.

But Lend-Lease supplies transferred to China includes \$146,545,000 of munitions, \$28,952,000 of industrial items and \$79,000 of farm products. Services, figured at \$25,419,000, raised the total aid to \$200,995,000 as of Jan. 1. In addition goods valued at \$191,731,000 have been consigned to American forces in the India-China theater for transfer to China.

Lend-lease exports to India were calculated at \$849,000,000, of which \$554,000,000 was in munitions and \$250,000,000 in industrial products.

The same advices stated that Mr. Crowley estimated that, on the basis of the proportion of gross national production devoted to defeating common enemies, this country and her principal allies share financial burdens of the war about equally.

He is quoted as saying in his report:

"In effect, a pool of resources has been created into which contributions are placed and from which withdrawals are made as the demands of the many fighting fronts dictate.

"Each of our major fighting partners is contributing fully from its resources to the defeat of the Axis Powers, though the contributions of each differ with the circumstances of war and the resources that are available."

From the Associated Press Mar. 11 advices we also note:

Under Secretary of State Stettinius described the Lend-Lease as a vital expression of the most important principle in international relations—the principle that free nations must stand together to preserve their freedom.

"In the great arsenal of fighting power which the United Nations have created to destroy the forces of Axis tyranny, lend-lease and reverse lend-lease are major weapons," he said.

"The only way the Axis Pow-

ers can now escape total defeat is by dividing the strength of the United Nations. I am confident that our enemies will fail in this last desperate defense. We have learned the bitter lesson of disunity. We shall not turn our backs on the principles of mutual aid and mutual trust which are today bringing us victory."

Except for more up-to-date figures and a more complete breakdown on help given China and India, the report followed the pattern of thirteen others which had preceded it.

Under date of Feb. 16 the House of Representatives was advised that the British have paid back \$100,000,000 of \$390,000,000 borrowed from the United States to pay for war supplies contracted for in this country prior to lend-lease. This is learned from the Associated Press, which further reported:

A Reconstruction Finance Corporation spokesman, Henry A. Mulligan, Treasurer, gave the details to a House appropriations committee during hearings on the 1945 Commerce Appropriations Bill.

The British, as security for the loan, Mr. Mulligan said, pledged American securities, some listed on the stock exchange and certain others that are not listed, together with the capital stock of 41 American insurance companies, owned by British nationals, and in addition the earnings of the United States branch of 41 British insurance companies in this country. Those securities, Mr. Mulligan said, have produced about \$36,000,000 a year with which to service the loan, adding "we have now received about \$100,000,000 in collections."

The loan is a 15-year, 3% loan, with the privilege of a five-year extension if two-thirds of the principal has been repaid at the end of the 15 years.

"Did they expend all of that money in this country?" Representative Stefan, (R-Neb.), inquired, with reference to the original \$390,000,000 loan.

"It is my understanding that they did," said Mr. Mulligan.

Reading Completes 40 Yrs. With N. Y. Cotton Exch.

Lewis F. Reading, Assistant Secretary of the New York Cotton Exchange, celebrated his 40th year as an employee of the Exchange on March 21. He was received on the floor by Eric Allot, President of the Exchange, along with other officers and members and congratulated on his long and excellent record of service. The announcement from the Exchange says:

"Mr. Reading was originally employed as a ring boy way back in 1904, when many members wore frock coats, high silk hats and the ever-present beards. During his 40 years with the Exchange Mr. Reading served under 25 different Presidents and held down nearly every job on the trading floor at some time or other, worked his way through the Exchange's Statistical Department, and was elected Assistant Secretary in 1929. He has seen World War II take away all the page boys on the trading floor and replace them by girls. In the old days it was somewhat of a novelty to see women on the trading floor."

Truman Report Says Government Planning In Post-War Years Should Be Relaxed

The third annual report of the Senate's Truman committee to investigate the national defense program, issued on March 5 makes certain recommendations for transition to peace time production and for post-war business, and according to a special dispatch, on March 8, from Washington, to the New York "World-Telegram" the principal strains of the report are:

Lay off any over-all government planning, with complex rules and regulations on postwar business.

Limit government controls over resumption of civilian goods manufacture to a few score mechanically complicated items such as automobiles and washing machines.

Leave manufacturers free to exercise their ingenuity in resuming production of any items they choose from surplus materials not needed for war.

"Experience has taught us that our country will flourish best when least hampered by government controls," says the report. "Any attempt at close control over the production of hundreds of thousands of items which might be made from surplus materials would do more harm than good."

Having kept a critical eye on the war production record since March, 1941, this Truman committee is in the best possible position to sum up accomplishments and point to problems immediately ahead. It would be impossible to boil this 200-page report down to something you can read over one cup of coffee, but hitting the high spots of its recommendations, you underscore these:

Manpower—Still the most serious problem, but unless the armed services require more men than now contemplated national economy will be able to support war and civilian production with increased vigor.

National Service Law—Opposed as impractical and unnecessary.

Labor Force—Contributed 45% more man-days work in 1943 than in 1939, for all industries, 89% more in manufacturing alone.

War Production—the major battles have been won, and

people should be told of this fact as it will create confidence and not create overconfidence as feared. The "pipe line of war supply" has now been filled and will continue to flow.

Contract Terminations—As of Jan. 31, army, \$10,600,000,000; navy, \$2,349,000,000. WPB estimate of terminations for 1944, \$1,500,000,000 per month to June 30.

Raw materials—Supply of aluminum, copper and steel exceeds both war and civilian requirements.

Reconversion to Civilian Production—Now beginning and should be permitted at highest possible levels to maintain sound civilian economy.

Quota Distribution of Materials—Necessary at first for essential civilian production, but if extended, would work unfairly. Judgment of bureaucrats should not be substituted for economic trends.

Unfilled War Orders—Total on Dec. 1, 1943, \$67,000,000,000, which must continue to receive first preference. Rate of delivery now \$5,500,000,000 per month, indicating 12 months' work in sight with more coming.

Recommendations—(1) Do not prevent use of surplus commodities and thereby create unemployment.

(2) Do not create a new series of unworkable industrial controls.

(3) Do not establish pattern of regimentation for initial peacetime production, for such regimentation will have a tendency to become permanent.

Conclusion—"At all times the emphasis should be on increasing production of consumer goods and eliminating government restrictions."

Tax Exempt Organizations Must File Information Returns On May 15

Joseph D. Noonan, Jr., Commissioner of Internal Revenue, announced on March 16 that May 15 will be the date by which information returns for the calendar year 1943 will have to be filed by a large number of tax exempt organizations under provisions of Section 117 of the newly enacted Revenue Act of 1943. The announcement points out that exempt organizations which operate on some annual accounting period

which is different from the calendar year must file these information returns by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of their annual accounting periods. Forms providing for the information to be supplied by these organizations are being drafted in accordance with the new law, and will be made available at local offices of the Collectors of Internal Revenue.

Commissioner Nunan explained that thousands of these exempt organizations have been required to file information returns ever since March 5, 1942, and that, in effect, the new law merely increases the classes of exempt organizations which are required to make returns. For this reason, the filing dates already in effect for some of the organizations will also apply to the additional organizations. The announcement from the Commissioner's office further said:

"He emphasized that the May 15 filing date applies only to organizations which at some time in the past have received written notice from the Commissioner of Internal Revenue that they are exempt from income tax under a specific provision of law. All other corporations and organizations claiming exemption must either file regular income tax returns on the usual income tax

dates or formally establish their legal right to exemption by obtaining written notification of exemption from the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

"Approximately 280,000 organizations have received formal notice of exemption from the Bureau. Although they are exempted from tax, the new law requires an estimated 180,000 of these organizations to furnish specific information of their gross income, receipts and disbursements. This information is to be supplied by filling out an 'information return.'

"The law requires such information returns to be filed annually by every exempt organization unless it is specifically excused from filing under the new act. Those excused from filing information returns are, in general: religious organizations whose assets and income are not available for the private benefit of shareholders or individuals, particularly churches; educational organizations which normally have a regular faculty, curriculum and student body, such as schools and colleges; charitable organizations if primarily supported by contributions of the general public or supported in whole or part by governmental funds, such as community chests, hospitals, indigent homes and USO; fraternal beneficiary societies such as the

Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights of Columbus; and agencies wholly-owned by the United States Government.

"All other exempt organizations must file information returns under the new law, such as: agricultural organizations (including county and State fairs, farm bureaus, cooperative marketing and purchasing organizations), associations of employees, benevolent life insurance organizations, boards of trade, building and loan associations, business leagues, cemetery companies, chambers of commerce, civic leagues, cooperative banks, certain financing and holding companies, Federal credit unions and other corporations organized under acts of Congress but not wholly-owned by the United States, labor organizations, literary organizations, mutual insurance companies, mutual savings banks, mutual telephone companies, social clubs (including country clubs and Greek letter fraternities and sororities), certain types of teachers' retirement and employees' beneficiary associations. Also required to file are certain religious, charitable, and educational organizations such as Boy Scouts, libraries and Y.W.C.A."

NYSE Short Interest Higher On Feb. 29

The New York Stock Exchange announced on March 10 that the short interest existing as of the close of business on the February 29 settlement date, as compiled from information obtained by the Exchange from its members and member firms, was 960,617 shares, compared with 847,336 shares on January 31, both totals excluding short positions carried in the odd-lot accounts of all odd-lot dealers. As of the February 29 settlement date, the total short interest in all odd-lot dealers' accounts was 34,322 shares, compared with 38,139 shares on January 31.

The announcement of the Exchange added:

Of the 1,240 individual stock issues listed on the Exchange on February 29, there were 48 issues in which a short interest of more than 5,000 shares existed, or in which a change in the short position of more than 2,000 shares occurred during the month.

In the following tabulation is shown the short interest existing at the close of the last business day for the last 12 months:

1943—	Shares
Mar. 31	774,871
April 30	882,376
May 28	980,047
June 30	879,575
July 30	836,764
Aug. 31	801,321
Sept. 30	761,827
Oct. 29	729,291
Nov. 30	760,166
Dec. 31	737,042
1944—	
Jan. 31	847,335
Feb. 29	960,617

Life Underwriters Receive Citations

Nevil Ford, Chairman of the War Finance Committee for New York, awarded Treasury citations on March 17, at a luncheon at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York, to the team captains and group commanders of the volunteer organization of 225 life insurance underwriters, headed by John M. Fraser, who were responsible for adding many millions of dollars of the war bond sales to the payroll savings totals during the Fourth War Loan. Mr. Fraser's group has been active since the inception of the War Finance Committee's payroll savings plan. During the Fourth War Loan it concentrated its efforts on business organizations with 100 or more payroll employees. Mr. Fraser is President of the Fraser

25 Republican Members Of House Named To Develop Post-War Tax Program

The formation of a committee on Post War taxation of 25 Republican members of the House of Representatives by minority leader Joseph W. Martin Jr. (of Mass.) was made known on March 12, Representative Daniel A. Reed of New York is Chairman of the group, the purpose of which is to make "a thorough research of the tax field" and chart "a constructive and desirable" post-war revenue program for further study.

This was indicated in Washington advices to the New York "Times" March 12, which also reported Representative Martin's remarks as follows regarding the objectives of the Committee:

Calling the present system "hopelessly impossible" as a basis for a post-war tax program Mr. Martin said that "streamlining, simplification and forward-looking revision of the entire Federal revenue system is one of our most pressing national problems."

"A sound and prosperous post-war national economy depends upon a wise tax policy," he said. "This policy must be carefully considered and Congress must be prepared to have it go into effect immediately with the advent of peace, which will in all probability come during the life of the Congress that will be selected next November."

"Since 1933 new tax measures have been piled one on top of the other without attempting to set up a well-balanced, integrated tax system.

"What we have is a crazy-quilt patchwork. Moreover, in recent years the taxing power has, too often, been used for punitive and other non-revenue purposes."

Upon the satisfactory revision of the national revenue system, he argued, depended the ability of business and industry to provide returning service men and millions of war workers with "well-paying post-war jobs."

"In the same manner, the nature of our post-war tax policy holds the key to whether the many potential new industries arising out of the war are to be permitted to develop, which can only come about through offering definite encouragement to the investment of so-called risk capital.

"Moreover, if America is to continue to be the land of opportunity, every individual—the farmer, the workingman, the small business man, in fact, all our citizens—

must be permitted to retain some of the fruits of their labor."

As a post-war Federal budget may exceed \$20,000,000,000, Mr. Martin said, post-war taxes should proceed on the principle of "maximum revenues consistent with maximum encouragement to individual and business enterprise."

"Excessive taxes operate as a brake on our economy," he asserted. "We learned during the 20's, following the last World War, that reasonable rates will produce more revenue than extreme rates. We can profit by this experience."

The same advices state that those serving on the Committee with Chairman Reed are: Allen T. Treadway and Christian A. Herter of Massachusetts, Charles S. Dewey and Noah M. Mason of Illinois, Donald H. McLean and Robert W. Kean of New Jersey, Harold Knutson of Minnesota, Roy O. Woodruff of Michigan, Thomas A. Jenkins of Ohio, Bertrand W. Gearhart of California, Frank Carlson of Kansas, Richard M. Simpson of Pennsylvania, Hubert S. Ellis of West Virginia, John M. Robison of Kentucky, Robert Hale of Maine, Paul Cunningham of Iowa, Forest A. Harness of Indiana, Ross Rizley of Oklahoma, Carl T. Curtis of Nebraska, J. Edgar Chenoweth of Colorado, Hal Holmes of Washington, Max Schwabe of Missouri, Frank A. Barret of Wyoming and Joseph W. Talbot of Connecticut.

In Associated Press accounts from Washington March 13 it was stated that "the minority party took the initiative on formal post-war tax studies following a suggestion by Bernard M. Baruch, in his recent report to the President, that Congress enact new revenue laws to be put into effect at the close of the war." It was added that "some Congressional leaders on fiscal matters took the view that post-war tax policy cannot be drawn at this time, because of uncertainties as to the future overall economy."

Earnings, Employment, Payrolls Show No New Peaks In January In Mfg. Industries

In January, for the first time since July, 1940, there were no new peaks in the National Industrial Conference Board indexes of hourly and weekly earnings, hours worked per week, employment, total man hours worked, and payrolls in 25 manufacturing industries, according to an announcement by the Board on March 20. The Board, in its announcement, also says:

"Hourly earnings at \$1.045⁰ equaled the figure for December and compared with \$0.979 in January, 1943. They were 37.7% higher than in January, 1941, the base date of the Little Steel Formula. At \$47.42 in January, average weekly earnings were above the \$47.15 (revised) figure for December, but below both October and November. In January, 1943, they were \$43.56. The increase since January, 1941, was 54.9%.

"Real weekly earnings, or dollar earnings adjusted for changes in living costs, in January at 171.5 (1923 equals 100) were higher than the 170.5 (revised) for December, but below September, October and November. In January, 1943, the figure was 161.4. During the three year period from January, 1941, to January, 1944, 'real' weekly earnings rose 28.3%.

"The length of the average work week in January was 45.2 hours against 45.1 in December. In both October and November, however, the average week was

Agency of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Co.

45.5 hours. In January, 1943, it was 44.3 hours.

"The man hours index (1923 equals 100) was 136.2 in January against 137.2 in December and 131.7 in January, 1943. The payroll index, also on a 1923 base, stood at 264.1 in January against 265.1 in December, and 239.5 in January, 1943."

Douglas Resigns

It was made known on March 10 that Lewis W. Douglas has resigned as Deputy War Shipping Administrator to return to the Presidency of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York. The announcement was made by President Roosevelt, who stated that Mr. Douglas would continue as Deputy of the Combined Shipping Adjustment Board and as Chairman of its Employment and Policy Committee. Probably, it is said, however, he will relinquish these posts by mid-year.

Roosevelt And Hull Charge Germany With Responsibility For Attack On Rome

Pope Appeals That City Be Spared From Becoming Battlefield

Responsibility for the dangers to Rome suffered in the recent air attacks, is placed by President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hull on the German military forces. In reply to the appeal on March 12 of Pope Pius XII to all the belligerents that Rome be spared from becoming a battlefield, Secretary Hull promised that the Allied military authorities would seek to avoid as much as possible damaging religious shrines in Rome, but, said Washington advices March 13 to the New York "Times," no assurance was given that Rome would not become a battlefield. From the "Times" account we quote:

"Mr. Hull emphasized our interest in the preservation of religious shrines and historic structures. At the same time he stressed the importance of human lives, including those of innocent civilians and refugees.

"He made his statement in answer to inquiries at his press conference concerning the appeal of Pope Pius as reported in the newspapers.

"I think we all understand," Secretary Hull said, "that the Allied military authorities in Italy are dealing primarily with considerations of military necessity forced on them by the activities and attitude of the German military forces. Naturally we are as much interested as any Government or any individual in the preservation of religious shrines, historic structures and human lives. I am sure that our military people have that same view.

"It is my understanding that the Allied military authorities are pursuing a policy of avoiding damage to such shrines and monuments to the extent humanly possible in modern warfare and in the circumstances that face them.

"If the Germans were not entrenched in these places or were they as interested as we are in protecting religious shrines and monuments and in preserving the lives of innocent civilians and refugees no question would arise."

"The statement was made with special care, in full realization of the seriousness of the question. It is understood that before making it Mr. Hull had carefully consulted our military authorities. His words were regarded as embodying their reaction as well as his own to the appeal of Pope Pius."

The President's statement read at his press conference on March 14, follows:

"Every one knows the Nazi record on religion. Both at home and abroad, Hitler and his followers have waged a ruthless war against the churches of all faiths.

"Now the German Army has used the holy city of Rome as a military center. No one could have been surprised by this—it is only the latest of Hitler's many affronts to religion. It is a logical step in the Nazi policy of total war—a policy which treats nothing as sacred.

"We on our side have made freedom of religion one of the principles for which we are fighting this war. We have tried scrupulously—often at considerable sacrifice—to spare religious and cultural monuments, and we shall continue to do so."

From the "Times" Washington advices March 14 we take the following:

"The President did not say that American troops would spare ecclesiastical shrines in every eventuality, but if he still holds to the principle that he laid down during the action against the Abbey of Mount Cassino, the American forces will not attack such landmarks unless the enemy uses them for action endangering the safety of our men.

"Viewed from this standpoint, the President's statement that Rome had been made a 'military center' by the Germans was significant. For, if the enemy continues to use that city as a center for military action, then under the

principle of Cassino, such portions as are so used will not be spared by American arms."

In his plea, delivered from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica on the fifth anniversary of his coronation, the Pope in part said:

"With towns stricken on nearly every continent by aerial war that knows no law nor restraint—in itself a terrible accusation against the cruelty of such fighting methods—how could we believe that anyone should ever dare to turn Rome, this noble city which belongs to all times and all places, on which the whole civilized world fixes its eyes in trepidation, to turn her into a field of battle and a theatre of war, thereby perpetrating an act as inglorious militarily as it is abominable in the eyes of God and humanity conscious of the highest spiritual and moral values."

The most recent bombing of Rome in which attacks were made on the rail yards occurred on March 7 and 10. The attack on the Abbey of Mount Cassino occurred in February. Under date of Feb. 17 Associated Press accounts from Washington said:

"The Apostolic Delegate to the United States, the Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, today stated on behalf of the Vatican, that the papal villa at Castel Gandolfo, Italy, could not be considered a military target.

The delegate issued this statement:

"His Eminence, Cardinal Magliano, Secretary of State of his Holiness, Pope Pius XII, has instructed me to state that the recent report, appearing in the press and credited to the Allied High Command, to the effect that the actual territory of the papal villa at Castel Gandolfo is 'saturated with Germans and therefore subject to bombing,' is not true. His Eminence declares that no German soldier has been admitted within the borders of the neutral pontifical villa and that no German military whatsoever are within it at present."

U. S., Britain Exchange Notes On Copyrights

Through an exchange of notes on Mar. 10 between Secretary of State Hull and Viscount Halifax, the British Ambassador, Great Britain and the United States agreed on an extension of time for fulfillment of the conditions and formalities for obtaining copyright during the war. Advices to this effect, contained in Washington advices March 10 to the New York "Times," further stated:

"The British note was accompanied by a list of British territories, in addition to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, to which, together with Palestine, the agreement applies. Also attached was a copy of an Order in Council published in London today according copyright extension privileges to authors and copyright proprietors of the United States.

"The American note was accompanied by a copy of a proclamation by President Roosevelt under the law of Sept. 25, 1941, according equivalent copyright extension privileges to British authors and copyright proprietors in the British territories and to authors and copyright proprietors who are citizens of Palestine.

"The reciprocal action was

taken because of the disturbed conditions which temporarily prevent compliance with required conditions and formalities.

"President Roosevelt's proclamation said that as regards works subject to copyright under the laws of the United States, including works eligible to ad interim copyright, which were first produced or published outside the United States on or after Sept. 3, 1939, by British nationals of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of the specified British territories and by the citizens of Palestine (excluding the citizens of Transjordan) and works of the same authors or copyright proprietors which were entitled to renewal of copyright on or after Sept. 3, 1939, where there exist such disruption or suspension of facilities essential to compliance with the conditions and formalities prescribed by the copyright laws of the United States as to bring such works within the terms of the act of Sept. 25, 1941, the time within which compliance may take place is extended until the day on which the President of the United States shall terminate the proclamation.

"The term of copyright cannot be altered or affected by the President's action and the extension is subject to the proviso of the act of Sept. 25, 1941, that no liability shall attach to persons having made lawful use of any work to which the proclamation relates prior to the effective date of that proclamation."

U. S.-Canada Economic Committees Dissolved

Prime Minister Mackenzie King announced on March 14 that Canada and the United States had agreed to dissolve the joint economic committees which were established in 1941 to harmonize price controls, regulate priorities and control shipping. Associated Press advices from Ottawa, reporting this, added:

"The Prime Minister said the committees had been of great assistance in co-ordinating war-time measures as well as in surveying and advising on economic problems of common concern.

"Mr. King added that the development of other agencies for the exchange of views on economic problems had rendered unnecessary continuation of the work of the committees.

"Prominent U. S. members of the committees included Dr. Alvin Hansen of Harvard, Robert R. Nathan of the War Production Board and A. A. Berle of the State Department."

Living Costs Down in Feb.

Living costs of the average family of wage earners and lower-salaried clerical workers in the United States declined 0.5% from January to February, according to the National Industrial Conference Board in a report issued on Mar. 14, which further reported:

"Food declined 1.4%, but clothing rose 0.4%, fuel and light 0.9%, and sundries 0.1%.

"The Board's index of the cost of living (1923=100) stood at 103.4 in February, against 103.9 in January and 101.9 in February, 1943.

"The level of living costs was 1.5% higher than that of a year ago. Fuel and light showed the greatest advance over February, 1943, with an increase of 4.0%. Other advances during the twelve months were: sundries, 3.8%, and clothing, 3.4%. Housing remained unchanged, while food declined 0.4%.

"The purchasing power of the dollar, on the basis of 100 cents to the dollar in 1923, which amounted to 96.2 cents in January, rose to 96.7 in February. It stood at 98.1 cents in February, 1943."

Retraining And Re-Employment Administration Created By Roosevelt Following Baruch Report

The creation by President Roosevelt of a Retraining and Re-employment Administration, headed by Brigadier General Frank T. Hines, and charged it with responsibility for getting war workers and veterans into peacetime employment as they are released from war services was announced on Feb. 24, said the Associated Press. Recommendation for the establishment of the New Administration was contained in the Baruch-Hancock Report for post-war readjustment. The Associated Press advices from Washington Feb. 24 had the following to say regarding the creation of the new agency:

"Announcement was made by James F. Byrnes, Director of War Mobilization, several days ago that General Hines would head the new office."

"At the same time the White House released Mr. Roosevelt's order setting up this office, it also released a directive order by Mr. Byrnes stating certain exceptions which might be made in the application of the Government's uniform contract combination clause for fixed price war contracts. The general contract termination procedure is also a part of the Baruch-Hancock program.

Today's order by Mr. Byrnes merely specifies certain types of contracts, involving small sums of money or otherwise relatively unimportant, which do not have to contain the uniform clause.

The President's order on the retraining and re-employment administration provides also for the organization of a retraining and re-employment policy board composed of representatives of virtually all Government agencies concerned either with labor or war manpower.

From Washington advices Feb. 24 to the New York "Herald-Tribune" we take the following:

In today's executive order the President defines its functions as follows:

The RRA, will have general supervision and direction of the work of all government agencies directed toward finding jobs for

men and women discharged from the armed services or released from war work, and training them for new jobs. It may issue regulations and directions and advise with appropriate committees of Congress.

The RRA will also develop over-all re-employment programs in consultation with other government agencies, providing for vocational education, assistance to former service men and former war workers while they are waiting for new jobs, and "dealing with the problems connected with the release of workers from industries not readily convertible to peace-time use."

Programs also will be developed for care of ex-service men, including physical and occupational therapy for the wounded and disabled, and the resumption of education interrupted by the war.

The Retraining and Re-employment Administrator will thus make policy decisions affecting the War Man-Power Commission, the Veterans Administration, and other agencies.

The administrator will be assisted by a policy board composed of representatives of the Department of Labor, Federal Security Agency, WMC, Selective Service System, Veterans Administration, Civil Service Commission, War and Navy Departments and the War Production Board. Representatives of other government agencies will be invited to sit with the board when matters affecting them are under consideration.

The Baruch-Hancock report was referred to in our Feb. 24 issue, page 817.

Restudy Of Webb Export Trade Act Urged By Commerce & Industry Assn.

Asserts U. S. Does Not Intend To Coerce Other Countries To Adopt Its Political System

Immediate restudy of the Webb Export Trade Act of 1918 toward bringing it up to date was urged on Congress by the Commerce and Industry Association of New York on March 21 through Association Secretary Thomas Jefferson Miley. In his statement addressed to Congress, Mr. Miley said that "the Anti-Trust Division of the Department of Justice of the U. S., throughout this war and for all the post-war period, is seemingly striving to coerce Great Britain, Soviet Russia, China and all the rest of the world to adopt the competitive system of the United States, with all the refinements added by successive decisions of the Supreme Court under the anti-trust laws." He went on to say:

"Such a program of coercion is being relentlessly carried out now by the Department of Justice in the midst of the greatest war in history. The Department of Justice is instituting every kind of criminal and civil prosecution in its power for the purpose of injecting into foreign and international trade relationships every new requirement of competition that can be spelled out of the Supreme Court's ever-expanding interpretations of the anti-trust laws.

"President Woodrow Wilson in the first World War foresaw the folly of all this. He also saw the folly of subjecting Americans doing business abroad to all the requirements of all the American anti-trust laws as well as all the requirements of all the laws of the foreign countries where they are doing business, while the foreigners against whom they are competing abroad need comply only with the laws of the foreign countries where they are doing business.

"It was to correct this obvious injustice and absurdity that Congress during the first World War enacted at President Wilson's insistence the Webb Export Trade Act of 1918.

"Congress then should today restudy this Webb Export Trade Act and by proper amendments should bring it up to date, so that now in this present second World War and for all the post-war period, there can be achieved all the objectives that President Wilson sought to attain when he procured the enactment of this act in 1918.

"The purpose of requesting this restudy toward bringing the Webb Act up to date is that now as well as in the post-war period every interest in international relations must work together for the common good. The United States, with its democratic, political system and its competitive economic system, does not intend to coerce Great Britain, Soviet Russia, China and the rest of the post-war world to adopt a democratic, political system of the United States."

The proposal by the Commerce and Industry Association was first presented as a resolution by Dr. Fred I. Kent, Chairman of the Association's Committee on Post-War Planning, and approved by the Board of Directors.

Congress Approves Compromise Soldier Vote Bill—FDR Wires Governors Regarding State Laws

The Soldier Vote Bill which has been the subject of many changes since it has been in the hands of conferees of the Senate and House, during the past month, has been finally accepted by Congress in the compromise form drawn by the conferees. The bill as finally worked out provides a State rights service vote bill, allowing the use of a curtailed Federal ballot, only with State permission.

Associated Press advices from Washington March 14, as given in the New York "Sun" had the following to say regarding the Senate action on the Conferees' report on that date.

The Conference report was agreed to by the Senate on March 14 by a vote of 47 to 31, while the House agreed to the report on March 15 by a vote of 273 to 111. The bill, it is stated, reached the White House on March 20. Following the House action on March 15, President Roosevelt on that day telegraphed the Governors of all the States asking whether "the use of the supplemental Federal ballots provided for in the bill would conform to the laws of their States. The telegram addressed to the Governors read as follows:

"The Congress has passed and there will be submitted to me in a day or two for my approval or disapproval the soldiers' voting bill.

"In it are certain provisions which, in order to be effective, require certification by the Governor of a State that the use of the Federal ballots provided for by the bill is authorized by the laws of such State.

"To enable me to form an opinion as to the effectiveness of this measure, I should appreciate it if you could at once advise me by wire:

"(1) Whether the use of supplementary Federal ballots provided for by this bill is, in your judgment, now authorized by the laws of your State, and (2) if the use of these ballots is not authorized by the laws of your State whether, in your judgment, if the bill becomes law, steps will be taken to enable you to certify prior to July 15 that the use of such ballots is authorized by the laws of your State.

"A copy of the bill has been sent to you by air mail.

"FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT."

In Associated Press accounts from Washington March 15 it was stated:

"The President has indicated that the decision on a veto depends on whether more men can vote under new legislation than under existing laws.

"The bill provides in brief that service people must make their own applications for State absentee ballots which the services will expedite to them and back to the States, and that the Federal short form shall be available for use only by those who apply for the State ballots but do not get them in time, and whose Governors certify that the Federal form will be acceptable."

In the same advices it was also noted:

"The House completed action on the legislation after six months' wrangling between 'States rights' and sponsors of an Administration uniform Federal ballot plan for servicemen and women.

"Disowned by some of its authors, the compromise swept through the two chambers after both sides agreed it would be this bill or none at all, so far as November's Presidential election is concerned.

"Mr. Roosevelt termed an earlier measure passed by the Senate a 'fraud on the soldiers and sailors and Marines, a fraud upon the American people.' That bill dumped virtually the whole soldier vote problem on the States, with no Federal ballot provisions whatever."

Special advices to the New York "Times" from Washington March 15 by C. P. Trussell, reporting the

sentatives to designate the next President of the United States? "Can it be that they are so out of touch with the sentiment of the members of the armed forces that they feel our military and naval personnel can be voted like a herd of cattle for the fourth term?"

"If the latter is the case then my administration friends are doomed to disillusionment. These boys and girls gladly and proudly wear the nation's uniform but they most assuredly are not going to wear the New Deal's collar!"

The disputed service vote question was sent to a Senate-House conference committee on Feb. 9 for the solution of the Federal-State ballot controversy. This action was taken following the passage on Feb. 8 by the Senate, after weeks of debate, of a bill providing a uniform Federal ballot for service men and women; the House, on Feb. 3 adopted a bill proposing to leave the balloting machinery in the hands of the States.

Representative Rankin, leader of the House battle against a Federal ballot, described the Senate action as "unusual and ridiculous" and declared the House would never accept "a bobtailed Federal ballot."

Recording the action of the House on Feb. 3, Washington advices on that date to the New York "Times" said:

The House of Representatives, accepting President Roosevelt's challenge to "stand up and be counted" on a decision between a Federal or State ballot program for voting by the armed forces in the November elections, voted 224 to 168 by roll-call late tonight to reject finally the Administration-sponsored Worley bill.

By another roll-call of 328 to 69 it adopted the Eastland-Rankin "States' Rights" bill, designed to leave the service balloting to the several States, but with recommendations for State and Federal cooperation to carry to the maximum the opportunity for those under arms, and those working with them overseas, to vote.

In the roll call test on the Worley bill the party line-up showed 147 Democrats, 18 Republicans and 3 members of minor parties supporting the Federal measure and 175 Republicans, 48 Democrats and 1 minor party member against it.

Five hours earlier, in the most tempestuous meeting of the session, the House rejected the Worley bill by a teller (non-record) vote of 215 to 164. Then, continuing into a night session which lasted until nearly 11 p.m., it defeated a proposal for a dual program under which the Federal ballot could be used, with rigid restrictions and a thick sheaf of other plans, amended the Eastland-Rankin bill without altering its "States' Rights" aims, and gave final approval to the bill which the President had branded as "a fraud."

So decisive was the first victory of a smoothly operating coalition of Republicans and Southern Democrats over the Worley bill backers that, although the House voted, 233 to 160 Tuesday (Feb. 1) against subjecting itself to a record vote on the issue, Republicans decided that Mr. Roosevelt might have his wish.

Representative Joseph W. Martin, Jr., the minority leader, telling the House that his party had been at no time afraid to go on the record, permitted Representative John Z. Anderson, Republican, of California, to make the only motion to recommit the legislation permitted under the rule granted the bill by the Rules Committee.

Mr. Anderson, an opponent of the Eastland-Rankin bill, moved that it be sent back to the Committee on Elections with instructions to return it immediately, including the provisions of the Worley bill.

"We were fighting to protect the minority," Mr. Martin said.

"We are not afraid to 'stand up and be counted' and are willing to let the motion to recommit be the motion Mr. Worley sought to make."

Mr. Martin asked for the ayes and nays.

The answer that the House gave showed that the psychology of the record vote, by which Administration forces had hoped to turn the House tide against the "States' Rights" program, had failed. When the roll was called the margin that developed against the Administration program on the non-record vote had been increased by five.

With reference to the action of the Senate on Feb. 8, C. P. Trussell in advices to the "Times" from Washington, said in part:

The Senate, in a four-hour burst of action, passed two service men's voting bills today and sent to the House in each a program for use of a Federal ballot by the armed forces, such as the House rejected by 224 to 168 last Thursday night (Feb. 3).

By a vote of 47 to 38 the Senate adopted the Green-Lucas bill upon which it had worked for eight days and so amended as to make it resemble only generally either the original Administration-sponsored program which it cast aside on Dec. 3 in favor of a "States' Rights" measure, or the compromise legislation which took its place last month. This bill was expected to be referred to the House Elections Committee and probably remain there indefinitely.

As its "working measure" the Senate passed the Eastland-Rankin "States' Rights" bill (providing only for the use of State ballots), as it was amended by the House, after putting into it the Green-Lucas bill with its modifications and a new plan for "guaranteeing" voting rights in the services by providing a Federal ballot when requested State ballots failed of delivery.

Proposals for a uniform Federal ballot for men and women in the armed forces were rejected on Jan. 14 by the House Elections Committee, which approved by a 7-to-5 vote a bill leaving the service-ballot question in full control of the States. The legislation approved by a majority of the House Elections group was similar to the measure passed by the Senate on Dec. 3 by a vote of 42 to 37. This legislation, sponsored by Senators Eastland (Dem., Miss.), McClellan (Dem., Ark.), and McKellar (Dem., Tenn.), was substituted for a bill which the Senate had been debating for six days. The original measure, offered by Senators Green (Dem., R. I.) and Lucas (Dem., Ill.), would have set up a Federal War Ballot Commission to administer absentee voting by the armed forces in next year's general election. However, under the substitute bill, Congress merely expressed itself as favoring and recommending that the States enact legislation to enable eligible persons serving with the armed forces to vote by absentee ballot. It was further recommended that, in order to utilize the absentee balloting procedures, each State print and deliver to the Secretaries of War and the Navy an adequate number of postal cards for use by absentee voters in the armed forces in making application for absentee ballots. The Secretaries, wherever "practicable and compatible with military operations," would have the cards delivered as expeditiously as possible in order that the ballots could be executed and returned in time to be recorded. The Secretaries of War and the Navy would also cooperate with State election officials in the distribution, execution, collection and return of such absentee ballots.

Those opposing a Federal ballot bill contended it would violate the Constitution by waiving the control of the States over election laws, while the opponents of the State ballot system say this plan would be too difficult for the

Army and Navy to handle for any appreciable number of service members, especially those overseas.

The Senate began consideration on Jan. 24 of a revised soldier vote bill providing for a uniform Federal ballot to be distributed by the services but leaving to the States the power to pass on the qualifications of voters and the validity of each ballot. This compromise measure was approved by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections by a vote of 12 to 2 on Jan. 20.

At a December press conference, President Roosevelt declared that his policy regarding voting is that every service member should be given the opportunity to vote unless actual combat circumstances prevent it. The President also said that he thought Federal machinery is needed to implement the policy he expressed.

New 'Savings' Increase Reported By N.Y. Banks

New savings in the amount of \$156,936,237 were accounted for by the savings banks of New York State during the months of January and February, 1944, through an increase in deposits of \$89,691,608 and the sale of War Bonds and Stamps of \$67,244,629, according to figures released by the Savings Banks Association on March 15. This, it is indicated, was accompanied by a gain in new accounts of 52,363, bringing the total of accounts open to 6,276,767 and total deposits to \$6,258,401,589, both record highs. The advices also state:

"The February figures reveal a deposit gain of \$36,881,006, and account gain of 19,481 and War Bond sales of \$32,374,016. The latter, coupled with January sales of \$34,870,613, were due primarily to the Fourth War Loan Drive, 30% better than for the corresponding period in 1943."

More Freight Cars And Locomotives Put In Service

The Class I railroads put 5,174 new freight cars in service in the first two months this year, the Association of American Railroads announced on March 20. These included 2,740 hopper, 474 gondola, 515 flat, 283 automobile box, 1,130 plain box, and 32 refrigerator freight cars. Total placed in service in the first two months of 1943 was 2,996 freight cars.

They also put 180 locomotives in service in January and February this year, of which 75 were steam and one electric and 104 Diesel Locomotives installed in the first two months of 1943 totaled 99, of which 83 were steam and 16 were electric and Diesel.

Class I railroads on March 1, 1944, had 33,012 new freight cars on order, including 11,183 hopper, 4,380 gondolas, 1,000 flat, 11,856 plain box cars, 3,225 automobile box cars, 1,168 refrigerator, and 200 stock freight cars. On Feb. 1, last, they had 33,411 on order and on March 1, 1943, a total of 19,329.

The roads also had 779 locomotives on order on March 1, this year, which included 264 steam and two electric and 513 Diesel locomotives. Total on order on March 1, 1943 was 499, including 352 steam and 147 electric and Diesel.

The ODT reported that railroads, other than Class I, had 51 new locomotives on order on March 1, and that three new locomotives were installed in service in February. None was installed in January. This brings to 830 the total number of locomotives on order on March 1. The number installed by all railroads in the first two months this year totaled 183.

Moody's Bond Prices And Bond Yield Averages

Moody's computed bond prices and bond yield averages are given in the following table:

MOODY'S BOND PRICES* (Based on Average Yields)										
1944— Daily Averages	U. S. Govt. Bonds	Avg. Corpo- rate*	Corporate by Ratings*				Corporate by Groups*			
			Aaa	Aa	A	Baa	R. R.	P. U.	Indus.	
Mar. 21	119.85	111.44	118.40	116.61	111.25	100.65	104.48	113.70	116.41	
20	119.93	111.44	118.40	116.61	111.44	100.81	104.48	113.70	116.41	
18	120.13	111.44	118.20	116.41	111.44	100.65	104.48	113.70	116.41	
17	120.14	111.44	118.20	116.41	111.25	100.65	104.66	113.70	116.41	
16	120.13	111.44	118.20	116.41	111.25	100.81	104.48	113.89	116.41	
15	120.10	111.25	118.20	116.41	111.25	100.81	104.66	113.89	116.41	
14	120.18	111.44	118.20	116.41	111.25	100.65	104.48	113.70	116.22	
13	120.23	111.25	118.20	116.41	111.25	100.65	104.48	113.70	116.22	
11	120.26	111.25	118.20	116.41	111.25	100.65	104.48	113.70	116.22	
10	120.28	111.44	118.20	116.41	111.25	100.81	104.48	113.70	116.41	
9	120.26	111.25	118.20	116.41	111.25	100.65	104.48	113.70	116.22	
8	120.27	111.25	118.20	116.41	111.25	100.65	104.48	113.70	116.22	
7	120.38	111.44	118.20	116.61	111.25	100.65	104.48	113.70	116.41	
6	120.44	111.25	118.20	116.61	111.25	100.49	104.48	113.70	116.41	
4	120.43	111.25	118.20	116.61	111.25	100.49	104.31	113.70	116.41	
3	120.44	111.25	118.20	116.61	111.25	100.49	104.31	113.70	116.41	
2	120.42	111.25	118.20	116.22	111.25	100.49	104.31	113.70	116.22	
1	120.32	111.25	118.20	116.41	111.25	100.49	104.31	113.70	116.22	
Feb. 25	120.21	111.25	118.20	116.41	111.07	100.32	104.31	113.50	116.22	
18	119.96	111.25	118.40	116.41	111.07	100.49	104.31	113.50	116.41	
11	119.69	111.25	118.40	116.22	111.25	100.49	104.31	113.50	116.41	
4	119.45	111.25	118.40	116.22	111.25	100.49	104.14	113.50	116.61	
Jan. 28	119.47	111.07	118.20	116.22	111.07	100.16	104.14	113.31	116.41	
21	119.58	111.25	118.40	116.41	111.07	100.16	104.31	113.31	116.41	
14	119.57	111.25	118.60	116.41	111.25	99.84	104.14	113.50	116.41	
7	119.69	111.07	118.60	116.41	111.07	99.36	103.80	113.50	116.22	
High 1944	120.44	111.44	118.80	116.61	111.44	100.81	104.66	113.89	116.61	
Low 1944	119.41	110.70	118.20	116.22	110.88	99.04	103.30	113.12	116.02	
High 1943	120.87	111.44	119.41	117.00	111.81	99.36	103.47	114.27	117.40	
Low 1943	116.85	107.44	116.80	113.89	108.88	92.35	97.16	111.81	114.46	
1 Year ago										
Mar. 20, 1943	116.86	109.42	117.80	115.43	110.52	95.92	100.32	113.12	115.63	
2 Years ago										
Mar. 21, 1942	117.89	106.21	115.63	113.12	107.09	91.34	97.00	109.79	112.75	

MOODY'S BOND YIELD AVERAGES (Based on Individual Closing Prices)										
1944— Daily Averages	U. S. Govt. Bonds	Avg. Corpo- rate*	Corporate by Ratings*				Corporate by Groups*			
			Aaa	Aa	A	Baa	R. R.	P. U.	Indus.	
Mar. 21	1.82	3.09	2.73	2.82	3.10	3.71	3.48	2.97	2.83	
20	1.82	3.09	2.73	2.82	3.09	3.70	3.48	2.97	2.83	
18	1.80	3.09	2.74	2.83	3.09	3.71	3.48	2.97	2.83	
17	1.80	3.09	2.74	2.83	3.10	3.71	3.47	2.96	2.83	
16	1.80	3.09	2.74	2.83	3.10	3.70	3.48	2.96	2.83	
15	1.80	3.10	2.74	2.83	3.10	3.70	3.47	2.97	2.83	
14	1.81	3.09	2.74	2.83	3.10	3.71	3.48	2.97	2.84	
13	1.81	3.10	2.74	2.83	3.10	3.71	3.48	2.97	2.84	
11	1.81	3.10	2.74	2.83	3.10	3.70	3.48	2.97	2.83	
10	1.81	3.09	2.74	2.83	3.10	3.71	3.48	2.97	2.83	
9	1.81	3.10	2.74	2.83	3.10	3.71	3.48	2.97	2.84	
8	1.81	3.10	2.74	2.83	3.10	3.71	3.48	2.97	2.83	
7	1.80	3.09	2.74	2.82	3.10	3.72	3.48	2.97	2.83	
6	1.79	3.10	2.74	2.82	3.10	3.72	3.49	2.97	2.83	
4	1.80	3.10	2.74	2.82	3.10	3.72	3.49	2.97	2.83	
3	1.80	3.10	2.74	2.82	3.10	3.72	3.49	2.97	2.84	
2	1.80	3.10	2.74	2.82	3.10	3.72	3.49	2.97	2.84	
1	1.81	3.10	2.74	2.83	3.10	3.72	3.49	2.97	2.84	
Feb. 25	1.81	3.10	2.74	2.83	3.11	3.73	3.49	2.98	2.84	
18	1.83	3.10	2.73	2.83	3.11	3.72	3.49	2.98	2.83	
11	1.85	3.10	2.73	2.84	3.10	3.72	3.49	2.98	2.83	
4	1.87	3.10	2.73	2.84	3.10	3.72	3.50	2.98	2.82	
Jan. 28	1.87	3.11	2.74	2.84	3.11	3.74	3.50	2.99	2.83	
21	1.86	3.10	2.73	2.83	3.11	3.74	3.49	2.99	2.83	
14	1.86	3.10	2.72	2.83	3.10	3.76	3.50	2.98	2.83	
7	1.85	3.11	2.72	2.83	3.11	3.79	3.52	2.98	2.84	
High 1944	1.87	3.13	2.74	2.84	3.12	3.81	3.55	3.00	2.85	
Low 1944	1.79	3.09	2.71	2.82	3.09	3.70	3.47	2.96	2.82	
High 1943	2.08	3.31	2.81	2.96	3.23	4.25	3.93	3.07	2.93	
Low 1943	1.79	3.09	2.68	2.80	3.07	3.79	3.54	2.94	2.78	
1 Year ago										
Mar. 20, 1943	2.07	3.20	2.76	2.88	3.14	4.01	3.73	3.00	2.87	
2 Years ago										
Mar. 21, 1942	1.98	3.38	2.87	3.00	3.33	4.32	3.94	3.18	3.02	

*These prices are computed from average yields on the basis of one "typical" bond (3% coupon, maturing in 25 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 true picture of the bond market.
*The latest complete list of bonds used in computing these indexes was published in the issue of Jan. 14, 1943, page 202.

Further Comments On Subject Of World Peace Organization

(Continued from first page)

sinks into another dark age; it has happened before and it can happen again.

Archaeological research has furnished conclusive evidence that man existed on EARTH a million years ago. Is it reasonable to assume that it required nine hundred and ninety-five thousand years for man to reach that primitive state which our history discovered in the valley of the Nile about 3000 B. C. and then only five thousand years for man to reach his present enlightened state? Is it not more reasonable to assume that those tribesmen of 3000 B. C. were the scattered remnants of an earlier and perhaps highly enlightened civilization just then coming out of a dark age.

My conclusion is, and I believe that it has been the conclusion of other students of history, as well, that the primitive races mentioned in the legendary part of our world history were not the first human beings to develop an organized society. Monuments found in the Easter Islands, ruined fortresses and temples found in Peru, the Pyramids, the Sphinx and last, though not the least important, the burial mounds of the North American continent left by

a prelegendary race of men, are all mute evidence that Mother Earth has been well populated many times by highly enlightened peoples who flourished and died and disappeared, leaving no trace of their having been here other than a shriveled mummy, a pile of stones, or a piece of broken pottery.

Earth has perhaps nurtured countless cycles of civilization equal in duration and equal in accomplishment to our own, each cycle being separated from the one preceding, by a dark age so long that all records perished. Even the surviving members of the human race lost the memory of things that had been.

What brought these cycles of civilization to an end? War, of course. What other explanation could there be?

If you prefer to believe the story of the Deluge, as told in Genesis, you may think God drowned them but I do not think so. Why waste so much good water when man, left to his own devices, can so easily accomplish his own destruction.

At first these men of the "Cycles" fought little wars with clubs and stones and bows and spears. Then inventive genius

improved their tools for fighting and wars became larger and were fought with muskets and cannon. Gradually their wars became world wars fought with every conceivable scientific device including poison gas, disease germs, death rays and insect pests. I heard recently of a scientist who had developed an insect pest in a laboratory which will spread so fast that a few canisters of it dropped over enemy territory would destroy the entire growing food supply in a few weeks.

Mr. Wilson thinks that Universal Brotherhood might save the human race and I agree with him, if it were possible to put over the idea but is it possible? Buddha, born 563 B. C., renounced his wealth and position as a high caste Brahmin to become a wanderer and teach brotherhood but the world was still a sorry mess when Christ was born some five hundred odd years later.

Christ taught brotherhood but his followers have given him nothing more than lip service. Some of the worst atrocities in history have been committed by soldiers who invariably knelt in prayer before they sacked a town. Pulpit orators of the present day, on both sides of this unhappy controversy, still urge their congregations to fight.

Brotherhood! Yes, brotherhood for our own race, our own color, and our own creed but brotherhood for all the motley crew that clutters the earth—who could conceive of such a thing?

I happened to make that remark to a clergyman not long ago.

"God can," he replied, "and until man does he must struggle" on through cycle after cycle, coming each time to the same miserable end."

"It would take a hundred cycles and another million years to teach that philosophy to the human race," I retorted.

"Well," he smiled, "what's a million years to God? He has plenty of time on his hands." Something might happen to wake us up this time but I doubt it. Frankly, I give this cycle just about one more century at most.

ANONYMOUS.

Philadelphia, Pa.
March 17, 1944.

P.S.—Much of this article has been quoted from a novel which I expect to publish during the summer. Writers of tall tales please lay off.

Editor, The Commercial & Financial Chronicle:

I wish to express my thanks for "Why A New League of Nations Will Not Insure Permanent Peace," by Alexander Wilson.

However, regarding Roosevelt Socialization, I don't go along with you (?) 100%. I admit and deplore the abuses, but technological development is making it inevitable, apparently. The "Free Enterprisers" (Free Booters) have had their day. However, "human nature being what it is" as Belloc says in his "How the Reformation Happened," I hold no illusions about the "new order"—there'll be "hell to pay."

In every other respect I find myself in harmony with the article and glad of the opportunity to express my appreciation.

WILLIAM J. SALMON.

New York City.
March 15, 1944.

Moody's Daily Commodity Index

Tuesday, March 14, 1944	250.8
Wednesday, March 15	251.3
Thursday, March 16	251.3
Friday, March 17	251.5
Saturday, March 18	251.4
Monday, March 20	251.0
Tuesday, March 21	249.7
Two weeks ago, March 7	249.5
Month ago, Feb. 21	247.5
Year ago, March 20	249.8
1943 High, April 1	240.2
Low, Jan. 2	251.5
1944 High, March 17	247.0
Low, Jan. 5	247.0

H. L. Derby Heads NAM Committee On Veterans Employment Problems

Harry L. Derby, newly appointed Chairman of the Committee on Veterans Employment Problems of the National Association of Manufacturers, called upon employers throughout the nation on March 14 to give the returning veteran "his second best welcome."

"The veteran is going to get his top welcome from his family, of course," Mr. Derby said. "But it behooves the business men of this country, whether they be in industry, agriculture, transportation or distribution, to give the veteran his second best welcome. The reception that the veteran gets when he returns to his old job will go a long way in determining whether future relations between employer and employee will be amicable with maximum and mutual understanding, confidence and trust."

President of the American Cyanamid Co., Mr. Derby inaugurated a program for veterans' employment within the chemical industry several months ago and is thoroughly familiar with the many complex problems that must be solved in designing workable plans for rehabilitation and re-employment.

In announcing the appointment of Mr. Derby, President of the American Cyanamid and Chemical Corporation, Robert M. Gaylord, NAM President, said that he intended that the work of this Committee should be among the Association's foremost 1944 activities, "because I regard the re-employment of our returning service men and women as the most serious problem that America faces in the transition and immediate post-war days ahead. This Committee can perform a great constructive service to industry and to the nation in helping to meet and solve this problem."

Mr. Derby, champion of sound human relations between employer and employee, said that the Committee would number more than 50 top-flight industrial executives, most of them well known for clear, advanced thinking in the field of improved industrial relations.

A former industry member of the National War Labor Board, Mr. Derby announced the appointment of three regional Vice-Chairmen of the Committee. Representing the South is John U. Barr, Proprietor, Federal Fibre Mills, New Orleans, La.; the Middle West, Craig R. Shaeffer, President, W. A. Sheaffer Pen Co., Fort Madison, Iowa; the Southwest, John R. Suman, Vice-President, Humble Oil and Refining Co., Houston, Texas.

Mr. Derby pointed out that the NAM Committee on Veterans' Employment Problems would initiate immediately a series of veterans employment clinics throughout the country for a comprehensive discussion of problems and their solutions. He said that the NAM Committee was working with the full cooperation of the National Industrial Council, whose more than 40,000 individual employers will implement and make effective the program at the State and local level.

NHA Reports 37,341 Housing Accommodations For War Workers Completed In January

A total of 37,341 housing accommodations for war workers was completed in January, John B. Blandford, Jr., Administrator of the National Housing Agency, announced on March 11. These completions, said the announcement, brought the total completions under the war housing program since the Summer of 1940 to 1,479,502. Of this grand total, 1,277,820 are new units and 201,682 were provided through the conversion of existing structures into additional units. From the advances of the NHA we also quote:

"Privately-financed new construction totaled 638,025 units. Completions of new publicly-financed war housing total 639,795 units and include 443,978 family units, 148,087 dormitory units for single workers and 47,730 stopgap units comprised of trailers and other portable shelter. Almost all publicly-financed housing now being built is of temporary construction whereas the privately-financed units are of permanent type and will continue in use after the war.

"The January completions included 33,189 new units, of which 19,280 were built under public financing and 13,909 by private builders. Completions under the conversion program totaled 4,152 units, of which 3,289 units were publicly-financed under Government lease and 863 were privately

financed. "Included in the publicly-financed units completed in January were 12,510 family units, 5,011 dormitory units for single workers and 1,759 stopgap emergency units comprised of trailers or other portable shelter.

"Housing under construction on January 31 totaled 173,716 units and included 76,564 new publicly-financed units and 74,110 new privately-financed units. Under the conversion program for adding living units in existing structures, 18,992 publicly-financed and 4,050 privately-financed units were under construction.

"During January, 15,604 new units were placed under construction. This total included 6,121 publicly-financed and 9,483 privately-financed units. Conversion units placed under construction totaled 3,960, of which 2,918 were being publicly-financed and 1,042 privately-financed."

Electric Output For Week Ended Mar. 18, 1944, Shows 11.5% Gain Over Same Week Last Year

The Edison Electric Institute, in its current weekly report, estimated that the production of electricity by the electric light and power industry of the United States for the week ended Mar. 18, 1944, was approximately 4,400,246,000 kwh., compared with 3,946,836,000 kwh. in the corresponding week a year ago, an increase of 11.5%. The output for the week ended Mar. 11, 1944, was 12.2% in excess of the similar period of 1943.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR

Major Geographical Divisions—	Week Ended			
	Mar. 18	Mar. 11	Mar. 4	Feb. 26
New England	5.2	7.0	8.4	7.5
Middle Atlantic	10.7	12.6	12.5	13.8
Central Industrial	8.8	8.9	8.8	10.5
West Central	8.1	5.7	6.4	7.1
Southern States	9.5	11.2	13.4	14.4
Rocky Mountain	5.2	5.6	7.2	9.4
Pacific Coast	28.3	27.2	29.3	29.5
Total United States	11.5	12.2	13.1	14.2

DATA FOR RECENT WEEKS (Thousands of Kilowatt-Hours)

Week Ended—	% Change over 1943					
	1944	1943	1942	1932	1929	
Jan. 1	4,337,387	3,779,993	+14.7	3,288,685	1,619,265	1,542,000
Jan. 8	4,567,959	3,952,587	+15.6	3,472,579	1,602,482	1,733,810
Jan. 15	4,539,083	3,952,479	+14.8	3,450,468	1,598,201	1,736,721
Jan. 22	4,531,662	3,974,202	+14.0	3,440,163	1,588,967	1,717,315
Jan. 29	4,523,763	3,976,844	+13.8	3,468,193	1,588,853	1,728,203
Feb. 5	4,524,134	3,960,242	+14.2	3,474,638	1,578,817	1,726,161
Feb. 12	4,532,730	3,939,708	+15.1	3,421,639	1,545,459	1,718,304
Feb. 19	4,511,562	3,948,749	+14.3	3,423,589	1,512,158	1,699,250
Feb. 26	4,444,939	3,892,796	+14.2	3,409,907	1,519,679	1,706,719
March 4	4,464,686	3,946,630	+13.1	3,392,121	1,538,452	1,702,570
March 11	4,425,630	3,944,679	+12.2	3,357,444	1,537,747	1,687,229
March 18	4,400,246	3,946,836	+11.5	3,357,032	1,514,553	1,683,262
March 25		3,928,170		3,345,502	1,480,208	1,679,589

Bankers' Dollar Acceptances Outstanding On February 29 Increase To \$134,772,000

The volume of bankers' dollar acceptances outstanding on Feb. 29 amounted to \$134,772,000, an increase of \$14,275,000 from the Jan. 31 total, according to the monthly acceptance survey issued March 16 by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. As compared with a year ago, the Feb. 29 total represents a gain of \$7,710,000.

In the month-to-month comparison, dollar exchange, and those based on goods stored in or shipped between foreign countries were lower, while in the yearly analysis only credits for imports were higher.

The Reserve Bank's report follows:

BANKERS DOLLAR ACCEPTANCES OUTSTANDING—UNITED STATES BY FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICTS

Federal Reserve District—	Feb. 29, '44	Jan. 31, '44	Feb. 27, '43
1 Boston	\$22,793,000	\$20,739,000	\$24,921,000
2 New York	81,299,000	74,242,000	71,645,000
3 Philadelphia	6,703,000	5,971,000	5,423,000
4 Cleveland	958,000	1,217,000	1,968,000
5 Richmond	2,025,000	2,098,000	1,667,000
6 Atlanta	3,777,000	2,922,000	2,568,000
7 Chicago	5,067,000	3,578,000	4,611,000
8 St. Louis	449,000	242,000	387,000
9 Minneapolis	52,000	36,000	164,000
10 Kansas City			
11 Dallas	477,000	296,000	775,000
12 San Francisco	11,166,000	9,156,000	12,912,000
Grand Total	\$134,772,000	\$120,497,000	\$127,062,000
Increase for month	\$14,275,000	Increase for year	\$7,710,000

ACCORDING TO NATURE OF CREDIT

	Feb. 29, '44	Jan. 31, '44	Feb. 27, '43
Imports	\$82,905,000	\$70,795,000	\$59,917,000
Exports	11,717,000	11,541,000	14,398,000
Domestic shipments	10,481,000	9,195,000	11,586,000
Domestic warehouse credits	21,243,000	20,203,000	29,164,000
Dollar exchange	129,000	130,000	403,000
Based on goods stored in or shipped between foreign countries	8,297,000	8,633,000	11,594,000

BILLS HELD BY ACCEPTING BANKS

Own Bills	\$56,974,000	Bills of Others	\$48,751,000	Total	\$105,725,000
Increase for month		\$12,095,000			

CURRENT MARKET RATES ON PRIME BANKERS ACCEPTANCES MARCH 16, 1944

Days	Dealers' Buying Rates	Dealers' Selling Rates
30	1/2	1/2
60	1/2	1/2
90	1/2	1/2
120	1/2	1/2
150	1/2	1/2
180	1/2	1/2

The following table, compiled by us, furnishes a record of the volume of bankers' acceptances outstanding at the close of each month since March 31, 1941:

1941—	\$	1942—	\$	1943—	\$
Mar. 31	217,312,000	Mar. 31	182,675,000	Mar. 31	129,818,000
Apr. 30	219,561,000	Apr. 30	177,293,000	Apr. 30	128,350,000
May 31	215,005,000	May 29	173,906,000	May 29	135,815,000
June 30	212,932,000	June 30	162,849,000	June 30	139,846,000
July 31	209,899,000	July 31	156,302,000	July 31	138,692,000
Aug. 30	197,472,000	Aug. 31	139,304,000	Aug. 31	130,244,000
Sept. 30	176,801,000	Sept. 30	123,494,000	Sept. 30	117,016,000
Oct. 31	184,806,000	Oct. 31	118,581,000	Oct. 30	114,883,000
Nov. 29	193,590,000	Nov. 30	116,067,000	Nov. 30	111,289,000
Dec. 31	194,220,000	Dec. 31	118,039,000	Dec. 31	116,814,000
1944—	\$	1944—	\$	1944—	\$
Jan. 31	197,278,000	Jan. 30	119,682,000	Jan. 31	120,497,000
Feb. 28	190,010,000	Feb. 27	127,062,000	Feb. 29	134,772,000

Commercial Paper Outstanding

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York announced on March 14 that reports received by the bank from commercial paper dealers show a total of \$213,700,000 of open market paper outstanding on Feb. 29. This was an increase of \$4,800,000 as compared with the Jan. 31 figures of \$208,900,000, and an increase of \$4,600,000 over the Feb. 27, 1943, total of \$209,100,000.

Following are the totals for the last two years:

1944—	\$	1943—	\$
Feb. 29	213,700,000	Feb. 27	209,100,000
Jan. 31	208,900,000	Jan. 30	220,400,000
1943—	\$	1942—	\$
Dec. 31	202,000,000	Dec. 31	229,900,000
Nov. 30	203,300,000	Nov. 30	260,600,000
Oct. 30	187,800,000	Oct. 31	271,400,000
Sep. 30	169,500,000	Sep. 30	281,800,000
Aug. 31	156,200,000	Aug. 31	297,200,000
July 31	149,800,000	July 31	305,300,000
Jun. 30	143,300,000	Jun. 30	315,200,000
May 29	159,600,000	May 29	354,200,000
Apr. 30	178,900,000	Apr. 30	373,100,000
Mar. 31	200,600,000	Mar. 31	384,300,000

Steel Operations Higher—Manpower Picture Tighter—Mills Loaded Beyond Capacity

"Highlights this week include the telescoping of delivery schedules on additional invasion equipment, the tighter manpower picture resulting from stricter draft rules (expected to be a brake against production), and an improvement in the steel mill product mix due to a stronger buying of bars, alloy steel and other items," says "The Iron Age" in its issue of today (March 23), further adding:

"Meanwhile, the industry's attention centered upon the deliberations of the National War Labor Board in Washington upon the steel wage issue. It was understood the USWA at the start of this week had dropped 10 of its 24 demands but still remained firm in seeking a general wage adjustment of 17 cents per hour, a rehabilitation fund for steelworkers in the armed services, a guaranteed minimum weekly wage, vacations with pay and other features. The 10 points dropped will be referred to collective bargaining.

"Counterproposals by United States Steel Corp. included the argument that WLB has no jurisdiction to consider the 17 cent per hour wage demand, a provision against the maintenance of membership and check-off provisions of a contract, and eight other points.

"The rush to complete invasion equipment may result in a large share of this material being completed before the tightened draft rules bite deepest, but the steel industry expects from 5% to 10% of its younger workers probably will be lost through the government's decision to draft men under 26 except in extremely essential cases. The impact in some mills is expected to be felt first in the conditioning and finishing departments and then to work back toward raw steel.

"Tighter than ever is the flat rolled steel production situation by reason of the shell container program and the enlarged landing mat requirements of the armed forces.

"Tin mill product orders up to the full extent of the 825,000-ton directives, are expected to materialize completely for second quarter. Electrolytic mill schedules are rapidly filling for second quarter and some companies are receiving good tonnage for their bonderizing or chemically treated lines. As pointed out previously, electrolytic output this year is expected to be 20% to 25% of total tin mill production, which includes production of black plate also.

"Production of beer cans will be heavy in second and third quarters, with about 95,000 tons of materials ordered for that purpose."

The American Iron and Steel Institute on March 20 announced that telegraphic reports which it had received indicated that the operating rate of steel companies having 94% of the steel capacity of the industry will be 99.2% of capacity for the week beginning March 20, compared with 99.1% one week ago, 97.7% one month ago and 99.1% one year ago. The operating rate for the week beginning March 20 is equivalent to 1,777,000 tons of steel ingots and castings, compared to 1,775,200 tons one week ago, 1,750,000 tons one month ago, and 1,716,100 tons one year ago.

"Steel" of Cleveland, in its summary of the iron and steel markets, on March 20 stated in part as follows:

"Continued and increased demand for steel sheets and plates is the dominant feature of the steel market and war requirements are increasing rather than lessening as the year advances.

"Shipwork, landing craft, pontoons, landing mats, overseas containers and signal corps equipment are at the top of preference, with directives necessary for prompt delivery. These products lean heavily on sheet mills, which are handicapped by the large portion of capacity engaged on strip-plates. On heavy gages of hot-

From Washington Ahead Of The News

(Continued from First Page) be effective in those particular States. And inasmuch as it had been printed, any State could adopt it which pleased to do so. This situation made Mr. Roosevelt and his aides look a little foolish.

Furthermore, none of the Governors, from their replies, seemed to have felt that they had been put on the spot at all. Some of the replies were right caustic and said, in effect, that they had had the soldier vote problem in hand all along without the hullabaloo at Washington.

What stood out in the fight, however, was the manner in which the Republicans came from behind. The fact is that it was not a party fight. Several Republican stalwarts voted on the other side. But Senator Guffey in a statement prepared by the CIO Political Committee, charged that it was an "unholy alliance" between Southern Democrats and Northern Republicans. The Republicans were placed on the defensive. They were placed in the light of not letting members of the armed forces vote because of a fear they would vote for their Commander-in-Chief. From this highly unfavorable position the Republicans emerged beating the New Deal all over the head with charges that their effort to limit the vote to the Presidency (along with the Senator and Congressman, unidentified) was carrying on its campaign of 11 years to erase the Governors and State governments from the public's consciousness. What Mr. Roosevelt and his forces were trying to do, the Republicans insisted, was to tell the armed forces that their Governors were of relatively no importance. This was all just a piece of the pattern, they insisted, of crushing the Supreme Court, the legislative branch and the State governments so that the Washington bureaucracy would be justified. You can say what you want to, it sounded pretty logical, and to a Washington observer, the New Dealers were hanging on the ropes at the end.

Not through any of it did we see Mr. Roosevelt's former astuteness. The talent was on the side of the Republicans. Their campaign of solicitude for the Governors tended to buck the Governors up, of course. Anyway, there is no reason now why any member of the armed forces can't vote in all States with the possible exception of one, if he has the will to do so.

The Republicans aren't being so successful, however, with another propaganda proposition they are up against. This concerns the professed worry, reflected also in the magazines and otherwise, as to whether they will nominate "their best man." The "best man," in the minds of these worriers, is Wendell Willkie. If we had to bet today it would be that the Republicans aren't going to do this. Certainly the indications are that they are not. The propaganda in behalf of this "best man" has been so great there will be a tremendous let-down; these worriers will have been justified and we can hear their wailing now.

It's a powerful and effective propaganda. It is difficult to deal with. The fact is, of course, that the delegates to the convention, all very eager to win, are going to nominate whom they consider to be the "best" man, but he is not likely to be the "best" man the worriers want.

ing to the political and civil status of women, will also hold a meeting in Washington in April, inaugurating its sessions on April 14th.

Hull To Speak At Pan American Union

An address by Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Chairman of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, will feature the Pan American Day exercises to be held in Washington on April 14th. Mr. Hull will speak on a program to be presented at the Pan American Union on the evening of April 14th, which will also feature a concert of music of the Americas by the United States Navy Band Orchestra.

The April 14th program will climax a series of events commemorating the annual observance of Pan American Day, which is celebrated in all the Republics of the Western Hemisphere. On Thursday evening, April 13th, the finals of the National Discussion Contest on Inter-American Affairs will be held at the Pan American Union. The six finalists selected in regional contests participated in by colleges and university students throughout the country will discuss "How Can Inter-American Cooperation Be Made Permanent." The program will be broadcast over the Blue Network as a feature of the Town Meeting of the Air.

Earlier in the week the Columbia Broadcasting System will present a special Pan American Day program in its Columbia School of the Air series. This program will be presented on April 11th, and will also originate at the Pan American Union. Senior and junior high school students of the District of Columbia will be present at the broadcast, which will feature music of the Americas played by the Navy School of Music.

The Inter-American Commission of Women, composed of representatives appointed by the Governments of the American Republics to study questions relat-

National Fertilizer Association Price Index Continues To Advance

The weekly wholesale commodity price index, compiled by the National Fertilizer Association and made public on March 20, advanced fractionally to 137.3 in the week ending March 18 from 137.0 in the preceding week. A month ago this index stood at 137.4 and a year ago at 135.5, based on the 1935-1939 average as 100. The index has risen 1.3% from the corresponding period of last year. The association's report went on to say:

The all-commodity price index continued to advance as the farm products, textiles and miscellaneous commodities groups moved into higher ground. There were higher quotations in the farm products group for cotton, rye, calves, hogs and lambs, while the only item to decline in this group was good cattle. The foods group continued to decline as lower prices for fresh pork more than offset the rise in potatoes. The foods group index number is now back to the level of July, 1943. The miscellaneous commodities group reaches a new high and marks its first change since September, 1943, as higher prices were quoted for paperboard and sulphite pulp. The textiles group continued its upward trend as cotton reached the level of a year ago. All other group indexes remained unchanged.

During the week nine price series advanced and two declined; in the preceding week they were evenly balanced with three advances and three declines; and in the second preceding week there were three advances and six declines.

WEEKLY WHOLESALE COMMODITY PRICE INDEX
Compiled by The National Fertilizer Association
1935-1939=100*

Each Group bars to the Total Index	Group	Latest Preceding		Month Feb. 19,	Year Mar. 20,
		Week Mar. 18,	Week Mar. 11,		
25.3	Foods.....	137.7	137.8	139.2	138.2
	Fats and Oils.....	146.1	146.1	146.1	148.0
	Cottonseed Oil.....	159.6	159.6	159.6	160.1
23.0	Farm Products.....	158.5	157.4	157.4	155.1
	Cotton.....	200.9	199.8	198.5	139.0
	Grains.....	164.8	164.8	164.8	139.0
	Livestock.....	149.7	148.2	148.4	151.9
17.3	Fuels.....	130.1	130.1	130.1	121.8
10.8	Miscellaneous commodities.....	132.2	131.4	131.4	130.4
8.2	Textiles.....	152.0	151.9	151.7	151.4
7.1	Metals.....	104.4	104.4	104.4	104.4
6.1	Building materials.....	152.4	152.4	152.4	152.2
1.3	Chemicals and drugs.....	127.7	127.7	127.7	127.0
.3	Fertilizer materials.....	117.7	117.7	117.7	117.6
.3	Fertilizers.....	119.7	119.7	119.7	119.8
.3	Farm machinery.....	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.1
100.0	All groups combined.....	137.3	137.0	137.4	135.5

*Indexes on 1926-1928 base were: March 18, 1944, 107.0; March 11, 106.7, and March 20, 1943, 105.6. †Revised.

Census Bureau Report On Cotton Ginning

The Bureau of the Census of the Department of Commerce at Washington on March 20 issued its final report on cotton ginning, excluding linters, which we give in full below:

REPORT OF COTTON GINNED—CROPS OF 1943, 1942 AND 1941

State—	Cotton Ginned (Exclusive of Linters)			Equivalent—500-pound Bales		
	Running Bales (Counting Round as Half Bales) *1943	*1942	*1941	1943	1942	1941
United States.....	11,120,512	12,438,033	10,494,881	11,420,561	12,819,506	10,741,589
Alabama.....	931,445	892,458	774,441	955,856	921,540	788,033
Arizona.....	127,296	187,703	178,337	129,727	191,999	182,719
Arkansas.....	1,086,382	1,427,890	1,381,214	1,124,877	1,495,249	1,437,605
California.....	331,589	339,361	395,569	339,477	404,437	402,122
Florida.....	14,146	14,536	14,885	13,852	14,349	14,367
Georgia.....	848,402	853,348	637,469	850,615	860,143	629,770
Illinois.....	2,081	4,484	5,474	2,052	4,527	5,721
Kentucky.....	11,147	15,238	17,127	10,685	14,914	16,863
Louisiana.....	712,378	572,347	310,501	741,530	594,563	313,475
Louisiana.....	1,781,926	1,886,981	1,387,558	1,837,481	1,967,978	1,423,908
Mississippi.....	296,046	414,286	471,019	289,954	411,311	471,490
Missouri.....	102,275	104,374	96,059	103,426	104,943	97,621
New Mexico.....	610,888	735,079	568,978	604,108	735,292	559,466
North Carolina.....	373,321	687,465	692,303	379,595	702,046	712,140
Oklahoma.....	692,600	694,577	408,098	695,356	698,517	403,387
South Carolina.....	479,694	602,538	574,121	492,338	622,301	596,113
Tennessee.....	2,659,129	2,917,035	2,557,702	2,830,033	3,047,128	2,663,004
Texas.....	19,767	28,333	24,026	19,589	28,183	23,785
Virginia.....						

*Includes 107,053 bales of the crop of 1943 ginned prior to Aug. 1 which was counted in the supply for the season for 1942-43, compared with 48,626 and 1,969 bales of the crops of 1942 and 1941.

The statistics in this report for 1943 are subject to revision. Included in the total for 1943 are 34,903 bales which ginneries estimated would be turned out after the March canvass; round bales, none for 1943; none for 1942; and 875 for 1941; American-Egyptian bales, 59,339 for 1943; 73,808 for 1942; and 57,929 for 1941; Sea-Island, 374 for 1943; 918 for 1942; and 3,496 for 1941.

The average gross weight of the bale for the crop, counting round as half bales and excluding linters, is 513.5 pounds for 1943; 515.3 for 1942; and 511.8 for 1941. The number of ginneries operated for the crop of 1943 is 10,088 compared with 10,775 for 1942; and 11,148 for 1941.

Consumption, Stocks, Imports and Exports—United States

Cotton consumed during the month of February, 1944, amounted to 811,274 bales. Cotton on hand in consuming establishments on Feb. 29 was 2,351,174 bales, and in public storages and at compresses 11,518,942 bales. The number of active consuming cotton spindles for the month was 22,513,390.

In the interest of national defense, the Department of Commerce has discontinued until further notice the publication of statistics concerning imports and exports.

World Statistics

Because of war conditions and the difficulties in obtaining dependable world statistics, such data are being omitted from this report for the time being.

SEC Surveys Data On Profits, Operations Of American Listed Corporations

The Securities and Exchange Commission made public on March 8 Part II of a four-volume series of reports entitled, "Data on Profits and Operations—1936-1942," another in a series of statistical reports of the "Survey of American Listed Corporations." Part I of the report was referred to in our issue of March 9, page 1024. As stated therein, the current series of reports presents data on profits and operations for 1,106 companies and their consolidated subsidiaries for the years 1936 through 1942. These companies are classified in 75 manufacturing groups; their total assets in 1942 exceeded \$48,000,000,000. The data are taken from registration statements and annual reports filed by registrants under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and from annual reports filed by registrants under the Securities Act of 1933. The first volume, Part I, contained data on 261 companies in 24 industry groups.

Part II of the current series, released March 8, includes data on 271 corporations in the following 15 industry groups, most of which are engaged in the production of war materials:

- Agricultural Machinery and Tractors
- Aircraft and Aircraft Equipment
- Electrical Supplies and Equipment—Miscellaneous
- Machinery Parts and Equipment: Construction, Mining and Related Machinery
- Engines and Turbines
- General Industrial Machinery
- Metal Working Machinery
- Printing Trades Machinery
- Special-Industry Machinery
- Office Machinery and Equipment
- Photographic Equipment
- Radio and Radio Equipment
- Railroad Equipment
- Screw Machine Products
- Tires and other Rubber Products

The Commission also states:

"The survey reports data for each individual company and combined totals for each of the industry groups. For each year covered, data are reported showing Net Sales, Operating Profit, Provision for War and Related Contingencies Provided Out of Income, Net Profit Before Income Taxes and Net Profit After Income Taxes. Operational expenses reported are Selling, General and Administrative Expenses; Maintenance and Repairs; and Depreciation, Depletion, Amortization, etc. Each of these items in every year covered is shown as a percentage of Net Sales. Also reported are Net Worth (beginning of period) and Intangible Assets (beginning of period) and the Net Profit Before Income Taxes as a Percent of Net Worth and the Net Profit After Income Taxes as a Percent of Net Worth.

Whenever renegotiation of U. S. Government contracts has been completed and the effect of renegotiation has been reported or provision has been made for renegotiation by the registrants, the items affected have been adjusted and the amounts of adjustment are shown in a footnote showing the effect the renegotiation or provision for renegotiation has had upon the companies' operations for that year. Where the contracts of the registrant are subject to renegotiation or renegotiation is contemplated or in progress and has been reported by the registrant, such facts have been noted on the tables.

Reported as part of Depreciation are charges which have been made for the Amortization of Emergency Facilities, and whenever these amounts have been reported, they have been revealed in a footnote.

Parts III and IV, to be subsequently released, will contain the industry groups shown below:

Part III

- Automobile Parts and Accessories
- Automobiles
- Building Equipment
- Building Material other than Clay Products and Cement
- Cement
- Clay Products

Commercial Cars and Trucks

- Iron and Steel Foundry Products
- Miscellaneous Iron and Steel Products
- Pig Iron Producers
- Rolling Mills without Steel Making Facilities
- Steel Producers with Blast Furnace Facilities
- Steel Producers without Blast Furnace Facilities
- Metal and Glass Containers
- Non-Ferrous Metals—including Smelting and Refining
- Non-Ferrous Metal Products—Producers and Fabricators
- Shipbuilding

Part IV

- Chemicals
- Clocks and Watches
- Drugs and Medicines
- Electrical Household Appliances and Related Products
- Fertilizers
- Firearms
- Household Utensils
- Lumber and Lumber Products
- Manufacturing Industries—Miscellaneous
- Oil Refining
- Paints and Varnishes
- Paper and Allied Products
- Pens and Pencils
- Printing and Publishing Companies (other than Publishers of Newspapers and Periodicals)
- Publishing of Newspapers and Periodicals
- Safety Razors
- Toilet Preparations and Soap
- Toys and Sporting Goods
- Vegetable Oil Producers

A table showing the grand combined total for all 75 industry groups in the study will be presented in Part IV.

The SEC points out that copies of this report were not prepared for general distribution, but may be examined at the office of the Commission in Philadelphia or at any regional or branch office and at a number of selected depository libraries.

J. B. Eastman Dies

The death occurred on March 15 of Joseph B. Eastman, Director of the Office of Defense Transportation, and for 25 years a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Mr. Eastman, who was 61 years of age, was named to the ICC in 1919 after service on the Massachusetts Public Service Commission. In 1933, President Roosevelt named him co-ordinator of the railroads and in that post he undertook to bring about economies in operation following the depression. In 1942 Mr. Eastman was named ODT Director. His death was due to coronary occlusion.

On March 16 President Roosevelt named Brig. Gen. Charles D. Young as Acting Director of the Office of Defense Transportation, following Mr. Eastman's death. In advising Gen. Young of the appointment, the President said:

"Pending the appointment of a successor to the late Hon. Joseph B. Eastman as Director of the Office of Defense Transportation, you are hereby designated and appointed Acting Director of the Office of Defense Transportation, with full authority to perform all the duties and functions of the office of Director."

In a statement sent from Washington to ODT offices, Gen. Young paid tribute to Mr. Eastman and called upon the ODT staff to "seek even more earnestly the attainment of the goal for which Mr. Eastman gave so generously that transportation shall not fail a nation and a world in need." We

quote from the Associated advices March 16, which also said:

Gen. Young, who became associated with the ODT soon after its establishment on Dec. 18, 1941, and has been its Deputy Director for more than a year, said:

"Mr. Eastman is a war casualty. He refused to measure out his strength in the face of need. His death is more than a personal loss to us, it is occasion for a nation's sorrow. He was deeply appreciative of the fine and loyal service of all of us who served with him, in the field no less than in Washington. We can do no other, in recognition of his unselfish and splendid work, than to close ranks and seek even more earnestly the attainment of the goal for which Mr. Eastman gave so generously—that transportation shall not fail a nation and a world in need."

Through Secretary Stephen Early, President Roosevelt expressed "deep regret" at Mr. Eastman's death. Mr. Early disclosed Mr. Eastman had offered to resign as ODT Director Feb. 19, when his physicians told him he must spend at least two months in the hospital resting.

President Roosevelt sent Mr. Eastman a letter that same day, telling him:

"Follow strictly the doctor's orders and take that much needed rest. Do not for a moment think of resigning. Get yourself back in good form, for the job needs you and the country needs you."

From the Associated Press advices from Washington on March 15 we take the following:

"When President Wilson appointed Mr. Eastman to the ICC at the age of 36 he was the youngest man ever to assume commission membership. Successive Presidents, Republican and Democrat, gave him new appointments. Politically, he was listed as an 'independent.'"

"The late Justice Louis D. Brandeis once remarked, 'Joe Eastman has more interest in public service and less in his own career than any man I have ever known.'"

"When he first came to the ICC, the railroad industry viewed the official as unfriendly, partly because of his advocacy of Federal ownership of the carriers. In later years, Mr. Eastman and the railroad executives got along famously, but Mr. Eastman often found himself in conflict with labor organizations which objected to many of the official's proposals for rail coordination on the ground they would eliminate jobs.

Mr. Eastman, who was the son of a Presbyterian Minister, was born at Katonah, N. Y., on June 23, 1882.

"In an unusual tribute to their colleague, ICC members in 1939 abolished the long-time plan whereby the Chairmanship rotated annually on the basis of seniority and elected Mr. Eastman to a three-year term. There was talk then he would be the 'permanent' Chairman, but he had to give up the presiding officer's chair because of the added duties he took on in 1942."

Grocery Manufacturers Meeting June 14-15

The mid-year meeting of the Grocery Manufacturers of America will be held June 14 and 15 in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, it was announced on March 20 by Paul S. Willis, President of the group. Speakers of national prominence, he said, will be announced shortly together with subjects affecting 1944 operations of food processors.

New Cotton Exch. Members

Eric Alliot, President of the New York Cotton Exchange, announced on March 18 the election of Randolph Scott, of Memphis, Tenn., and Arthur Millwee Klugh, of Anderson, S. C., to membership in the Exchange.

Wholesale Commodity Index Unchanged In Week Ended March 11, Labor Dept. Reports

Commodity prices in primary markets were generally unchanged during the week ended March 11 and the Bureau of Labor Statistics' index covering nearly 900 price series remained at 103.4% of the 1926 average, according to the U. S. Labor Department on March 16. It is also stated that continued seasonal advances for certain fruits and vegetables and higher prices for wheat, hogs, and cotton were offset by lower prices for eggs, wheat flour, and anthracite.

The all-commodity index is 0.3% higher than at this time last month and 0.2% above a year ago, says the Department, which also reports:

"Farm Products and Foods—During the week market prices for wheat averaged 0.2% above the week before. Quotations for hogs advanced 0.7% and cotton rose 1%. Prices for apples and potatoes in most markets, for oranges, and for rye flour were also higher. Decreases were reported for sheep, hay, and onions, and for wheat flour at Kansas City and Buffalo mills. There were further seasonal declines in prices for eggs, and lemons dropped nearly 10%. Compared with the corresponding week in March 1943, average prices for foods in primary markets were lower by 2.2% and farm products were 0.1% below a year ago.

"Industrial Commodities—Markets for industrial commodities continued to show relative stability with very few changes. The 7-day week instituted in anthracite mines as an emergency measure during February was discontinued and the price increase of 45c per ton allowed by OPA to cover the increased wage costs was eliminated. The average decline for anthracite market prices was 1.7% with most prices returning to the January levels. Additional minor upward adjustments in quotations for bituminous coal in a few localities resulted in an advance of 0.2% in prices. Except for a further rise of 2.6% in prices for rosin and a fractional decrease for No. 2 maple flooring, markets for other major industrial products remained unchanged from the preceding week."

A notation as follows is contained in the Department's announcement.

Note—During the period of rapid changes caused by price controls, materials allocation, and rationing the Bureau of Labor Statistics will attempt promptly to report changing prices. Indexes marked (*), however, must be considered as preliminary and subject to such adjustment and revision as required by later and more complete reports.

The following tables show (1) index numbers for the principal groups of commodities for the past 3 weeks, for February 12, 1944, and March 13, 1943, and the percentage changes from a week ago, a month ago and a year ago and (2) percentage changes in subgroup indexes from March 4 to March 11, 1944.

WHOLESALE PRICES FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 11, 1944 (1926=100)

Commodity Groups—	3-11			3-4			2-26			2-12			3-13			Percentage changes to March 11, 1944 from—		
	1944	1944	1944	1944	1944	1944	1943	1943	1943	1943	1943	1944	1944	1944	1943	1943	1943	
All commodities	*103.4	*103.4	*103.6	*103.1	103.2	0	+0.3	+0.2										
Farm products	*123.4	*123.2	*124.2	121.9	123.5	+0.2	+1.2	-0.1										
Foods	104.6	104.5	104.6	104.0	107.0	+0.1	+0.6	-2.2										
Hides and leather products	117.6	117.6	117.5	117.8	118.4	0	-0.2	-0.7										
Textile products	97.3	97.3	97.2	97.2	96.8	0	+0.1	+0.5										
Fuel and lighting materials	83.6	83.7	83.7	83.5	80.7	-0.1	+0.1	+3.6										
Metals and metal products	*103.8	*103.8	*103.8	*103.8	103.9	0	0	-0.1										
Building materials	113.7	113.7	113.7	113.7	110.4	0	0	+3.0										
Chemicals and allied products	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.0	0	0	+0.4										
Housefurnishing goods	105.9	105.9	106.2	104.4	104.2	0	+1.4	+1.6										
Miscellaneous commodities	93.3	93.3	93.3	93.0	91.2	0	+0.3	+2.3										
Raw materials	*113.3	*113.2	*113.7	112.4	112.1	+0.1	+0.8	+1.1										
Semimanufactured articles	93.5	93.5	93.5	93.2	92.9	0	+0.3	+0.6										
Manufactured products	*100.6	*100.6	*100.6	*100.6	100.6	0	0	0										
All commodities other than farm products	*99.2	*99.2	*99.2	*99.1	98.8	0	+0.1	+0.4										
All commodities other than farm products and foods	*98.2	*98.3	*98.3	*98.1	96.6	-0.1	+0.1	+1.7										

PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN SUBGROUP INDEXES FROM MARCH 1, 1944 TO MARCH 11, 1944

Commodity Groups—	Increases			Decreases		
	March 1, 1944	March 11, 1944	March 11, 1944	March 1, 1944	March 11, 1944	March 11, 1944
Fruit and vegetables	0.7	Bituminous coal	0.2			
Other farm products	0.3	Grains	0.2			
Livestock and poultry			0.2			
Anthracite				1.7	Cereal products	0.3

Weekly Coal And Coke Production Statistics

The Solid Fuels Administration for War, U. S. Department of the Interior, in its latest report, states that the total production of soft coal in the week ended March 11, 1944 is estimated at 12,210,000 net tons, an increase of 160,000 tons, or 1.3%, over the preceding week. Bituminous coal and lignite output in the week ended March 13, 1943 amounted to 12,523,000 tons. Total production for the current year to date is 4.1% in excess of that for the same period last year.

According to the U. S. Bureau of Mines, output of Pennsylvania anthracite for the week ended March 11, 1944, was estimated at 1,250,000 tons, a decrease of 154,000 tons, or 11%, from the preceding week. When compared with the production in the corresponding week of 1943 there was a decrease of 42,000 tons, or 3.3%. The calendar year to date shows an increase of 6.5% when compared with the corresponding period of 1943.

The Bureau of Mines also reported that the estimated production of byproduct coke in the United States showed an increase of 22,300 tons when compared with the output for the week ended March 4, 1944. The quantity of coke from beehive ovens decreased 1,700 tons during the same period.

ESTIMATED UNITED STATES PRODUCTION OF COAL, IN NET TONS

Bituminous coal and lignite	Week Ended			January 1 to Date		
	March 11, 1944	March 4, 1944	March 13, 1943	March 11, 1944	March 13, 1943	March 13, 1937
Total, incl. mine fuel	12,210,000	12,050,000	12,523,000	126,735,000	121,714,000	106,774,000
Daily average	2,035,000	2,008,000	2,087,000	2,088,000	1,995,000	1,753,000

*Subject to current adjustment.

ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF PENNSYLVANIA ANTHRACITE AND COKE (In Net Tons)

Penn. anthracite	Week Ended			Calendar Year to Date		
	March 11, 1944	March 4, 1944	March 13, 1943	March 11, 1944	March 13, 1943	March 16, 1937
*Total incl. coll. fuel	1,250,000	1,404,000	1,292,000	12,944,000	12,154,000	16,189,000
†Commercial produc.	1,200,000	1,348,000	1,240,000	12,427,000	11,668,000	15,023,000
‡Byproduct coke						
United States total	1,284,000	1,261,700	1,227,800	12,937,000	12,526,500	†
Beehive coke						
United States total	147,700	149,400	165,500	1,589,000	1,614,500	1,303,300

*Includes washery and dredge coal, and coal shipped by truck from authorized operation. †Excludes colliery fuel. ‡Comparable data not available. §Subject to revision. ¶Revised.

ESTIMATED WEEKLY PRODUCTION OF COAL, BY STATES (In net tons)

State—	Week Ended			
	March 4, 1944	February 26, 1944	March 6, 1943	March 6, 1937
Alabama	390,000	393,000	362,000	305,000
Alaska	5,000	5,000	5,000	2,000
Arkansas and Oklahoma	88,000	93,000	102,000	60,000
Colorado	176,000	180,000	191,000	177,000
Georgia and North Carolina	1,000	1,000		1,000
Illinois	1,548,000	1,568,000	1,538,000	1,501,000
Indiana	545,000	574,000	515,000	517,000
Iowa	55,000	50,000	73,000	117,000
Kansas and Missouri	178,000	183,000	189,000	188,000
Kentucky—Eastern	965,000	992,000	964,000	865,000
Kentucky—Western	336,000	365,000	334,000	269,000
Maryland	35,000	37,000	40,000	38,000
Michigan	7,000	8,000	3,000	18,000
Montana (bitum. & lignite)	109,000	87,000	83,000	70,000
New Mexico	34,000	38,000	38,000	40,000
North & South Dakota (lignite)	55,000	60,000	50,000	52,000
Ohio	655,000	660,000	663,000	651,000
Pennsylvania (bituminous)	2,928,000	2,977,000	2,858,000	2,817,000
Tennessee	161,000	165,000	153,000	116,000
Texas (bituminous & lignite)	3,000	3,000	3,000	15,000
Virginia	136,000	144,000	120,000	110,000
Washington	387,000	423,000	402,000	325,000
West Virginia—Southern	26,000	26,000	42,000	43,000
West Virginia—Northern	2,166,000	2,322,000	2,381,000	2,049,000
Wyoming	936,000	1,009,000	954,000	753,000
Other Western States	182,000	211,000	193,000	141,000
Total bituminous & lignite	12,050,000	12,575,000	12,256,000	11,240,000
†Pennsylvania anthracite	1,404,000	1,346,000	1,243,000	689,000
Total, all coal	13,454,000	13,921,000	13,499,000	11,929,000

*Includes operations on the N. & W.; C. & O.; Virginian; K. & M.; B. C. & G.; and on the B. & O. in Kanawha, Mason and Clay counties. †Rest of State, including the Panhandle District and Grant, Mineral and Tucker counties. ‡Includes Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada and Oregon. §Data for Pennsylvania anthracite from published records of the Bureau of Mines. ¶Less than 1,000 tons.

Non-Ferrous Metals - Copper Deliveries To Continue At High Level Throughout April

"E. & M. J. Metal and Mineral Markets," in its issue of March 16, stated:

"Activity in copper last week continued at a high rate, and the current month is expected to establish a new record in deliveries. Demand at present is for April shipment metal. Buying of lead was in good volume. Stocks of slab zinc at the end of February increased to 210,683 tons, which compares with 98,012 tons in February last year. Clean-up operations at some properties accounted for an increase in production of quicksilver during January. Output of quicksilver since January has been falling, owing to the decline in prices. Indium producers lowered quotations last week to broaden the market for the metal. The publication further goes on to say in part:

Copper

Most producers have been earmarking April copper in volume, even though few allocation certificates have been received as yet by consumers. However, fabricators know that April consumption of copper will be high, and they have been asking for metal at a rate that points to above-average consumption for next month.

The February copper statistics confirmed reports that deliveries for that month approached 125,000 tons.

Kennecott produced 637,188 tons of copper in 1943, against 632,380 tons in 1942. Phelps Dodge properties produced 239,159 tons in 1943, against 223,469 tons in 1942.

Lead

With the date near at hand for determining tonnages of foreign lead that will be called upon to round out consumers' April deliveries, buying in the domestic market last week was in good volume, sales involving 10,802 tons. April requirements at present are more than 50% covered. Actual consumption of lead during April is expected to be a little larger in volume than that of March, the trade believes. Buying interest in antimonial lead has increased. Price developments in lead were lacking.

Zinc

The February statistics of the Zinc Institute were about in line with expectations, in that stocks

on hand increased from 194,095 tons at the end of January to 210,683 tons a month later. In spite of the growing reserves of metal, production was maintained at the highest daily rate on record. Stocks of zinc are expected to increase during March, in spite of some improvement in consumption.

Production of zinc during February amounted to 79,927 tons, against 84,066 tons in January, the American Zinc Institute reports. Though the tonnage produced during February was smaller than that of January, the daily rate of 2,756 tons was the largest on record. The daily rate for all of 1943 averaged 2,663 tons.

Indium

To stimulate consumption, prices named for indium were lowered by leading factors last week. The American Smelting & Refining Co. now quotes \$8.50 per troy ounce for electrolytic 99.9% indium, against a previous selling basis of \$10. The Indium Corp. of America lists electrolytic, 99.9 plus, at \$12.50 per troy ounce; with commercial 99.9, at \$7.50; and indium trichloride at \$4.40.

Though indium is a "precious metal" its use is slowly expanding. Chief use at present is in plating bearings.

Tin

The tin content of solder for use in the production of automobile radiators will be increased, WPB officials stated, following a meeting of the Automotive Radiator Industry Advisory Committee. The industry requested a higher percentage of tin to speed up production and improve the quality of the product. Exact percentage increases will be announced after the subject has been given further study.

Electrolytic timplat will be used in producing a substantial

number of cans for packing beer for the armed forces.

Quotations for tin were unchanged. Straits quality tin for shipment, in cents a pound, was as follows:

	March	April	May
March 9	52.000	52.000	52.000
March 10	52.000	52.000	52.000
March 11	52.000	52.000	52.000
March 13	52.000	52.000	52.000
March 14	52.000	52.000	52.000
March 15	52.000	52.000	52.000

Chinese, or 99% tin, continued at 51.125¢ all week.

Magnesium

The Truman Committee of the Senate reported last week that 1944 output of magnesium will provide a surplus for production of some civilian items. The production schedules will be cut, according to the committee, owing to a decrease in use of the metal for incendiary bombs and aircraft. Dow Chemical was given credit for meeting the bulk of the country's magnesium requirements.

Dr. Willard H. Dow, President of the Dow Chemical Co., told the committee that the Department of Justice had falsely linked his company with a German cartel and that his company had produced huge amounts of magnesium for the war "in spite of and not because of the Government."

Quicksilver

January quicksilver statistics released yesterday by the Bureau of Mines placed production at 4,400 flasks, against 4,200 flasks in December and 4,200 flasks in January last year. Consumption for January was 3,400 flasks, against 3,200 flasks in December and 4,500 flasks in January last year.

Quotations in New York continued at \$130 to \$135 per flask, with the undertone no more than steady. Demand was quiet.

Silver

Conditions governing the silver market have not changed. The London market was quiet and steady at 23½d. The New York Official for foreign silver was unchanged at 44¼c, with domestic at 70½c.

Production of silver by domestic refineries during January totaled 11,147,000 oz., of which 3,298,000 oz. was obtained from domestic sources and 7,849,000 oz. from foreign countries, according to the American Bureau of Metal Statistics. This compares with a total of 7,846,000 oz. in January last year, of which 3,807,000 oz. was domestic silver and 4,039,000 oz. foreign.

Daily Prices

The daily price of electrolytic copper (domestic and export refinery), lead, zinc and Straits tin were unchanged from those appearing in the "Commercial and Financial Chronicle" of July 31, 1942, page 380.

Lumber Movement—Week Ended March 11, 1944

According to the National Lumber Manufacturers Association, lumber shipments of 514 mills reporting to the National Lumber Trade Barometer were 4.8% above production for the week ended March 11, 1944. In the same week new orders of these mills were 14.8% greater than production. Unfilled order files of the reporting mills amounted to 121% of stocks. For reporting softwood mills, unfilled orders are equivalent to 40 days' production at the current rate, and gross stocks are equivalent to 33 days' production.

For the year to date, shipments of reporting identical mills exceeded production by 7.4%; orders by 14.7%.

Compared to the average corresponding week of 1935-39, production of reporting mills was 38.5% greater; shipments were 33.7% greater; and orders were 40.1% greater.

Daily Average Crude Oil Production For Week Ended Mar. 11, 1944 Decreased 31,550 Barrels

The American Petroleum Institute estimates that the daily average gross crude oil production for the week ended March 11, 1944 was 4,381,175 barrels, a decline of 31,550 barrels from the preceding week. It was, however, 503,875 barrels per day in excess of that recorded for the corresponding period of last year and 12,875 barrels per day more than the daily average figure recommended by the Petroleum Administration for War for the month of March, 1944. Daily output for the four weeks ended March 11, 1944 averaged 4,400,400 barrels. Further details as reported by the Institute follow:

Reports received from refining companies indicate that the industry as a whole ran to stills on a Bureau of Mines basis approximately 4,387,000 barrels of crude oil daily and produced 13,068,000 barrels of gasoline; 1,652,000 barrels of kerosene; 4,243,000 barrels of distillate fuel oil, and 8,796,000 barrels of residual fuel oil during the week ended March 11, 1944; and had in storage at the end of that week 86,559,000 barrels of gasoline; 6,851,000 barrels of kerosene; 32,705,000 barrels of distillate fuel, and 51,362,000 barrels of residual fuel oil. The above figures apply to the country as a whole, and do not reflect conditions on the East Coast.

DAILY AVERAGE CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION (FIGURES IN BARRELS)

	*P. A. W. Recommendations March	*State Allowables Begin. Mar. 1 1944	Actual Production Week Ended Mar. 11, 1944	Change from Previous Week	4 Weeks Ended Mar. 11, 1944	Week Ended Mar. 13, 1943
Oklahoma	328,000	327,000	328,300	+ 700	326,450	327,200
Kansas	285,000	269,400	259,500	-13,300	270,000	286,900
Nebraska	1,000		11,300		1,250	1,850
Panhandle Texas			92,850	- 3,900	98,400	88,600
North Texas			142,600	+ 1,150	141,000	136,150
West Texas			340,900	- 8,250	353,500	218,000
East Central Texas			116,600	+ 100	115,100	99,800
East Texas			365,100	-10,900	380,550	323,400
Southwest Texas			291,500	+ 950	289,650	172,400
Coastal Texas			513,800	-1,200	515,500	354,200
Total Texas	1,838,000	1,854,302	1,863,350	-22,250	1,893,700	1,392,550
North Louisiana			76,550	+ 50	76,600	89,150
Coastal Louisiana			283,950	+ 300	283,450	250,600
Total Louisiana	347,700	372,700	360,500	+ 350	360,050	339,750
Arkansas	76,700	78,591	79,300		79,050	70,800
Mississippi	46,000	42,950		- 650	43,100	53,850
Alabama		25			50	
Florida		50				
Illinois	215,000	226,900		+ 8,600	215,800	251,900
Indiana	13,600	15,300		+ 2,200	13,500	14,900
Eastern (Not incl. Ill., Ind., Ky.)	72,200	68,650		- 6,150	71,100	75,850
Kentucky	24,000	24,950		+ 1,900	21,900	17,000
Michigan	52,000	53,500		+ 1,000	52,900	61,100
Wyoming	93,000	92,500		- 600	93,700	87,100
Montana	24,000	20,800			20,850	17,800
Colorado	7,000	7,700		- 550	7,550	6,750
New Mexico	111,700	111,700	112,900		112,900	92,400
Total East of Calif.	3,534,900		3,558,475	-28,750	3,583,850	3,097,700
California	833,400	833,400	822,700	- 2,800	816,550	779,600
Total United States	4,368,300		4,381,175	-31,550	4,400,400	3,877,300

*P.A.W. recommendations and state allowables, as shown above, represent the production of crude oil only, and do not include amounts of condensate and natural gas derivatives to be produced.

†Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska figures are for week ended 7:00 a.m. March 9, 1944.

‡This is the net basic allowable as of March 1 calculated on a 31-day basis and includes shutdowns and exemptions for the entire month. With the exception of several fields which were exempted entirely and of certain other fields for which shutdowns were ordered for from 3 to 20 days, the entire state was ordered shut down for 8 days, no definite dates during the month being specified; operators only being required to shut down as best suits their operating schedules or labor needed to operate leases, a total equivalent to 8 days shutdown time during the calendar month. §Recommendation of Conservation Committee of California Oil Producers.

CRUDE RUNS TO STILL: PRODUCTION OF GASOLINE; STOCKS OF FINISHED AND UNFINISHED GASOLINE, GAS OIL AND DISTILLATE FUEL AND RESIDUAL FUEL OIL, WEEK ENDED MARCH 11, 1944

(Figures in Thousands of Barrels of 42 Gallons Each)

Figures in this section include reported totals plus an estimate of unreported amounts and are therefore on a Bureau of Mines basis—

District—	Daily Refining Capacity	Potential % Re-Porting	Crude Runs to Still Daily Average	% Op-erated	Gasoline Production			Stocks of Gas Oil and Residual Fuel Oil
					at Re-Refineries	Stocks of Finished Gasoline	Stocks of Gas Oil and Residual Fuel Oil	
*Combin'd: East Coast	2,448	90.0	2,226	90.9	6,242	37,556	14,741	15,528
Texas Gulf, Louisiana Gulf, North Louisiana-Arkansas, and inland Texas								
Appalachian—								
District No. 1	130	83.9	97	74.6	261	2,118	1,073	180
District No. 2	47	87.2	50	106.4	162	1,242	370	186
Ind., Ill., Ky.	824	85.2	754	91.5	2,675	19,753	5,749	2,872
Okl., Kans., Mo.	416	80.1	344	82.7	1,212	8,391	1,528	1,262
Rocky Mountain—								
District No. 3	8	26.9	11	137.5	29	81	21	31
District No. 4	141	58.3	88	62.4	273	2,077	343	510
California	817	89.9	817	100.0	2,214	15,341	8,880	30,793
Total U. S. B. of M. basis March 11, 1944	4,831	87.1	4,387	90.8	13,068	186,559	32,705	51,362
Total U. S. B. of M. basis March 4, 1944	4,831	87.1	4,344	89.9	13,267	86,091	33,145	51,175
U. S. Bur. of Mines basis March 13, 1943			3,546		10,038	94,280	34,427	68,455

*At the request of the Petroleum Administration for War. †Finished, 75,544,000 barrels; unfinished, 11,015,000 barrels. ‡At refineries, at bulk terminals, in transit and in pipe lines. §Not including 1,652,000 barrels of kerosene, 4,243,000 barrels of gas oil and distillate fuel and 8,796,000 barrels of residual fuel oil produced during the week ended March 11, 1944, which compares with 1,351,000 barrels, 4,513,000 barrels and 8,590,000 barrels, respectively, in the preceding week and 1,428,000 barrels, 4,013,000 barrels and 6,984,000 barrels, respectively, in the week ended March 13, 1943.

Note—Stocks of kerosene at March 11, 1944 amounted to 6,851,000 barrels, as against 7,013,000 barrels a week earlier and 5,526,000 barrels a year before.

Fractional Gain In Retail Prices Fairchild Retail Price Index Shows

The Fairchild Retail Price Index gained 0.1% during the last month, it was announced on March 15 by the Fairchild Publications, which stated that this is the first time since the General Maximum Price Regulation was put into effect in March, 1942, that the index advanced for three consecutive months. After remaining unchanged for eight months, the index gained 0.1% in December. Since then the index increased 0.1% in January and showed the same fractional gain for February. As compared with the index of March, 1943, the present index shows an increase of 0.3%. The advices from the Fairchild Publications further state:

"Chiefly, this latest advance is due to increases in women's apparel and home furnishings. As compared with last month women's apparel gained 0.1%, and 1.0% as compared with March of last year. Home furnishings, which had remained constant throughout the year, increased 0.1%. The composite index shows an advance of 27.6% over the pre-war low, with the major differences occurring in piece goods 33.6%, women's apparel, 28.0%, and home furnishings, 27.9% above the pre-war low. Infants' wear has increased the least of all, 12.8% above the low of 1939-1940.

"Revisions on the price of women's rayon hosiery provided for by MPR 339, which some stores put into effect in January and others in February, caused the modest gain in women's wear; furs, which have risen steadily since April, 1943, continued to gain slightly. Furniture gained fractionally, 0.2% above last month and last year. A further slight advance is likely in the index, because of OPA granting higher prices for one or two additional items. However, it is not expected that these will be great enough to warrant any marked fluctuations according to A. W. Zelomek, economist, under whose supervision this index is compiled."

THE FAIRCHILD PUBLICATIONS RETAIL PRICE INDEX

JAN. 3, 1931=100
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	May 1, 1933	Mar. 1, 1943	Dec. 1, 1943	Jan. 1, 1944	Feb. 1, 1944	Mar. 1, 1944
Composite Index	69.4	113.1	113.1	113.2	113.3	113.4
Piece Goods	65.1	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2	112.2
Men's Apparel	70.7	105.3	105.3	105.4	105.3	105.3
Women's Apparel	71.8	112.6	112.2	113.3	113.6	113.7
Infants' Wear	76.4	108.1	108.1	108.1	108.2	108.2
Home Furnishings	70.2	115.5	115.5	115.5	115.5	115.6
Piece Goods						
Silks	57.4	84.7	84.7	84.7	84.7	84.7
Woolens	69.2	108.0	108.0	108.0	108.0	108.1
Cotton Wash Goods	68.6	143.8	143.8	143.8	143.8	143.8
Domestics						
Sheets	65.0	126.8	126.8	126.8	126.8	126.8
Blankets & Comfortables	72.9	135.0	135.0	134.9	134.9	134.9
Women's Apparel						
Hosiery	59.2	94.1	89.2	89.2	90.1	90.4
Aprons & House Dresses	75.5	140.5	140.5	140.5	140.5	140.5
Corsets & Brassieres	83.6	111.2	111.2	111.2	111.2	111.2
Furs	66.8	134.6	143.0	144.2	144.3	144.5
Underwear	69.2	102.7	102.7	102.7	102.9	102.9
Shoes	76.5	92.4	92.4	92.4	92.4	92.4
Men's Apparel						
Hosiery	64.9	108.0	108.1	108.1	108.1	108.1
Underwear	69.6	114.8	114.8	114.8	114.8	114.8
Hats & Caps	69.7	94.3	94.3	94.3	94.3	94.3
Clothing incl. Overalls	70.1	106.0	106.0	106.0	105.9	105.9
Shirts & Neckwear	76.3	109.6	109.6	109.6	109.6	109.6
Infant's Wear	74.3	99.1	99.1	99.3	99.3	99.3
Infant's Wear						
Socks	74.0	114.5	114.6	114.6	114.9	114.9
Underwear	74.3	103.7	103.7	103.7	103.7	103.7
Shoes	80.9	106.0	106.0	106.0	106.0	106.0
Furniture	69.4	129.2	129.2	129.2	129.2	129.4
Floor Coverings	79.9	146.8	146.9	146.9	146.9	146.9
Radios	50.6	66.8	66.8	66.8	66.8	66.8
Luggage	60.1	94.7	94.7	94.7	94.9	94.9
Electrical Household Appliances	72.5	93.5	93.5	93.5	93.5	93.5
China	81.5	110.6	110.6	110.6	110.6	110.6

Note—Composite Index is a weighted aggregate. Major group indexes are arithmetic averages of subgroups. *Revised.

Civil Engineering Construction \$29,415,000 For Week

Civil engineering construction volume in continental United States totals \$29,415,000 for the week. This volume, not including the construction by military engineers abroad, American contracts outside the country, and shipbuilding, is 34% lower than in the preceding week, and is 47% below the volume reported to "Engineering News-Record" for the corresponding 1943 week. The report made public on March 16, went on to say:

Private construction is 70% below last week, and 3% under last year. Public work is down 17 and 51%, respectively, compared with a week ago and a year ago.

The current week's volume brings 1944 construction to \$387,801,000 for the 11 weeks of the year, a decrease of 49% from the \$764,911,000 reported for the period in 1943. Private construction, \$84,854,000, is 28% above last year, but public construction, \$302,947,000, is 57% lower as a result of the 59% decline in Federal work.

Civil engineering construction volumes for the 1943 week, last week, and the current week are:

	Mar. 18, '43	Mar. 9, '44	Mar. 16, '44
Total U. S. Construction	\$55,634,000	\$44,579,000	\$29,415,000
Private Construction	4,444,000	14,335,000	4,304,000
Public Construction	51,190,000	30,244,000	25,111,000
State and Municipal	1,914,000	1,592,000	2,874,000
Federal	49,276,000	28,652,000	22,237,000

In the classified construction groups, gains over last week are in waterworks, sewerage, bridges, industrial buildings, streets and roads, and unclassified construction. Increases over the 1943 week are in waterworks, sewerage, and industrial buildings. Subtotals for the week in each class of construction are: waterworks, \$581,000; sewerage, \$745,000; bridges, \$80,000; industrial buildings, \$2,791,000; commercial buildings, \$940,000; public buildings, \$12,102,000; earthwork and drainage, \$91,000; streets and roads, \$2,188,000; and unclassified construction, \$9,897,000.

New capital for construction purposes for the week totals \$1,328,000, an increase of 140% over the corresponding week last year. The week's new financing is made up of \$1,128,000 in State and municipal bond sales, and \$200,000 in RFC loans for public improvements. New construction financing for 1944 to date, \$175,189,000, is 196% higher than for the opening 11 weeks of 1943.

30-Hour Week Derided By Johnston, Kaiser

Eric A. Johnston, President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, and Henry J. Kaiser derided the feasibility and desirability of a 30-hour week in post-war industry advanced by Walter P. Reuther, Vice-President of the United Auto Workers, a CIO affiliate; this was disclosed in the New York "Times" of March 17, which added:

"The three speakers were discussing the topic, 'Conversion Without Depression,' at a meeting that was one of a series arranged under the auspices of The Times on the general theme, 'America Plans and Dreams.' Arthur Krock, Chief Washington Correspondent of The Times, presided over the meeting, which included a panel discussion and a question and answer period. The first part of the meeting was broadcast over Station WMCA.

"Mr. Reuther precipitated the debate about a 30-hour week by contending, in his prepared speech at the opening of the evening, that our tremendous technical progress must be utilized 'for democracy and jobs, not for reaction and unemployment.' He maintained that by utilizing our full productive potential, a 30-hour week could easily be the productive equivalent of the pre-war 40-hour week.

"This assumption was pounced upon sharply by Mr. Johnston, supported in a semi-humorous vein by Mr. Kaiser. Mr. Johnston declared that the only way wealth could be created was through production, and that he did not believe it would be possible to continue to raise the standard of living with a 30-hour week.

"If you carry Mr. Reuther's proposal to its absurd conclusion, no one should work at all and then everyone would be rich," Mr. Johnston observed.

"In reply Mr. Reuther asserted that the United States enjoys a much higher standard of living now on a 40-hour week than it did 25 or 50 years ago when the common working day was 10 or 12 hours. He said that the difference was attributable to technological progress, which he contended would continue to make it possible to improve living standards and at the same time to decrease the work week.

"Mr. Kaiser drew laughter from the audience by remarking that 'Mrs. Kaiser would agree with Walter—she'd be happy if I would work only 30 hours in two days.' He declared that most of the men who worked for him wanted many things that could be created only by increased production.

"Most of us will want to work more than 30 hours a week, Walter," the ship builder continued, adding that he suspected that Mr. Reuther's advocacy of a Peace Production Board might be undermined if the labor leader could only accompany him on one of his visits to Washington."

Retail Store Display Competition Announced

The Sales Promotion Division of the National Retail Dry Goods Association, is sponsoring an open competition for the best display campaign used by retail stores during the year 1943. In making known the competition Llewellyn Harries, Manager of the Division, said that the price will be a large bronze plaque, inscribed to the winner. This contest will be featured at the Sales Promotion Clinic, scheduled for April 4, 5 and 6, at the Netherland Plaza Hotel, in Cincinnati. Wednesday, April 5, will be devoted exclusively to display, both window and interior, and the developing problems that involve both.

Revenue Freight Car Loadings During Week Ended March 11, 1944 Decreased 6,722 Cars

Loading of revenue freight for the week ended March 11, 1944, totaled 781,533 cars, the Association of American Railroads announced on March 16. This was an increase above the corresponding week of 1943 of 12,488 cars, or 1.6%, but a decrease below the same week in 1942 of 17,823 cars or 2.2%.

Loading of revenue freight for the week of March 11 decreased 6,722 cars, or 0.9% below the preceding week.

Miscellaneous freight loading totaled 373,013 cars, a decrease of 2,964 cars below the preceding week, but an increase of 12,123 cars above the corresponding week in 1943.

Loading of merchandise less than carload lot freight totaled 104,138 cars, a decrease of 773 cars below the preceding week, but an increase of 7,508 cars above the corresponding week in 1943.

Coal loading amounted to 172,476 cars, a decrease of 9 cars below the preceding week, and a decrease of 6,005 cars below the corresponding week in 1943.

Grain and grain products loading totaled 45,556 cars, a decrease of 2,725 cars below the preceding week and a decrease of 3,043 cars below the corresponding week in 1943. In the Western Districts alone, grain and grain products loading for the week of March 11 totaled 30,187 cars, a decrease of 2,024 cars below the preceding week and a decrease of 4,266 cars below the corresponding week in 1943.

Live stock loading amounted to 14,257 cars, a decrease of 802 cars below the preceding week, but an increase of 1,753 cars above the corresponding week in 1943. In the Western Districts alone loading of live stock for the week of March 11, totaled 10,157 cars, a decrease of 691 cars below the preceding week, but an increase of 701 cars above the corresponding week in 1943.

Forest products loading totaled 43,937 cars, an increase of 753 cars above the preceding week and an increase of 1,629 cars above the corresponding week in 1943.

Ore loading amounted to 13,241 cars, a decrease of 234 cars before the preceding week and a decrease of 1,571 cars below the corresponding week in 1943.

Coke loading amounted to 14,915 cars, an increase of 32 cars above the preceding week, and an increase of 94 cars above the corresponding week in 1943.

All districts reported increases compared with the corresponding week in 1943 except the Pocahontas. All districts reported increases compared with 1942 except the Eastern, Allegheny, Southern, and Northwestern.

	1944	1943	1942
5 Weeks of January	3,795,477	3,531,811	3,858,479
4 weeks of February	3,159,492	3,055,725	3,122,942
Week of March 4	788,255	748,926	770,485
Week of March 11	781,533	769,045	799,356
Total	8,525,757	8,105,507	8,551,262

The following table is a summary of the freight carloadings for the separate railroads and systems for the week ended March 11, 1944. During the period 71 roads showed increases when compared with the corresponding week a year ago.

REVENUE FREIGHT LOADED AND RECEIVED FROM CONNECTIONS (NUMBER OF CARS) WEEK ENDED MARCH 11					
Railroads	Total Revenue Freight Loaded			Total Loads Received from Connections	
	1944	1943	1942	1944	1943
Eastern District—	1944	1943	1942	1944	1943
Ann Arbor	241	252	592	1,575	1,466
Bangor & Aroostook	2,705	2,382	2,236	287	206
Boston & Maine	6,931	6,289	7,979	15,821	14,591
Chicago, Indianapolis & Louisville	1,385	1,329	1,584	2,230	2,086
Central Indiana	17	47	27	46	87
Central Vermont	1,054	856	1,338	2,863	1,879
Delaware & Hudson	5,872	6,137	6,665	14,149	12,278
Delaware, Lackawanna & Western	7,393	7,591	8,747	11,480	10,979
Detroit & Mackinac	225	207	232	101	134
Detroit, Toledo & Ironton	1,806	1,767	2,180	1,639	1,741
Detroit & Toledo Shore Line	315	303	398	3,539	3,704
Erie	13,142	12,982	13,879	18,753	18,980
Grand Trunk Western	3,776	3,233	4,467	9,551	9,012
Lehigh & Hudson River	183	204	228	3,347	3,298
Lehigh & New England	1,818	1,843	1,871	1,579	1,928
Lehigh Valley	8,411	6,955	9,043	16,255	12,168
Maine Central	2,455	2,443	2,952	4,092	4,137
Monongahela	6,087	6,416	6,518	345	377
Montour	2,595	2,478	2,115	20	19
New York Central Lines	46,320	48,174	46,122	56,122	54,674
N. Y., N. H. & Hartford	10,242	9,868	12,294	21,230	19,823
New York, Ontario & Western	1,118	902	1,144	3,527	2,194
New York, Chicago & St. Louis	6,372	6,359	7,173	17,569	17,014
N. Y., Susquehanna & Western	475	459	549	2,725	2,471
Pittsburgh & Lake Erie	7,837	7,785	8,301	8,265	8,325
Pere Marquette	4,751	4,424	4,970	8,417	7,922
Pittsburgh & Shawmut	761	749	552	8	13
Pittsburgh, Shawmut & North	335	352	435	228	287
Pittsburgh & West Virginia	969	801	770	2,018	3,000
Rutland	364	317	551	1,185	815
Wabash	5,735	5,300	5,937	12,586	13,146
Wheeling & Lake Erie	4,429	4,847	4,881	4,368	6,280
Total	155,820	154,051	166,739	246,576	235,842
Allegheny District—					
Akron, Canton & Youngstown	737	692	656	1,275	1,344
Baltimore & Ohio	41,686	38,970	40,766	29,247	26,389
Bessemer & Lake Erie	2,774	3,233	3,320	1,315	1,299
Buffalo Creek & Gauley	314	302	293	3	16
Cambria & Indiana	1,687	1,961	1,968	9	16
Central R. R. of New Jersey	6,964	6,934	7,919	21,440	20,790
Cornwall	579	573	18	64	89
Cumberland & Pennsylvania	206	258	287	12	8
Ligonier Valley	121	136	119	30	39
Long Island	1,155	916	845	3,959	3,981
Penn.-Reading Seashore Lines	1,537	1,675	1,773	2,346	2,528
Pennsylvania System	76,239	73,428	78,396	66,041	61,654
Reading Co.	15,267	14,673	15,456	30,288	30,903
Union (Pittsburgh)	20,461	20,283	20,139	3,667	4,622
Western Maryland	4,087	4,010	4,048	13,740	13,976
Total	173,814	168,044	176,003	173,436	169,643
Pocahontas District—					
Chesapeake & Ohio	28,481	30,031	25,858	11,951	12,994
Norfolk & Western	21,613	23,767	22,797	7,506	7,729
Norfolkian	4,557	4,585	4,726	2,483	2,488
Total	54,651	58,383	53,381	21,940	23,211

Railroads	Total Revenue Freight Loaded			Total Loads Received from Connections	
	1944	1943	1942	1944	1943
Southern District—					
Alabama, Tennessee & Northern	356	293	345	383	359
Atl. & W. P.—W. R. E. of Ala.	912	799	946	2,376	2,479
Atlanta, Birmingham & Coast	711	673	835	1,474	1,539
Atlantic Coast Line	13,867	15,337	14,308	10,727	11,613
Central of Georgia	4,133	4,730	4,620	5,204	4,812
Charleston & Western Carolina	382	439	431	1,953	1,713
Cincinnati	1,651	1,781	1,609	3,325	3,146
Columbus & Greenville	267	306	274	247	202
Durham & Southern	118	144	182	743	686
Florida East Coast	3,634	4,027	2,690	2,029	1,654
Gainesville Midland	52	46	45	159	115
Georgia & Florida	1,340	1,414	1,515	2,762	2,721
Gulf, Mobile & Ohio	367	357	454	720	668
Illinois Central System	4,097	3,588	4,315	4,327	6,484
Louisville & Nashville	28,490	28,486	28,885	18,195	19,957
Macon, Dublin & Savannah	24,831	25,039	24,865	12,487	11,733
Mississippi Central	292	193	204	927	931
Nashville, Chattanooga & St. L.	296	247	204	743	417
Norfolk Southern	3,362	3,000	3,972	4,696	4,973
Piedmont Northern	886	1,166	1,228	1,686	1,555
Richmond, Fred. & Potomac	416	349	522	1,283	1,197
Seaboard Air Line	415	360	457	11,508	10,766
Southern System	10,818	10,539	11,258	9,196	9,644
Tennessee Central	23,297	22,473	25,453	25,605	24,346
Winston-Salem Southbound	627	437	620	986	1,077
Total	125,671	124,350	130,419	124,809	125,799
Northwestern District—					
Chicago & North Western	14,350	13,908	17,342	14,378	12,578
Chicago Great Western	2,152	2,420	2,834	3,433	3,291
Chicago, Milw., St. P. & Pac.	19,701	19,778	21,511	10,260	10,617
Chicago, St. Paul, Minn. & Omaha	3,425	3,306	4,163	3,963	4,023
Duluth, Missabe & Iron Range	1,101	1,306	1,353	255	280
Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic	738	601	717	565	534
Elgin, Joliet & Eastern	8,388	8,660	10,008	13,187	12,233
Ft. Dodge, Des Moines & South	251	372	596	69	109
Great Northern	11,259	11,406	11,783	5,468	5,375
Green Bay & Western	457	480	512	955	824
Lake Superior & Ishpeming	275	207	260	61	50
Minneapolis & St. Louis	2,121	2,110	2,482	2,401	2,193
Minn., St. Paul & S. S. M.	5,131	4,525	5,412	3,370	3,142
Northern Pacific	9,493	9,685	10,410	5,307	4,642
Spokane International	84	93	103	569	394
Spokane, Portland & Seattle	2,353	2,031	2,736	2,831	3,527
Total	81,279	80,888	92,222	67,072	63,812
Central Western District—					
Atch., Top. & Santa Fe System	21,271	20,420	22,146	11,594	11,968
Alton	2,908	2,818	3,531	4,234	3,930
Bingham & Garfield	384	506	786	114	132
Chicago, Burlington & Quincy	18,157	18,420	16,019	12,268	12,195
Chicago & Illinois Midland	2,870	3,104	2,853	675	864
Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific	11,610	11,728	12,005	13,239	13,365
Chicago & Eastern Illinois	2,673	2,339	2,673	6,140	4,774
Colorado & Southern	761	817	843	2,107	1,970
Denver & Rio Grande Western	3,403	3,375	3,149	6,609	5,384
Denver & Salt Lake	745	624	505	5	15
Fort Worth & Denver City	819	999	1,120	1,505	1,550
Illinois Terminal	2,199	1,527	2,174	2,033	1,630
Missouri-Illinois	964	873	1,197	588	546
Nevada Northern	1,864	2,091	1,913	131	118
North Western Pacific	754	888	914	865	640
Peoria & Pekin Union	16	10	20	0	0
Southern Pacific (Pacific)	30,087	26,501	27,384	14,820	12,960
Toledo, Peoria & Western	402	333	254	2,240	1,704
Union Pacific System	15,657	14,245	15,534	15,717	13,169
Utah	660	599	529	10	1
Western Pacific	1,741	2,088	1,606	4,089	3,271
Total	119,946	114,505	117,156	98,983	90,182
Southwestern District—					
Burlington-Rock Island	453	729	683	271	184
Gulf Coast Lines	7,443	5,733	5,178	2,798	2,190
International-Great Northern	1,926	1,932	2,156	4,144	3,247
Kansas, Oklahoma & Gulf	216	306	316	1,206	1,626
Kansas City Southern	5,483	4,314	3,711	2,844	2,652
Louisiana & Arkansas	2,913	3,301	2,707	2,889	2,482
Litchfield & Madison	313	367	417	1,224	1,207
Midland Valley	669	705	498	501	342
Missouri & Arkansas	178	146	226	472	493
Missouri-Kansas-Texas Lines	5,758	6,019	5,240	4,679	6,356
Missouri Pacific	15,628	15,519	15,523	20,713	17,053
Quannah Acme & Pacific	137	333	198	282	263
St. Louis-San Francisco	8,220	8,255	8,783	9,453	8,873
St. Louis Southwestern	2,855	2,838	3,302	6,647	5,362
Texas & New Orleans	12,744	14,043	10,051	5,635	5,476
Texas & Pacific	5,285	4,162	4,282	8,087	6,386
Weatherford M. W. & N. W.	79	98	150	35	35
Wichita Falls & Southern	22	24	15	19	75
Total	70,352	68,824	63,436	71,899	

Items About Banks, Trust Companies

H. Adams Ashforth and George M. Bodman have been added to the board of trustees of the Bank of New York, according to an announcement on March 20 by J. C. Traphagen, President. Mr. Ashforth is President of Albert B. Ashforth, Inc., real estate. He is also a director of the First National Bank of Greenwich, Conn., and a trustee of the North River Savings Bank.

Mr. Bodman is a partner of the banking firm of Cyrus J. Lawrence & Sons. He is likewise a director of the Fidelity Union Trust Company of Newark, N. J., the Seaboard Surety Co. and of Milmine, Bodman & Co., Inc.

Harry E. Ward, Chairman of Irving Trust Co., of New York, has announced the appointment of William T. Pagen as an Assistant Secretary. Mr. Pagen has been in the Irving's Corporate Trust Division since he joined that institution in 1933. His banking career began in San Francisco. At the outbreak of World War I he left his position there with the Security Savings Bank to enlist in the Army Engineers with which he served overseas and was decorated with the Silver Star and Croix de Guerre. After demobilization he was made Trust Officer of the American National Bank, later the American Trust Co. (67) and in 1927 came to New York on its behalf to assist in the organization of an affiliate—the Pacific Trust Co.—which later united with the Manufacturers Trust Co. Mr. Pagen, who resides in Crestwood, Westchester County, is Vice Commander of John Dunbar Post, American Legion, named for the late John Dunbar—an Assistant Vice-President of Irving Trust Co.

It is announced that Eliot L. Ward has been elected to the board of trustees of the Harlem Savings Bank of New York. Mr. Ward is a partner in the commercial real estate firm of Vought, Campbell, Ward & Nichols.

Announcement is made by Alan Sproul, President, of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York that the Phoenix Bank, Phoenix, N. Y., has become a member of the Federal Reserve System effective March 15; the admission to the reserve system of the Black Rock Bank & Trust Co., of Bridgeport, Conn., effective March 16, is also announced.

William L. DeBost, President of the Union Dime Savings Bank of New York, announces that the trustees of the bank have engaged the services of Herbert L. Williams, President of Herbert L. Williams, Inc., 52 William Street, for the Mortgage and Real Estate Department of the bank. Mr. Williams will assume his duties at the bank on April 1 and will be elected a Vice-President of the bank at the next meeting of the board. Mr. Williams has had wide experience in the real estate and mortgage field and is at present a director and Chairman of the Real Estate and Mortgage Committee of the Lawyers Title Corp. of New York.

The Brooklyn Trust Co. announced an increase of its cost-of-living allowance to all employees, excepting officers, to 10% per annum on salaries of less than \$3,000 a year and 8% per annum on salaries of \$3,000 and over, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1944, following receipt of approval of the increase by the War Labor Board and the United States Treasury Department. The company had previously paid a cost-of-living allowance of 6% on salaries up to \$3,000 a year and 4% on salaries of \$3,000 or more.

The New York State Banking Department reports the approval given to the Columbus Trust Co., of Newburgh, N. Y., to a certifi-

cate, whereby the capital stock will be increased from \$100,000, consisting of 1,000 shares of the par value of \$100 each, to \$200,000, consisting of 2,000 shares of the par value of \$100 each.

According to the Rochester, N. Y., "Times-Union" the directors of Genesee Valley Trust Co. recently declared a dividend of 25 cents a share on the common stock, payable April 1 to stockholders of record March 20. A similar payment was made Jan. 1 when the bank resumed dividends after a lapse of 11 years. John J. Jardine, President, said continued good earnings and strong financial position of the bank warranted the new payment.

At a meeting of the Directors of the State Street Trust Co., of Boston, on March 20, Alden C. Brett of Belmont, Treasurer of Hood Rubber Co., was elected to the Board.

Hooper S. Miles, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Baltimore National Bank, of Baltimore, Md., has been elected a director of the Eutaw Savings Bank. He fills the vacancy on the Board due to the death of Henry D. Harlan.

Planning to augment its capital funds by \$3,375,000 through the issuance of common stock, the National City Bank of Cleveland announces, according to the Cleveland "Plain Dealer" of March 19, that holders of record March 25 will be given the right to subscribe in ratio of one share of new stock for each four held. The advice add that it is recommended to reduce the par of the stock from \$20 to \$16 a share and to issue 112,500 shares at \$30 a share. The net effect of this will be to increase the surplus from \$5,625,000 to \$9,000,000, a sum equal to the capital stock outstanding. This would make capital, surplus and undivided profits \$19,563,120 with reserves of \$2,726,698 as of March 15. Proposal to increase capital will be submitted to stockholders April 5. It is likewise stated that arrangements have been made with an underwriting group headed by Harriman Ripley & Co., New York, and Merrill, Turben & Co., Cleveland, whereby the shares not subscribed by present stockholders will be purchased by the syndicate at \$30 a share.

In its March 18 issue the "Plain Dealer" said:

"As a preliminary step in its plans to expand, the National City Bank, subject to court approval, is acquiring the control of Guardian Building, immediately east, it was announced yesterday.

"The National City is acquiring for \$300,000 the 10,000 shares of stock of the New England Building, President Sidney B. Congdon states, as well as certain junior mortgages of the New England Co. which owns the Guardian Building.

"The Guardian Building lobby and considerable space has been under lease by the National City since 1933 and is an important part of the banking quarters.

"Charles F. Carr, liquidator of the Guardian Trust Co., yesterday advertised for authority to sell the New England Building stock."

The American State Savings Bank, of Lansing, Mich., a State member bank of the Federal Reserve System, has changed its title to the American State Bank.

The Farmers & Merchants State Bank, of Presho, S. D., a State member bank of the Federal Reserve System, has changed its title to the Farmers & Merchants Bank.

The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis announces that the Citizens Bank of Pacific, of Pacific, Mo., became a member of the Fed-

eral Reserve Bank on March 16. The new member was chartered in 1909. It has a capital of \$30,000, surplus of \$30,000, and total resources of \$898,918. Its officers are: James Booth, President; L. P. Brennan, Vice-President; A. R. Leber, Treasurer, and R. B. Langenbacher, Cashier and Secretary. The addition of the Citizens Bank of Pacific brings the total membership of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis to 459.

Appointment of Henry J. Court as Assistant Vice-President in the banks and bankers department of Bank of America National Trust & Savings Assn. of San Francisco, at the Los Angeles headquarters has been announced by L. M. Giannini, President of the institution. Born in Spearfish, S. D., Mr. Court in June, 1918, located in Phoenix, Ariz., and entered the employ of the Phoenix National Bank; he later became Secretary and Treasurer of the Phoenix Savings Bank & Trust Co., filling that position from October, 1919, to January, 1934, returning then to the Phoenix National Bank as an Assistant Cashier. In December, 1937, he went to Los Angeles, joining the Bank of America as a business extension solicitor, and within a few weeks was appointed Assistant Cashier. After 2½ years in the business extension department he was given a special administration assignment. With the World War II, Mr. Court, in September, 1942, entered the armed forces. He served in the U. S. A. A. F. Finance Department at Santa Ana Air Base, was honorably discharged in May, 1943, and was reinstated by the bank as Assistant Cashier in the business extension department. In December, 1943, he was re-assigned to the banks and bankers department, and now is promoted to the rank of Assistant Vice-President.

Appointment of E. B. Durham as Supervisor of Alberta Branches with headquarters in Calgary is announced by the Royal Bank of Canada. Mr. Durham succeeds T. Lowe, who has been Supervisor since 1937 and is retiring on pension.

This is learned from the Montreal "Gazette" of March 15, which also says:

Mr. Durham has been Manager of the bank's main Winnipeg Branch for the past six years and is well known in Canadian financial circles, having served as Manager in both Eastern and Western Canada. He began his banking career at Sault Ste. Marie in 1906 with the Traders Bank of Canada, which was amalgamated with the Royal Bank of Canada in 1912. M. A. O'Hara will succeed Mr. Durham as Manager of Winnipeg Branch. Mr. O'Hara was formerly Manager of Winnipeg, Portage Avenue Branch.

Bruno R. Neumann With Nat'l Foremen's Inst.

Bruno R. Neumann, until recently Senior Economist with the Planning Division of the War Production Board, has joined the National Foremen's Institute, Inc., Deep River, Conn., as Labor Economist and Editorial Director. He will make his headquarters at the company's editorial office, 527 Fifth Avenue New York, N. Y. Mr. Neumann will head the Institute's research and consulting service on labor economics and labor relations. "The Foreman's Letter" and the "Executive's Labor Letter" will be under his editorial direction. Prior to his service with the War Production Board, Mr. Neumann was a member of the economic research staff of the National Association of Manufacturers. His experience abroad includes intimate familiarity with economic and labor relations problems in Great Britain and other European countries as well as the United States.

House Committee Approves Simplified Tax; Individuals Subject To New Normal Tax

Treasury Favorably Disposed To New Plan

Approval by the House Ways and Means Committee of a plan to simplify the tax statutes was announced on March 17, at which time it was stated that some 30,000,000 of the 50,000,000 taxpayers would thereby be relieved of the necessity of ever again computing tax returns, according to Associated Press advices from Washington March 18. Representatives Doughton (D.-N. C.), Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee; Carlson (R.-Kan.) and Robert-

son (D.-Va.) described the bill as a wonderful job and Senator George (D.-Ga.), Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said that the Senate would act within ten days after it got the measure from the House. Termed a "streamliner," Mr. Doughton said that the plan made no substantial changes in present burdens for taxpayers—that nobody will be hurt much or helped much, as to the size of their tax liability. It is estimated that the plan would bring in some 150,000 new taxpayers, whose incomes are between \$555 and \$624 annually, and that the effects of the new exemptions and rates would be to funnel about \$20,000,000 more annually into the Treasury. Further reporting as to the proposals in the plan approved by the House Committee, the Associated Press said:

The streamliner makes no change in the requirement that tax estimates and partial payments be made by this April 15 on 1944 income. If it becomes law, this is about what the bill would do:

1. Beginning next Jan. 1, the present 20% withholding system against wages and salaries would be revised to deduct the full tax liability for persons earning up to \$5,000, numbering about 30,000,000.

2. There would be no change in amounts held out of pay envelopes and salary checks this year, and the Government itself would compute the taxes on 1944 income for those with wages and salaries under \$5,000. The taxpayer, after the year end, simply would mail to the collector a copy of a withholding receipt, furnished by the employer, in place of the regular return, after writing on the back of the receipt the number of dependents and income other than wages and salary, if any.

The collector then would calculate the actual tax and bill the taxpayer for an additional amount or issue a refund check.

3. The Victory tax would be repealed and far-reaching adjustments made in the normal and surtax exemptions and rates.

4. There would be revisions of normal and surtax and exemptions provisions.

5. Of the 20,000,000 who still must file returns, it is estimated that 10,000,000 would use a simple tax table which will show their entire tax, and the remaining 10,000,000 would fill out returns in more detail but would be provided a simpler return than the present long form.

Some tax experts already were calling the bill a "baby bonus" measure, because it allows large accumulated exemptions for persons with large families.

The Committee outlined the simplification plan as follows:

For the surtax there will be a uniform exemption of \$500 a person. Thus, the single person's exemption will be \$500; married couples will have an exemption of \$1,000, and the exemption for each dependent will be \$500. Present exemptions are \$500 for single persons, \$1,200 for married couples and \$350 for each child. However, the rates are adjusted under the new plan.

The present normal tax and surtax will be combined into a single surtax. A new normal tax of 3% will be imposed on each person whose net income exceeds \$500.

All taxpayers with incomes up to \$5,000 will be entitled to a standard deduction allowance of

10% of income. For those with incomes above \$5,000, the standard deduction allowance will be \$500. Taxpayers whose actual deductions exceed the standard allowance may secure the benefit of their actual deductions by listing them in detail.

A new simplified tax table will be provided for the use of taxpayers with incomes below \$5,000, regardless of the source of their incomes.

The Committee gave a formal explanation of the plan as follows:

"The new plan will provide a real short-cut for about 30 million wage and salary earners.

"All those earning up to \$5,000 and receiving not more than \$100 from sources not subject to withholding will be permitted to file a copy of a withholding receipt, furnished by the employer, in place of the regular tax return. These taxpayers will list their dependents on the reverse side of this receipt and enter the amount of 'other income,' if any.

"They will then sign the receipt and mail it to the local tax collector, without any payment. The collector will calculate the tax and where necessary will either bill the taxpayer for additional payment or issue a refund check.

"The 20 million persons who will continue to file regular returns will also benefit from simplification. If their income from all sources is not over \$5,000 and their deductions are not over 10% of income, they can use the simple one-page tax table to determine their tax. Even for the taxpayer who cannot use the tax table, the new form will be simpler than the present long form."

The tax plan approved on Mar. 17 by the House Ways and Means Committee, was described by Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau on March 18 as "well conceived and intelligently planned." His statement said:

"The Ways and Means Committee, under the able leadership of Congressman Doughton, has done a great piece of work. It is a great job not only because it is going to provide welcome relief for the taxpayer—relief to which the taxpayer certainly is entitled—but because the job of formulating a simplification bill was done with such dispatch and without confusion of any sort.

"My people here in the Treasury have spoken highly of the cooperation they were given by the Committee's Tax Experts. We contributed the best we had, and so did the Committee Experts. So did the Committee. The result is a well-conceived and intelligently planned recommendation for Congress that will prove a great boon to the country."

It was observed by the Associated Press that while Mr. Morgenthau's statement showed that while the Administration and Congress might be at odds on the amount of taxes, there was harmony on how to collect them.

A reference to the task of tax simplification undertaken by the House Ways and Means Committee appeared in our issue of Mar. 9, page 1001.